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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE CONVENING OF A WORKING GROUP TO EXAMINE THE  
FEASIBILITY AND ECONOMIC IMPACT OF CREATING A HEALTH POLICY  
INSTITUTE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA.

1           WHEREAS, good health is critical to an individual's  
2 wellbeing and a community's overall welfare; however, nearly a  
3 third of all adults in the United States and a quarter of adults  
4 in Hawaii are obese and many more suffer from other types of  
5 chronic ailments; and

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7           WHEREAS, preventable chronic conditions such as obesity  
8 result in further health complications such as diabetes,  
9 cardiovascular disease, and cancer that lead to increased and  
10 avoidable health care spending; and

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12           WHEREAS, as a consequence of the high prevalence of these  
13 types of chronic conditions, the United States spent \$3.6  
14 trillion on health care in 2018, which amounts to \$11,172 per  
15 person and 17.7 percent of the nation's gross domestic product;  
16 and

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18           WHEREAS, although Hawaii's spending on health care is  
19 \$7,299 per person, which is among the lowest in the country, and  
20 the State consistently ranks among the top states in the country  
21 for life expectancy, the cost of health care in Hawaii continues  
22 to grow at an unsustainable rate, threatening the livelihoods of  
23 families and the viability of businesses; and

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25           WHEREAS, concerns about the soaring cost of health care led  
26 to the creation of an All-Payer Claims Database, through Act  
27 139, Session Laws of Hawaii 2016, which aggregates statewide  
28 health care spending data to help policymakers understand the  
29 drivers of soaring health care costs in Hawaii; and



1           WHEREAS, the Legislature also established the Health  
2 Analytics Program within the Department of Human Services' Med-  
3 QUEST Division through Act 55, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, to  
4 leverage federal funds to further the goals and objectives of  
5 the All-Payer Claims Database; and

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7           WHEREAS, now, with much of the groundwork laid, the time  
8 has come to begin utilizing this trove of information by  
9 analyzing data, digesting information, and transforming results  
10 into informed policy decisions; and

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12           WHEREAS, one such way to accomplish this would be through  
13 the creation of a Health Policy Institute that would bring  
14 together key stakeholders, provide an open forum for data-driven  
15 discussions, and generate innovative policy proposals; and

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17           WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii at Manoa's College of  
18 Social Sciences has a proven track record of bringing together  
19 subject matter experts to help translate academic research into  
20 feasible and effective policy solutions; and

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22           WHEREAS, in particular, the Collect of Social Sciences'  
23 Pacific Health Informatics and Data Center and Office for  
24 Evaluation and Needs Assessments Services have long histories of  
25 using data-driven methods and analyses to generate translational  
26 research; now, therefore,

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28           BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
29 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of  
30 2020, the Senate concurring, that a working group be convened to  
31 examine the feasibility and economic impact of creating a Health  
32 Policy Institute at the University of Hawaii at Manoa; and

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34           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group's work is  
35 requested to include but not be limited to:

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37           (1) The scope of health policy concerns in Hawaii and how  
38           these concerns may be addressed through the creation  
39           of a Health Policy Institute;  
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41           (2) A study of health policy institute models from other  
42           states or nations;



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- 1           (3) An evaluation of how the Health Policy Institute would  
2           work with other state agencies or health-related  
3           entities, including an assessment of existing  
4           capabilities and deficiencies;  
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  - 6           (4) An assessment of Hawaii's spending on social health  
7           policy and other relevant expenditures, and a forecast  
8           on how those expenditures may rise in light of an  
9           aging population and workforce;  
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  - 11          (5) The identification and analysis of options to enhance  
12          capacity in health informatic and analytics in the  
13          State;  
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  - 15          (6) A review and assessment of providing third-party  
16          research and evaluation for state agencies; and  
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  - 18          (7) A proposed structure, organization, mission, and  
19          vision for the Health Policy Institute; and  
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- 21           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested  
22   to include the following members, or their designees:  
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- 24          (1) The Dean of the College of Social Sciences at the  
25          University of Hawaii at Manoa, who is requested to  
26          serve as co-chair of the working group;  
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  - 28          (2) The Director of the UHealthy Hawaii Initiative of the  
29          University of Hawaii, who is requested to serve as  
30          co-chair of the working group;  
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  - 32          (3) The Director of the University of Hawaii Cancer  
33          Center;  
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  - 35          (4) The Director of the University of Hawaii's College of  
36          Social Sciences Public Policy Center;  
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  - 38          (5) The Director of the University of Hawaii's College of  
39          Social Sciences' Social Science Research Institute;  
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  - 41          (6) The Director of Health;



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1 (7) The Director of Human Services; and


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3 (8) Any other individuals the co-chairs recommend; and

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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested  
6 to submit a report of its findings and recommendations,  
7 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later  
8 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session  
9 of 2021; and

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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested  
12 to dissolve on June 30, 2021; and

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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
15 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to Dean of the College of  
16 Social Sciences at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, Director  
17 of the UHealthy Hawaii Initiative of the University of Hawaii,  
18 Director of the University of Hawaii Cancer Center, Director of  
19 the University of Hawaii's College of Social Sciences Public  
20 Policy Center, Director of the University of Hawaii's College of  
21 Social Sciences' Social Science Research Institute, Director of  
22 Health, and Director of Human Services.

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OFFERED BY: Debra A. Delatti  
  
Debra A. Delatti  
Brenda K. Kalyani  
John M. ...

MAR 04 2020