

MAR 12 2008

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU TO SURVEY OTHER STATES TO DETERMINE HOW NURSING FACILITIES IN RURAL AREAS ADDRESS THEIR TRANSPORTATION AND PARKING ISSUES RELATED TO THE TRANSPORT OF NURSING FACILITY RESIDENTS.

1 WHEREAS, in Hawaii, forty-nine nursing facilities house
2 4,257 of the most frail and vulnerable elderly and disabled
3 residents in the State; and
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5 WHEREAS, eighteen of those facilities are on neighbor
6 islands, housing 1,527 elderly and disabled; and
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8 WHEREAS, based on federal and state guidelines, the elderly
9 are required to receive mandatory follow-up visits for their
10 various medical needs, including visits related to skin,
11 gastroenterology, cancer, foot, dental, eye, and ear ailments,
12 and visits for chemotherapy, radiation, x-rays, and other
13 treatment; and
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15 WHEREAS, while nursing facilities on Oahu enjoy the luxury
16 of various options to transport their elderly patients, neighbor
17 island nursing facilities need to equip their own vehicles,
18 including vans, to accommodate wheelchairs and gurneys to
19 transport elders to all their appointments; and
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21 WHEREAS, to park in handicapped stalls, current law
22 requires nursing facilities in Hawaii to apply for a removable
23 windshield placard for disabled persons for each facility
24 resident transported in a van--a practice that burdens county
25 staff, physicians' offices, and nursing facility offices; and
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27 WHEREAS, furthermore, current law limits the issuance of
28 special license plates or removable windshield placards only to
29 persons with disabilities; and
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1 WHEREAS, this system poses a hardship on nursing facilities
2 with limited staff and resources and places the elderly or
3 disabled resident at risk of missing appointments that are vital
4 to their health and well-being; now, therefore,
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6 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
7 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008, the
8 House of Representatives concurring, that the Legislative
9 Reference Bureau is requested to survey nursing facilities in
10 other states to determine how nursing facilities in rural areas
11 address their transportation and parking issues related to the
12 transport of nursing facility residents; and
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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference
15 Bureau is requested to consult with the Disability and
16 Communication Access Board; Long-Term Care Social Workers of
17 Hawaii; National Association of Social Workers, Hawaii Chapter;
18 Nursing Facility Administrators; and the Hawaii State Long-Term
19 Care Ombudsman, as necessary; and
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference
22 Bureau is requested to submit a report on the results of the
23 survey, including any necessary proposed legislation, to the
24 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
25 the Regular Session of 2009; and
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Disability and
28 Communication Access Board; Long-Term Care Social Workers of
29 Hawaii; National Association of Social Workers, Hawaii Chapter;
30 Nursing Facility Administrators; and the Hawaii State Long-Term
31 Care Ombudsman are requested to meet to discuss an alternative
32 solution to the transportation and parking problems of nursing
33 facilities and make recommendations, including proposed
34 legislation, at the state and county levels, as appropriate, to
35 the Legislature and the appropriate county council no later than
36 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of
37 2009 and twenty days prior to the convening of the appropriate
38 county council 2009 legislative session; and
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40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
41 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the
42 Legislative Reference Bureau; the Hawaii State Long-Term Care
43 Ombudsman; the Chairperson of the Disability and Communication
44 Access Board, who in turn, is requested to transmit copies to



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1 the head of the Long-Term Care Social Workers of Hawaii; the
 2 head of the Nursing Facilities Administrators; and the Executive
 3 Director of the National Association of Social Workers, Hawaii
 4 Chapter.

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April 8/08

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