

FEB 12 2014

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# SENATE RESOLUTION

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ESTABLISHING AN ADVANCE HEALTH CARE DIRECTIVE WORKING GROUP TO  
EXPLORE STRATEGIES TO ENSURE ALL ADULTS EXECUTE AN ADVANCE  
HEALTH CARE DIRECTIVE.

1           WHEREAS, an advance health care directive is a premade set  
2 of instructions concerning decisions about a person's medical  
3 treatment and health issues if the person is later unable to  
4 make medical decisions; and

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6           WHEREAS, it is estimated that less than fifteen per cent of  
7 all adults in the United States have an advance health care  
8 directive; and

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10          WHEREAS, individuals who are not able to make medical  
11 decisions, and who previously did not make an advance health  
12 care directive, effectively force their families into the  
13 extremely difficult position of guessing what the individual's  
14 wishes would be in making medical care decisions; and

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16          WHEREAS, ensuring that all adults in Hawaii have an advance  
17 health care directive would provide greater certainty for  
18 hospitals and other health care facilities regarding the  
19 appropriate medical treatment of individuals consistent with  
20 their preferences for end of life care and ensure their  
21 preferences are honored; now, therefore,

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23          BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh  
24 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2014,  
25 that there is established the advance health care directive  
26 working group; and

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28          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of the University  
29 of Hawaii Elder Law Program is requested to serve as chairperson  
30 of the working group and to invite the initial members to serve  
31 on the working group, including one member from each of the  
32 following:

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34           (1) The Judiciary;



- 1 (2) The Department of Health;
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- 3 (3) The Department of the Attorney General;
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- 5 (4) The Executive Office on Aging;
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- 7 (5) The Hawaii State Bar Association;
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- 9 (6) A hospital in the State; and
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- 11 (7) A hospice in the State; and
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the advance health care  
14 directive working group is requested to explore strategies and  
15 develop recommendations that would ensure that all adults  
16 execute and maintain in force an advance health care directive;  
17 and

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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the advance health care  
20 directive working group is requested to submit a report of its  
21 findings and recommendations, including any proposed  
22 legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior  
23 to the convening of the Regular Session of 2015; and

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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
26 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the University of  
27 Hawaii Elder Law Program, the Chief Justice, the Director of  
28 Health, the Attorney General, the Executive Director of the  
29 Executive Office on Aging, and the Executive Director of the  
30 Hawaii State Bar Association.

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OFFERED BY: 

