
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO ASSESS THE SOCIAL AND FINANCIAL
EFFECTS OF REQUIRING HEALTH INSURERS TO PROVIDE COVERAGE
FOR CERTAIN NATIVE HAWAIIAN CULTURE-BASED ACTIVITIES.

1 WHEREAS, Native Hawaiians have among the highest rates of
2 obesity, hypertension, diabetes, cardiovascular and
3 cerebrovascular diseases, certain cancers, and mortality rates
4 of any ethnic group in Hawaii; and
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6 WHEREAS, studies indicate that many Native Hawaiians feel
7 alienated from and have a mistrust of the present health care
8 system, and prefer more culturally acceptable means of managing
9 their health; and
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11 WHEREAS, section 226-20, Hawaii Revised Statutes, sets
12 objectives and policies of the Hawaii state plan for socio-
13 cultural advancement of health with specific language that
14 requires the prioritization of programs, services,
15 interventions, and activities that that address social
16 determinants of health intended to improve Native Hawaiian
17 health and well-being and to reduce disparities among
18 disproportionately affected demographic groups; and
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20 WHEREAS, traditional Native Hawaiian practices, including
21 hula and canoe paddling, have been shown to be effective in the
22 areas of weight management, cardiovascular health, diabetes
23 management, and chronic kidney disease management; and
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25 WHEREAS, section 23-51, Hawaii Revised Statutes, requires
26 that "[b]efore any legislative measure that mandates health
27 insurance coverage for specific health services, specific
28 diseases, or certain providers of health care services as part
29 of individual or group health insurance policies, can be
30 considered, there shall be concurrent resolutions passed
31 requesting the auditor to prepare and submit to the legislature
32 a report that assesses both the social and financial effects of
33 the proposed mandated coverage"; and
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1 WHEREAS, section 23-51, Hawaii Revised Statutes, further
2 provides that "[t]he concurrent resolutions shall designate a
3 specific legislative bill that:

- 4
- 5 (1) Has been introduced in the legislature; and
- 6
- 7 (2) Includes, at minimum, information identifying the:
 - 8
 - 9 (A) Specific health service, disease, or provider
 - 10 that would be covered;
 - 11
 - 12 (B) Extent of the coverage;
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 - 14 (C) Target groups that would be covered;
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 - 16 (D) Limits on utilization, if any; and
 - 17
 - 18 (E) Standards of care.
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20 For purposes of this part, mandated health insurance coverage
21 shall not include mandated optionals"; and

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23 WHEREAS, section 23-52, Hawaii Revised Statutes, further
24 specifies the minimum information required for assessing the
25 social and financial impact of the proposed health coverage
26 mandate in the Auditor's report; and

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28 WHEREAS, S.B. No. (Regular Session of 2017), mandates
29 health insurance coverage for Native Hawaiian culture-based
30 practices that have been empirically shown to be effective in
31 the management of weight, cardiovascular health, diabetes, and
32 chronic kidney disease; and

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34 WHEREAS, the Legislature believes that coverage for certain
35 Native Hawaiian culture-based practices will substantially
36 reduce illness and assist in the maintenance of good health for
37 the people of this State; now, therefore,

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39 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
40 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
41 of 2017, that the Auditor is requested to conduct an impact
42 assessment report, pursuant to sections 23-51 and 23-52, Hawaii



1 Revised Statutes, of the social and financial impacts of
 2 mandating coverage for Native Hawaiian culture-based practices
 3 that have been empirically shown to be effective in the
 4 management of weight, cardiovascular health, diabetes, and
 5 chronic kidney disease as provided in S.B. No. (2017); and
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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to
 8 submit findings and recommendations to the Legislature,
 9 including any necessary implementing legislation, no later than
 10 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of
 11 2018; and
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 14 Resolution be transmitted to the Auditor and to the Insurance
 15 Commissioner, who, in turn, is requested to transmit copies to
 16 each insurer in the State that issues health insurance policies.
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OFFERED BY:

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