
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO CONDUCT A STUDY
ON ASSET LIMITS TO QUALIFY FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.

1 WHEREAS, public assistance programs currently limit
2 eligibility to individuals and families with few or no assets to
3 ensure public resources are provided to those most in need; and
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5 WHEREAS, however, asset limits can discourage savings and
6 prevent families from making investments that can help them
7 escape poverty and reliance on public assistance programs; and
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9 WHEREAS, while the Legislature could amend the law to raise
10 the asset limit, such a change may affect all assistance
11 programs administered by the Department of Human Services; and
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13 WHEREAS, a more prudent approach would be to study the
14 potential effects of raising the asset limit; now, therefore,
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16 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
17 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
18 of 2012, that the Department of Human Services is requested to
19 conduct a study on asset limits to qualify for public
20 assistance; and
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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study is requested to
23 include a review and evaluation of information on practices,
24 policies, and trends regarding asset limits, and the
25 applicability of asset limits to the Supplemental Nutritional
26 Assistance Program, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
27 Program, Temporary Assistance to Other Needy Families Program,
28 and the MedQuest Program; and
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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Human
31 Services consider the cost implications related to changing
32 these asset limits; and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Human
2 Services is requested to submit a report of its findings and any
3 proposed legislation, including recommendations for appropriate
4 changes to asset limits, to the Legislature no later than twenty
5 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2013; and

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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
8 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Human Services.

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OFFERED BY: _____



MAR 14 2012

