

MAR - 8 2024

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO ASSESS BOTH THE SOCIAL AND FINANCIAL EFFECTS OF PROPOSED MANDATED HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR A PERCENTAGE OF THE COSTS OF KETAMINE THERAPY TO TREAT DEPRESSION AND SUICIDE IDEATION.

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 various
5 mental health illnesses; 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, Senate Bill No. 279, Senate Draft 1, of the
13 Thirty-Second Legislature of the State of Hawaii proposes to
14 require insurance coverage for ketamine therapy; and

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16 WHEREAS, pursuant to section 23-51, Hawaii Revised
17 Statutes, before any legislative measure that mandates health
18 insurance coverage for specific health services, specific
19 diseases, or certain providers of health care services as part
20 of individual or group health insurance policies can be
21 considered, concurrent resolutions shall be passed requesting
22 the Auditor to prepare and submit to the Legislature a report
23 that assesses both the social and financial effects of the
24 proposed mandated coverage; now, therefore,

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26 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second
27 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024, the
28 House of Representatives concurring, that the Auditor is
29 requested to assess, pursuant to section 23-51, Hawaii Revised
30 Statutes, both the social and financial effects of the proposed
31 mandated health insurance coverage under Senate Bill No. 279,



1 Senate Draft 1, of the Thirty-Second Legislature of the State of
2 Hawaii, which requires insurance coverage for a percentage of
3 the costs of ketamine therapy to treat depression and suicide
4 ideation; and

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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to
7 submit a report of the Auditor's findings and recommendations,
8 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later
9 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session
10 of 2025; and

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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
13 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Auditor and
14 Insurance Commissioner.

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OFFERED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kurt Ferrell", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive and stylized.