

MAR 03 2020

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# SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION TO CONVENE A  
TASK FORCE TO CONDUCT A FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR CONSTRUCTION  
OF A HOSPITAL IN NORTH KONA.

1 WHEREAS, the population of North Kona on the island of  
2 Hawaii has significantly increased over the years, which has  
3 corresponded with a steady increase in the need for convenient  
4 access to medical services; and  
5

6 WHEREAS, today the growing community of North Kona faces a  
7 severe shortage of medical care and hospital services; and  
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9 WHEREAS, the residents of North Kona would greatly benefit  
10 from the addition of a hospital in their community; and  
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12 WHEREAS, the accelerated and shifting economic and  
13 population growth in North Kona has created a regional urban  
14 core inconveniently far from Kona community hospital with a  
15 population too large to be accommodated by the facility's 94-bed  
16 capacity; and  
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18 WHEREAS, Kona community hospital in 2015 closed its skilled  
19 nursing unit and eliminated 34 positions; and  
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21 WHEREAS, there has been a long-time community demand for a  
22 larger and more accessible hospital in North Kona; now,  
23 therefore,  
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25 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature  
26 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2020, that the Hawaii  
27 Health Systems Corporation is requested to convene a task force  
28 to conduct a feasibility study for the construction of a  
29 hospital in North Kona; and  
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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to  
32 include the following members or their designees:  
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- 34 (1) A member of the Senate appointed by the President of  
35 the Senate;



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- 2 (2) A member of the House of Representatives appointed by
- 3 the Speaker of the House of Representatives;
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- 5 (3) The Director of Health, or the Director's designee;
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- 7 (4) The Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Health
- 8 Systems Corporation, West Hawaii Region;
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- 10 (5) A member of the West Hawaii Regional Health System
- 11 Board of Directors; and
- 12
- 13 (6) Any other representatives the Chief Executive Officer
- 14 of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation, West Hawaii
- 15 Region, or the Chief Executive Officer's designee,
- 16 deems necessary; and
- 17

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Executive Officer of

19 the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation, West Hawaii Region, or

20 the Chief Executive Officer's designee shall serve as the

21 chairperson of the task force; and

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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that an initial meeting of the task

24 force be held no later than June 1, 2020; and

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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force, with the

27 assistance of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation, is

28 requested to submit a report of its findings and

29 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the

30 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of

31 the Regular Session of 2021; and

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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be dissolved on

34 June 30, 2021; and

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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this

37 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health; Chief

38 Executive Officer of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation,

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1 Corporate Office; and Regional Chief Executive Officer of the  
2 Hawaii Health Systems Corporation, West Hawaii Region.

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OFFERED BY:



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