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March 27, 2022

TO: The Honorable Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
Committee on Health, Human Services, and Homelessness

FROM: Cathy Betts, Director

SUBJECT: **HCR149/HR149** – REQUESTING THE ADOPTION OF A STATE POLICY ASSURING THAT SAVINGS REALIZED BY THE STATE THROUGH THE EXTENSION OF FEDERAL MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PERCENTAGE PAYMENTS OF ONE HUNDRED PERCENT FOR NATIVE HAWAIIAN HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS IS USED TO ADDRESS HEALTH DISPARITIES EXPERIENCED BY HAWAIIAN COMMUNITIES.

HEARING: Tuesday, March 29, 2022, 10:00 am
Via Videoconference, State Capitol Conference Room 016

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) appreciates the intent and offers comments.

PURPOSE: SCR240/SR141 urges all executive departments to review their policies and prioritize the goal of the adoption of a state policy assuring that savings realized by the State through the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) adjustment for Native Hawaiians is used to address health disparities experienced by Hawaiian communities.

DHS appreciates the intent of this resolution and agrees that the FMAP adjustment to support Native Hawaiian health is intended to be used to address health disparities experienced by Hawaiian communities. DHS can confirm that it is our goal to ensure that any savings realized by the State associated with increased Federal support for Native Hawaiian health are used to further address health disparities experienced by Hawaiian communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this resolution.