WHEREAS, birth is a natural process and a woman should have the right to choose the type of pregnancy care that she wants; and

WHEREAS, home births have been steadily increasing since 1991; and

WHEREAS, one of the challenges faced by the nation's health care system is the provision of quality care to segments of the population that do not have access to essential services because of geographic limitations; and

WHEREAS, mothers have accessed midwifery services throughout history; and

WHEREAS, the use of midwifery care to deliver maternal child health care is an effective way of overcoming certain barriers to accessing care, particularly for communities located in rural and remote areas; and

WHEREAS, the Auditor has found that the mandatory licensure of the entire midwifery profession would be consistent with the Hawaii Regulatory Licensing Reform Act; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2018, that the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs is requested to convene a midwifery regulatory working group to study and develop a plan for defining midwifery, establishing licensure, and creating a process for data collection and peer review for all midwives in the State; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following individuals are requested to serve and be included as members of the midwifery regulatory working group:

(1) The Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs or the Director's designee;

(2) The Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health, or the Chairperson's designee;

(3) The Chairperson of the House Committee on Health and Human Services or the Chairperson's designee;

(4) The Chairperson of the Hawaii Section of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists or the Chairperson's designee;

(5) The President of the Midwives Alliance of Hawaii or the President's designee;

(6) A member representing uncertified midwives, as designated by the Board of Directors of Papa Ola Lokahi; and

(7) A representative from the Legislative Reference Bureau to provide legislative drafting assistance should the working group propose any legislation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the midwifery regulatory working group are requested to elect a chairperson, a vice chairperson, and any other necessary officers from among the members; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs is requested to provide administrative support to the working group; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the midwifery regulatory working group is requested to report its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
the Regular Session of 2019; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the midwifery regulatory
working group shall cease to exist on June 30, 2019; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Commerce and
Consumer Affairs; the Chairperson of the Senate Committee on
Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health; the Chairperson of
the House Committee on Health and Human Services; the Director
of the Legislative Reference Bureau; the Chairperson of the
Hawaii Section of the American College of Obstetricians and
Gynecologists; the President of the Midwives Alliance of Hawaii;
and the President of the Board of Directors of Papa Ola Lokahi.

OFFERED BY:

MAR - 9 2018