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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING A SUNRISE REVIEW OF ATHLETIC TRAINERS.

1           WHEREAS, certified athletic trainers are health care  
2 professionals who specialize in the prevention, assessment,  
3 immediate care, treatment, referral, and rehabilitation of  
4 injuries and illnesses sustained by athletes and others engaged  
5 in physical activity; and  
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7           WHEREAS, athletic trainers are certified by the National  
8 Athletic Trainers Board of Certification, an independent  
9 credentialing agency whose certifications are based upon  
10 standards that provide protection to the public and indicate  
11 that the athletic trainers have knowledge and skill in six  
12 practice domains of athletic training; and  
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14           WHEREAS, the Legislature has affirmed the value,  
15 importance, and qualifications of certified athletic trainers in  
16 the past by appropriating funds to place certified athletic  
17 trainers in each of Hawaii's public secondary schools; and  
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19           WHEREAS, in addition to the public secondary schools,  
20 certified athletic trainers are employed in private secondary  
21 schools, colleges and universities, physician offices,  
22 hospitals, sports medicine clinics, the military, and fitness  
23 centers; and  
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25           WHEREAS, there are currently one hundred sixty-five  
26 certified athletic trainers in the State of Hawaii; and  
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28           WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii-Manoa has an accredited  
29 athletic training curriculum; and  
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31           WHEREAS, because the public has difficulty discerning the  
32 difference between athletic trainers, personal trainers, and  
33 boxing trainers, there is a risk that unqualified non-  
34 credentialed persons will represent themselves as "trainers" and



1 mislead members of the public into believing that they are  
2 receiving care from health care professionals; and  
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4 WHEREAS, there is a risk that Hawaii's athletic population  
5 could suffer consequences such as chronic pain, disability, or  
6 loss of life if health care is received from unqualified  
7 practitioners; and  
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9 WHEREAS, athletic trainers routinely work with children as  
10 young as twelve but are one of the few types of medical  
11 professionals not regulated in Hawaii; and  
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13 WHEREAS, licensure would ensure that Hawaii's athletic  
14 population receives specialized emergency care and appropriate  
15 treatment and rehabilitation and meet appropriate criteria  
16 before being returned to play; and  
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18 WHEREAS, licensure would require and verify, as is now  
19 required of other health care professions, demonstration of  
20 minimum competency in the profession; and  
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22 WHEREAS, licensure would provide a mechanism to report and  
23 remedy malpractice and ethical violations, thereby reducing an  
24 existing threat of harm to the public; and  
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26 WHEREAS, as Hawaii is one of the few states without  
27 licensure there is no one to whom the National Athletic Trainers  
28 Association Board of Certification can report disciplinary  
29 actions to ensure that appropriate action is taken to protect  
30 the public; and  
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32 WHEREAS, section 26H-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, requires a  
33 review by the Auditor before enactment of a measure that would  
34 subject an unregulated profession or vocation to licensing or  
35 other regulatory control; and  
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37 WHEREAS, Senate Bill No.            was introduced in the 2009  
38 Regular Session and calls for the regulation of athletic  
39 trainers through licensure; now, therefore,  
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41 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth  
42 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009, the  
43 House of Representatives concurring, that the Auditor is



# S.C.R. NO. 35

1 requested to perform a sunrise review regarding the licensure of  
2 athletic trainers; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to  
5 submit findings and recommendations, including any proposed  
6 amendments to new legislation containing the elements of Senate  
7 Bill No. , to the Legislature not later than twenty days  
8 before the convening of the Regular Session of 2010; and

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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this  
11 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Auditor.

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OFFERED BY:

