

FEB 28 2008

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING HAWAII'S HEALTH INSURERS TO PROVIDE COVERAGE FOR FEES
CHARGED FOR LETTERS PROVIDED BY A PHYSICIAN AS VERIFICATION
OF A PATIENT'S DISABILITY OR OTHER CONDITION FOR WHICH
SUBSTANTIATION IS NECESSARY.

1 WHEREAS, it has been reported that insurance companies
2 notify persons needing to claim disability insurance that the
3 person will have to pay out of pocket for a doctor's letter
4 confirming the disability; and

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6 WHEREAS, this is an undue hardship, since the only reason a
7 person needs a doctor's letter is to prove the person is too
8 disabled to work and is eligible for disability benefits; and

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10 WHEREAS, many times people who are too disabled to work are
11 already suffering financial hardships and must concentrate on
12 paying for essentials such as food, clothing, medicine, and
13 housing; and

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15 WHEREAS, the cost of living is already overwhelming for
16 many people as evidenced by the record high number of homeless;
17 and

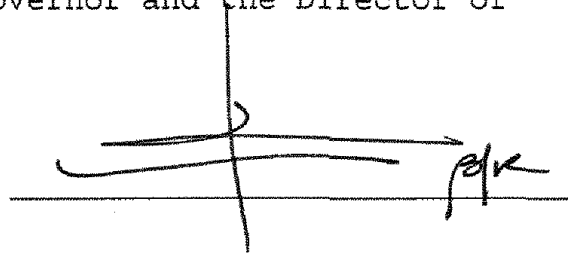
18
19 WHEREAS, it is important that those who need help receive
20 assistance without having further hardships placed upon them;
21 now, therefore,

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23 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
24 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008,
25 that health insurers are urged to provide coverage for fees
26 charged for letters provided by a physician as verification of a
27 patient's disability or other condition for which substantiation
28 is necessary; and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
2 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and the Director of
3 Commerce and Consumer Affairs.
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OFFERED BY:

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