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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO EXPLORE THE  
POSSIBILITY OF ALLOWING GOVERNMENT AGENCIES PROVIDING  
GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE TO CONDUCT RANDOM DRUG TESTING OF  
ADULT INDIVIDUALS RECEIVING PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AND  
SUSPENDING THIS ASSISTANCE IF THE INDIVIDUAL TESTS POSITIVE  
FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE.

1           WHEREAS, the recent economic crisis facing the nation has  
2 resulted in increasing numbers of individuals seeking government  
3 assistance; and

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5           WHEREAS, government assistance programs are funded through  
6 taxpayer dollars and state and local governments are currently  
7 facing economic crises of their own often struggling to find  
8 funding for even the most basic public services; and

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10           WHEREAS, although the statistics are not staggering, a  
11 recent report by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services  
12 Administration of the Department of Health and Human Services  
13 found that 9.6 percent of people living in households that  
14 receive government assistance used illicit drugs in the previous  
15 month; and

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17           WHEREAS, since individuals receiving public assistance are  
18 receiving this aid through the use of taxpayer dollars, it has  
19 been suggested that requiring adult individuals receiving public  
20 assistance to undergo random drug testing is the prudent thing  
21 to do to ensure that taxpayer dollars are being appropriately  
22 used for the provision of this assistance; and

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24           WHEREAS, while legal questions have been raised regarding  
25 random drug testing of individuals receiving government  
26 assistance, this issue should be explored further to determine  
27 its feasibility; now, therefore,



1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
 2 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
 3 of 2011, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Human  
 4 Services is urged to explore the possibility of allowing  
 5 government agencies providing government assistance to conduct  
 6 random drug testing of adult individuals receiving public  
 7 assistance and suspending this assistance if the individual  
 8 tests positive for substance abuse; and  
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in exploring the possibility of  
 11 conducting random drug testing, the Department of Human Services  
 12 shall consider legal questions raised regarding this issue and  
 13 whether random drug testing of individuals receiving public  
 14 assistance would be feasible; and  
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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Human  
 17 services shall report its findings and recommendations,  
 18 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later  
 19 than 20 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of  
 20 2012; and  
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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this  
 23 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Human  
 24 Services.  
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 26  
 27

OFFERED BY: Karen Awana  
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