

MAR 08 2024

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# SENATE 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,  
28 that the Auditor is requested to assess, pursuant to section 23-  
29 51, Hawaii Revised Statutes, both the social and financial  
30 effects of the proposed mandated health insurance coverage under  
31 Senate Bill No. 279, Senate Draft 1, of the Thirty-Second  
32 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, which requires insurance  
33 coverage for a percentage of the costs of ketamine therapy to  
34 treat depression and suicide ideation; and



# S.R. NO. 76

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

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

OFFERED BY: *Kurt Zwick*

