
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE FORMATION OF A TASK FORCE TO DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVING THE PROVISION OF OBESITY PREVENTION-RELATED SERVICES AND COUNSELING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PATIENT PROTECTION AND AFFORDABLE CARE ACT.

1 WHEREAS, obesity is a major health and economic concern for
2 Hawaii and the nation, causing higher medical costs and lower
3 quality of life; and
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5 WHEREAS, in Hawaii adult obesity has more than doubled
6 between 1995 and 2009 and childhood obesity increased by thirty-
7 eight percent from 1999 and 2009; and
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9 WHEREAS, in Hawaii one in three children entering
10 kindergarten is overweight or obese and one in two adults is
11 overweight or obese; and
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13 WHEREAS obesity-related medical expenditures in Hawaii were
14 calculated to be over \$470,000,000 in 2009, and are continuing
15 to rise; and
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17 WHEREAS, obesity is a complex and multifaceted issue
18 requiring the collaboration of stakeholders in government, non-
19 profit, private and health care sectors to create systematic
20 large-scale environmental changes; and
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22 WHEREAS, stakeholders must be educated about the provisions
23 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) and of
24 the ongoing efforts of the Hawaii Healthcare Project and how
25 these changes affect Hawaii's health care system; and
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27 WHEREAS, the passage of the PPACA provides an opportunity
28 to assess gaps in healthcare providers' ability to prevent and
29 treat obesity in Hawaii; and
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1 WHEREAS, the payment structure for health care providers
2 offering services and counseling related to obesity prevention
3 and treatment must be improved; and
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5 WHEREAS, health care providers must be educated about
6 reimbursable medical costs related to obesity prevention and
7 treatment under the new PPACA guidelines so that they may be
8 compensated for the provision of these services; and
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10 WHEREAS, health care providers must be encouraged to
11 provide services and counseling to overweight and obese
12 patients; now, therefore,
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14 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh
15 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2013, the
16 House of Representatives concurring, that government, non-
17 profit, and private health care organizations collaborate to
18 increase the provision of obesity-related services and
19 counseling by health care providers as mandated under the new
20 PPACA guidelines; and
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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
23 requested to establish the Obesity Prevention Healthcare
24 Reimbursement Task Force tasked with:
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- 26 (1) Assessing gaps in health care providers' ability to
27 prevent and provide treatment for obesity-related
28 services and counseling;
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- 30 (2) Investigating providers' reimbursement options for the
31 provision of these services;
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- 33 (3) Educating providers about these reimbursement options;
34 and
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- 36 (4) Encouraging providers' utilization of reimbursement
37 options; and
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39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of Health appoint
40 up to twenty-five task force members having demonstrated
41 interest in and having backgrounds beneficial to assisting the
42 function of the task force, including members having extensive
43 knowledge, expertise, or experience in such areas as obesity



1 prevention, healthcare, the PPACA, healthcare coding, nutrition
2 and physical activity, and related areas; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
5 research how other states are implementing obesity prevention
6 reimbursement practices; and

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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
9 develop recommendations for increasing the provision of obesity-
10 related services and counseling by health care providers through
11 additional International Classification of Diseases, ninth
12 edition and tenth edition codes, training and education, or
13 other strategies; and

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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
16 submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including
17 any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than
18 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of
19 2014; and

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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the task force
22 serve without compensation and receive no reimbursement for
23 expenses; and

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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
26 requested to assist the task force by providing a facilitator;
27 and

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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force cease to exist
30 on June 30, 2014; and

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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
33 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director
34 of Health, Director of Human Services, and Director of Commerce
35 and Consumer Affairs.
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