SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS TO INCREASE COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING RATES IN THE STATE.

WHEREAS, colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer deaths for men and the third leading cause of cancer deaths for women in the State; and

WHEREAS, approximately 660 Hawaii residents are diagnosed with colorectal cancer every year, and nearly 240 Hawaii residents die from the disease each year; and

WHEREAS, colorectal cancer has very few symptoms, making screenings vital to detection and treatment of the cancer in its early stages; and

WHEREAS, Hawaii currently has a screening rate of 70 percent, with a state goal of reaching an 80 percent screening rate by 2020; and

WHEREAS, in 2016 the Hawaii Comprehensive Cancer Coalition unveiled a five-year strategic plan to address early detection of colorectal cancer through education, outreach, and working with health systems and community partners; and

WHEREAS, with the uncertainty of the health insurance market and federal funding for existing cancer screening and prevention programs, it is prudent and reasonable for cancer control advocates to come together as a community to reevaluate these issues in the volatile healthcare landscape; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Health, American Cancer Society, American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, and other community partners are all committed to reducing the burden of colorectal cancer in Hawaii; now, therefore,
BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth
Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2017, the
House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of
Health is requested to convene a working group, with the
assistance of the American Cancer Society-Hawaii-Pacific and the
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, to develop
recommendations to increase colorectal cancer screening rates in
the State; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
to incorporate cancer control organizations including hospitals,
healthcare associations, community health centers, insurers, and
other interested public health groups; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that pursuant to the Hawaii State
Cancer Plan 2016-2020, the working group is requested to examine
and identify specific actions to:

1. Promote public education on colorectal cancer
screenings in combination with other screenings;

2. Identify barriers to colorectal cancer screening among
underserved, hard-to-reach population groups, and
develop effective strategies to overcome those
barriers;

3. Increase public knowledge about family history as a
risk factor for colorectal cancer;

4. Implement small media interventions;

5. Utilize provider-client reminder systems to ensure
timely compliance with screenings;

6. Partner with community clinics and federally qualified
health centers to implement evidenced-based screening
interventions; and

7. Partner with union organizations and employer groups
to provide cancer screening education to members of
unions and employer groups; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is also requested to assess:

(1) Existing and potential state and community resources to address screening and awareness of colorectal cancer;

(2) The use of targeted models and methods to reach underserved populations within the State's unique social, cultural, and geographic diversity;

(3) Strategies to partner across health systems, providers, insurers, and community organizations to collaborate on reaching underserved populations; and

(4) Any other proposals that have the potential to increase colorectal cancer screening rates; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested to submit findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2018; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health; American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network; and Executive Director of the American Cancer Society-Hawaii-Pacific.

OFFERED BY:

[Signatures]