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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO APPLY FOR AND  
IMPLEMENT THE ELDERLY SIMPLIFIED APPLICATION PROJECT IN THE  
STATE WHEN CAPABLE.

1 WHEREAS, many low-income households struggle to purchase  
2 food due to Hawaii's high cost of living and food prices; and  
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4 WHEREAS, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program  
5 (SNAP), formerly known as the Food Stamp Program, is crucial to  
6 providing necessary food assistance to some of Hawaii's most  
7 economically disadvantaged residents; and  
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9 WHEREAS, in Hawaii, SNAP supports over one hundred thirty  
10 thousand individuals, bringing more than \$630,000,000 into the  
11 State's economy each year; and  
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13 WHEREAS, these benefits help economically vulnerable  
14 households meet their basic nutritional needs without  
15 sacrificing their financial security; and  
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17 WHEREAS, the Elderly Simplified Application Project (ESAP)  
18 is a demonstration project designed to boost SNAP enrollment  
19 among low-income older adults ages sixty years or older by  
20 tackling barriers to participation in SNAP; and  
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22 WHEREAS, ESAP enhances program efficiency, simplifies  
23 benefit delivery by streamlining the application and  
24 certification processes, waives the recertification interview  
25 requirement, allows for greater flexibility in verification, and  
26 extends the certification period to thirty-six months; and  
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28 WHEREAS, ESAP largely applies to households made up  
29 entirely of older adults with no earned income, although certain  
30 projects also include adults with disabilities who have no



1 earned income or allow children to be present in the household,  
2 under certain conditions; and

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4 WHEREAS, Hawaii does not participate in ESAP; and

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6 WHEREAS, if Hawaii were to participate in ESAP, older  
7 adults in the State would face fewer barriers to accessing SNAP  
8 benefits, which could lead to increased enrollment among  
9 low-income seniors and an improvement to overall food security  
10 and health outcomes; now, therefore,

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12 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
13 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
14 of 2025, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Human  
15 Services is requested to apply for and implement the Elderly  
16 Simplified Application Project in the State when capable; and

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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Human  
19 Services is requested to seek any necessary federal approvals or  
20 waivers to implement the Elderly Simplified Application Project  
21 in the State, including amending its rules, policies, and  
22 procedures; and

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24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this  
25 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Human  
26 Services.

