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# SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO ASSESS THE SOCIAL AND FINANCIAL  
EFFECTS OF REQUIRING HEALTH INSURERS TO PROVIDE COVERAGE  
FOR CLINICAL VICTIM SUPPORT SERVICES FOR VICTIMS OF SEXUAL  
VIOLENCE AND ABUSE.

1 WHEREAS, sexual violence and abuse are extremely prevalent  
2 in the United States; and

3  
4 WHEREAS, sexual violence and abuse can have severe and  
5 lasting emotional and mental health impacts on victims; and

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7 WHEREAS, clinical victim support services are a  
8 professional intervention conducted by a qualified mental health  
9 services provider to identify needs and assist in obtaining  
10 coordinated, appropriate services and resources for a victim of  
11 sexual violence and abuse in order to curtail or prevent the  
12 progression and worsening of mental disorders and associated  
13 functional impairments caused, in whole or in part, by sexual  
14 violence and abuse; and

15  
16 WHEREAS, many victims of sexual violence and abuse require  
17 clinical victim support services by qualified mental health  
18 services providers in addition to psychotherapy in order to  
19 effectively manage mental health conditions related to sexual  
20 violence and abuse; and

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22 WHEREAS, clinical victim support services are not generally  
23 covered by health insurers; and

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25 WHEREAS, the treatment of clinical victim support services  
26 as a non-reimbursable expense by health insurers discourages  
27 qualified mental health services providers from accepting  
28 victims of sexual violence as patients, and is a significant  
29 barrier to sufficient provider availability; and

30  
31 WHEREAS, section 23-51, Hawaii Revised Statutes, requires  
32 that "[b]efore any legislative measure that mandates health



1 insurance coverage for specific health services, specific  
2 diseases, or certain providers of health care services as part  
3 of individual or group health insurance policies, can be  
4 considered, there shall be concurrent resolutions passed  
5 requesting the auditor to prepare and submit to the legislature  
6 a report that assesses both the social and financial effects of  
7 the proposed mandated coverage"; and

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9 WHEREAS, section 23-51, Hawaii Revised Statutes, further  
10 provides that "[t]he concurrent resolutions shall designate a  
11 specific legislative bill that:

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- 13 (1) Has been introduced in the legislature; and
- 14
- 15 (2) Includes, at a minimum, information identifying the:
  - 16
  - 17 (A) Specific health service, disease, or provider
  - 18 that would be covered;
  - 19
  - 20 (B) Extent of the coverage;
  - 21
  - 22 (C) Target groups that would be covered;
  - 23
  - 24 (D) Limits on utilization, if any; and
  - 25
  - 26 (E) Standards of care"; and
  - 27

28 WHEREAS, section 23-52, Hawaii Revised Statutes, further  
29 specifies the minimum information required for assessing the  
30 social and financial impact of the proposed health coverage  
31 mandate in the Auditor's report; and

32  
33 WHEREAS, H.B. No. 484 has been introduced during the  
34 Regular Session of 2019 and mandates health insurers to provide  
35 coverage for clinical victim support services; and

36  
37 WHEREAS, the Legislature believes that an analysis of the  
38 social and financial impacts of the insurance coverage of  
39 clinical victim support services in H.B. No. 484 is warranted;  
40 and  
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1 WHEREAS, the Legislature also believes that mandatory  
 2 coverage for clinical victim support services for victims of  
 3 sexual violence and abuse, as provided in H.B. No. 484, Regular  
 4 Session of 2019, will substantially reduce illness and help  
 5 victims of sexual violence and abuse in Hawaii lead full,  
 6 productive lives; now, therefore,

7  
 8 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature  
 9 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, that the  
 10 Auditor is requested to conduct an assessment, pursuant to  
 11 sections 23-51 and 23-52, Hawaii Revised Statutes, of the social  
 12 and financial effects of mandating health insurers to provide  
 13 coverage for clinical victim support services for victims of  
 14 sexual violence and abuse, as provided in H.B. No. 484, Regular  
 15 Session of 2019; and

16  
 17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in conducting the assessment,  
 18 the Auditor is requested to consider the following definition of  
 19 clinical victim support services: "a professional intervention  
 20 conducted by a qualified mental health provider to identify  
 21 needs and assist in obtaining coordinated, appropriate services  
 22 and resources for a victim of sexual violence and abuse in order  
 23 to curtail or prevent the progression and worsening of mental  
 24 disorders and associated functional impairments caused, in whole  
 25 or in part, by the sexual violence and abuse, including  
 26 coordinating with other health care providers, such as primary  
 27 care physicians, behavioral and mental health care providers,  
 28 and hospitals; assisting victims of sexual violence and abuse in  
 29 obtaining appropriate government entitlements, access, insurance  
 30 coverage, and other appropriate programs and services offered by  
 31 government agencies and community organizations; and  
 32 coordinating with schools, employers, and other individuals and  
 33 entities concerning a victim of sexual violence and abuse"; and

34  
 35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to  
 36 consult with qualified mental health services providers who  
 37 treat victims of sexual violence and abuse in every county, such  
 38 as The Sex Abuse Treatment Center, which is a program of  
 39 Kapiolani Medical Center for Women and Children, and other  
 40 practicing mental health services providers in the community;  
 41 and  
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to  
2 submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including  
3 any proposed legislation, to the Legislature, no later than  
4 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of  
5 2020; and  
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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
8 Resolution be transmitted to the Auditor and to the Insurance  
9 Commissioner, who in turn is requested to transmit copies to  
10 each insurer in the State that issues health insurance policies,  
11 contracts, plans, or agreements.  
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