

MAR 08 2018

SENATE CONCURRENT 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

5
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

10
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 address social determinants
16 of health intended to improve Native Hawaiian health and well-
17 being and to reduce disparities among disproportionately
18 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

24
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



S.C.R. NO. 74

1 a report that assesses both the social and financial effects of
2 the proposed mandated coverage"; and

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4 WHEREAS, section 23-51, Hawaii Revised Statutes, further
5 provides that "[t]he concurrent resolutions shall designate a
6 specific legislative bill that:

- 7
- 8 (1) Has been introduced in the legislature; and
- 9
- 10 (2) Includes, at minimum, information identifying the:
 - 11
 - 12 (A) Specific health service, disease, or provider
 - 13 that would be covered;
 - 14
 - 15 (B) Extent of the coverage;
 - 16
 - 17 (C) Target groups that would be covered;
 - 18
 - 19 (D) Limits on utilization, if any; and
 - 20
 - 21 (E) Standards of care.
 - 22

23 For purposes of this part, mandated health insurance coverage
24 shall not include mandated optionals"; and

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

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31 WHEREAS, S.B. No. 1315 (Regular Session of 2017), mandates
32 health insurance coverage for Native Hawaiian culture-based
33 practices that have been empirically shown to be effective in
34 the management of weight, cardiovascular health, diabetes, and
35 chronic kidney disease; and

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

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1 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth
 2 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2018, the
 3 House of Representatives concurring, that the Auditor is
 4 requested to conduct an impact assessment report, pursuant to
 5 sections 23-51 and 23-52, Hawaii Revised Statutes, of the social
 6 and financial impacts of mandating coverage for Native Hawaiian
 7 culture-based practices that have been empirically shown to be
 8 effective in the management of weight, cardiovascular health,
 9 diabetes, and chronic kidney disease as provided in S.B.
 10 No. 1315 (2017); and

11
 12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to
 13 submit findings and recommendations to the Legislature,
 14 including any necessary implementing legislation, no later than
 15 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of
 16 2019; and

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 18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 19 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Auditor and to the
 20 Insurance Commissioner, who, in turn, is requested to transmit
 21 copies to each insurer in the State that issues health insurance
 22 policies.

OFFERED BY:

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