
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES TO
INCREASE THE MONETARY COMPENSATION RECEIVED BY HEALTH CARE
WORKERS WHOSE POSITIONS AND SERVICES ARE FUNDED UNDER THE
MEDICARE PROGRAM.

1 WHEREAS, health care workers are essential to a functioning
2 society, but are too often overworked and underpaid; and
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4 WHEREAS, the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic brought into
5 sharper focus the importance of health care workers and the
6 dysfunction and collapse that can occur when there are not
7 enough health care workers to provide care to patients in a
8 timely manner; and
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10 WHEREAS, although health care workers in America are viewed
11 in a positive light, and even regarded as "health care heroes"
12 for tolerating difficult working conditions such as spending
13 long hours away from their families to cover understaffed
14 hospitals and health care facilities, many health care workers
15 have left their jobs prematurely due to exhaustion and
16 professional burnout; and
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18 WHEREAS, the nationwide shortage of health care workers is
19 exacerbated by the United States' rapidly growing population of
20 older adults; and
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22 WHEREAS, the United States Census Bureau has projected that
23 by 2034, older adults will outnumber children for the first time
24 in the nation's history; more specifically, it is expected that
25 people age sixty-five and older will number seventy-seven
26 million, while children under age eighteen will number 76.5
27 million; further, it is estimated that by 2060, nearly one in
28 four Americans will be age sixty-five and older, the number of



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1 Americans age eighty-five and older will triple, and the number
2 of centenarians will reach a half-million; and

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4 WHEREAS, our aging population means that demand for health
5 care workers and the essential services they provide will also
6 grow, particularly with respect to in-home caregiving, assisted
7 living facilities, skilled nursing, and hospice care; and

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9 WHEREAS, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
10 provides coverage for certain caregiving services under Medicare
11 Part A, which relates to hospital insurance, and Medicare Part
12 B, which relates to medical insurance; and

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14 WHEREAS, an important way in which the Centers for Medicare
15 and Medicaid Services could address the nation's health care
16 worker shortage before the situation dramatically worsens is by
17 ensuring that health care workers who are compensated through
18 the Medicare program receive a higher level of compensation that
19 properly reflects their specialized skill set, expertise, and
20 essential role in society; now, therefore,

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22 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
23 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
24 Session of 2023, the Senate concurring, that the Centers for
25 Medicare and Medicaid Services are requested to increase the
26 monetary compensation received by health care workers whose
27 positions and services are funded under the Medicare program;
28 and

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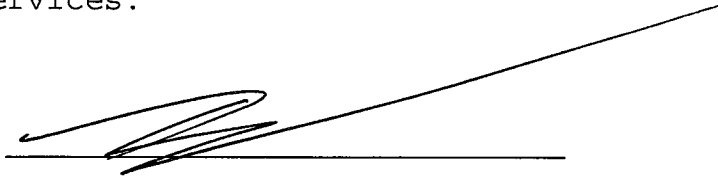
30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
31 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to each member of Hawaii's
32 congressional delegation, and to the Administrator of the
33 Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

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OFFERED BY:



JAN 19 2023

