

MAR 10 2010

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO AUTHORIZE THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON AGING IN PLACE TO CONTINUE TO MEET AND CARRY OUT THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE.

1 WHEREAS, the Joint Legislative Committee on Family
2 Caregiving was established by Act 285, Session Laws of Hawaii
3 2006, for the purpose of developing a comprehensive public
4 policy to strengthen support for family caregivers who provide
5 unpaid, informal assistance to persons age sixty and older with
6 physical or cognitive disabilities; and
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8 WHEREAS, the committee was directed to consider providing
9 support in categories including but not limited to coordinated
10 services and policies, training and education, respite services,
11 financial incentives, and balancing work and caregiving; and
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13 WHEREAS, Act 285, Session Laws of Hawaii 2006, also
14 required the committee to submit its findings and
15 recommendations to the legislature no later than twenty days
16 prior to the convening of the regular session of 2007; and
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18 WHEREAS, in the fall of 2006, the committee held numerous
19 meetings and submitted a special committee report to the
20 legislature, which outlined its proposal for the establishment
21 of a comprehensive and sustainable community-based family
22 caregiver support system that will maximize resources in all
23 communities; and
24

25 WHEREAS, in 2007, the Legislature found that it was still
26 necessary to gather more information on family caregiving, to
27 enable the State to apply resources and services in a more
28 effective manner; and
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30 WHEREAS, in 2007, the Legislature also recognized that
31 grandparents who are caregivers for their grandchildren
32 experience similar support needs and caregiving costs as do
33 family caregivers for older adults, and that the National Family



1 Caregiver Support Program under the reauthorized Older Americans
2 Act includes grandparents of grandchildren age eighteen years
3 and younger or nineteen years of age or older with physical and
4 cognitive limitations; and
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6 WHEREAS, Act 204, Session Laws of Hawaii 2007, expanded the
7 mandate of the joint legislative committee by amending the
8 definition of "family caregiver" to include non-relatives who
9 provide unpaid, informal assistance to persons age sixty and
10 older with physical or cognitive disabilities, and grandparents
11 who are caregivers for grandchildren who are eighteen years of
12 age or younger, or who are nineteen years of age or older with
13 physical or cognitive limitations; and
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15 WHEREAS, during the 2007 interim, the committee examined
16 localized studies and surveys, some of which contained
17 preliminary results, which provided concrete evidence of the
18 needs of family caregivers, and the committee studied what other
19 states have done and are doing in response to the growing
20 concern regarding eldercare issues; and
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22 WHEREAS, the Legislature recognized that the committee
23 needed more time to complete its work, and in Act 220, Session
24 Laws of Hawaii 2008; extended the term of the committee to June
25 30, 2010, and changed the name of the committee to the Joint
26 Legislative Committee on Aging in Place; and
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28 WHEREAS, during the 2009 interim, the committee continued
29 to gather information in areas that advance family caregiver
30 support and improve conditions for enabling elders to age in
31 place; and
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33 WHEREAS, on January 25, 2010, the Joint Legislative
34 Committee on Aging in Place submitted a report to the
35 Legislature, which contained findings and recommendations in the
36 areas of interest to the committee, including the Kupuna Care
37 and Preservation of the Safety Net, Aging and Disability
38 Resource Center, Grandparents Raising Grandchildren, Home for
39 Life Task Force, Home Care Concierge Service, Fall Prevention,
40 Home Care Agency Licensure, University of Hawaii Center on
41 Aging, and Long Term Care Commission; and
42

43 WHEREAS, the current fiscal constraints on the State have
44 caused the committee to defer a number of its recommendations,



1 including the following: providing additional funding for the
2 Kupuna Care Program, Aging and Disability Resource Center,
3 University of Hawaii Center on Aging, Sage PLUS for the neighbor
4 islands, and cash and counseling model; providing new funding
5 for a respite care directory, caregiver assistance, and home
6 modification tax credits; and providing a funding mechanism to
7 expand the paid family leave program to include family
8 caregivers; and
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10 WHEREAS, the Joint Legislative Committee on Aging in Place
11 continues to monitor progress on its areas of interest and the
12 legislation it has proposed; and
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14 WHEREAS, the Joint Legislative Committee on Aging is
15 scheduled to terminate on June 30, 2010; and
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17 WHEREAS, to accomplish the purpose for which it was
18 established, it is important that the members of the committee
19 continue to meet beyond the date on which it is set to end; now,
20 therefore,
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22 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth
23 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010,
24 that the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of
25 Representatives are requested to authorize the Joint Legislative
26 Committee on Aging in Place to continue to meet until June 30,
27 2012; and
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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President of the Senate and
30 Speaker of the House of Representatives are urged to request
31 that the members of the Joint Legislative Committee on Aging in
32 Place submit any additional findings and recommendations to the
33 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
34 the regular sessions of 2011 and 2012, respectively; and
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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature urges the
37 Department of Health, the Department of Human Services, the
38 Department of Taxation, the University of Hawaii, the Executive
39 Office on Aging, and the elderly, disability, business, and
40 faith communities, to continue to assist the members of the
41 joint legislative committee in its efforts to continue the work
42 mandated by Act 285, Session Laws of Hawaii 2006, as amended;
43 and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 2 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the Senate,
 3 Speaker of the House of Representatives, members of the Joint
 4 Legislative Committee on Aging in Place, the Director of Health,
 5 Director of Human Services, Director of Taxation, the President
 6 of the University of Hawaii, and the Director of the Executive
 7 Office on Aging.

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