

MAR 10 2023

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR KETAMINE THERAPY FOR
QUALIFYING PATIENTS.

1 WHEREAS, the State has a duty to protect and improve the
2 health and environment of the people; and

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4 WHEREAS, a number of state residents suffer from
5 depression; and

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7 WHEREAS, according to an article published in Current
8 Neuropharmacology, the use of ketamine is a valid antidepressant
9 option for the treatment of treatment-resistant depression, and
10 has rapid antidepressant effects; and

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12 WHEREAS, ketamine therapy would bring relief to many state
13 residents who suffer from depression; now, therefore,

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15 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second
16 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023,
17 that beginning on January 1, 2024, the State's Medicaid programs
18 are requested to provide coverage for percent of the costs
19 of ketamine therapy to treat depression in qualifying patients,
20 as determined by qualified psychiatrists or other mental health
21 professionals; and

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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each individual or group
24 accident and health or sickness insurance policy issued or
25 renewed in this State on or after January 1, 2024, is requested
26 to provide to the policyholder and individuals covered under the
27 policy coverage for percent of the costs of ketamine therapy
28 to treat depression in qualifying patients, as determined by
29 qualified psychiatrists or other mental health professionals;
30 and

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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each hospital or medical
33 service plan contract issued or renewed in this State on or
34 after January 1, 2024, is requested to provide to the member and
35 individuals covered under the plan contract coverage
36 for percent of the costs of ketamine therapy to treat



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1 depression in qualifying patients, as determined by qualified
2 psychiatrists or other mental health professionals; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
5 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Human Services and
6 the Insurance Commissioner, the latter of whom is requested to
7 distribute copies of this measure to the entities administering
8 the insurance policies and service plan contracts addressed in
9 this measure.

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OFFERED BY:

Kurt Ferrel

