

MAR 18 2009

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION EAST AND WEST
REGIONAL BOARDS TO ESTABLISH THE BIG ISLAND LONG-TERM CARE
COALITION TO DEVELOP A PLAN FOR LONG-TERM CARE SOLUTIONS ON
THE BIG ISLAND OF HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, the future of long-term care for Hawaii's senior
2 and adult disabled population is one of the most critical health
3 issues facing Hawaii in the twenty-first century; and
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5 WHEREAS, the rapid growth of the elderly and disabled
6 populations in the County of Hawaii will result in extraordinary
7 demands on the delivery of long-term care services; and
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9 WHEREAS, many individuals who are eligible for long-term
10 care are put on wait lists due to the shortage of available
11 long-term care beds in the County of Hawaii; and
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13 WHEREAS, waitlisted patients do not receive services
14 appropriate for their requisite level of care, and patients in
15 need of acute care are denied beds that waitlisted patients
16 continue to occupy; and
17

18 WHEREAS, hospitals that provide acute care services are
19 financially depleted by waitlisted long-term care patients who
20 occupy acute care beds because acute care hospitals are
21 reimbursed according to the level of service required by
22 patients, not the level of service actually provided; and
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24 WHEREAS, this mismatch between long-term care capacity and
25 need accounts for almost fifty per cent of Hawaii County
26 hospitals' economic shortfall, resulting in a severe economic
27 hardship for these hospitals; and
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29 WHEREAS, the aging population will have greater long-term
30 care needs going forward, requiring the availability of more
31 long-term care beds; and



