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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CREATE A FORMAL PLAN TO IMPLEMENT CERTAIN RECOMMENDATIONS WITH RESPECT TO ORAL HEALTH CARE FOR NATIVE HAWAIIANS.

1           WHEREAS, in a 2019 report entitled "E Ola Mau a Mau: The  
2 Next Generation of Native Hawaiian Health", Papa Ola Lokahi  
3 observed that there has been increased oral health research over  
4 the last thirty years, with more scholarly publications and  
5 increased interest in and understanding of oral health needs;  
6 and

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8           WHEREAS, the report recognized that linking patients to  
9 prevention and treatment through school-based oral health  
10 education, screening and referral programs, dental case  
11 management, and pediatricians' offices is effective; and

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13           WHEREAS, the report, among other findings, determined that:

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15           (1) Native Hawaiian adults have higher rates of tooth loss  
16 than Caucasian and Japanese adults;  
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18           (2) Native Hawaiian children have higher rates of tooth  
19 decay than their Caucasian and Japanese peers;  
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21           (3) Available data suggests that Native Hawaiians lack  
22 access to preventative and treatment visits, and have  
23 great need for prevention and treatment of dental  
24 issues; and  
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26           (4) Native Hawaiians' lack of access to dental care is not  
27 surprising, as they are overrepresented in other risk  
28 groups, including those with low socioeconomic status  
29 and rural residence; and  
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31           WHEREAS, the report also found that there is a lack of  
32 funding for capital expansion for Native Hawaiian Health Care



1 Systems and Federally Qualified Health Centers to enhance access  
2 to dental care, screening, referrals, and education, including  
3 access by children, adults, kupuna, and low-income families; and  
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5 WHEREAS, the recommendations of the report recognized the  
6 need to:

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- 8 (1) Address oral health in connection with overall health;
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  - 10 (2) Increase oral health literacy and awareness;
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  - 12 (3) Develop a diversified oral health workforce, including  
13 in rural areas;
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  - 15 (4) Invest in prevention;
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  - 17 (5) Increase access to care and decrease oral health care  
18 disparities;
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  - 20 (6) Implement culturally-adapted programs and practices;  
21 and
  - 22
  - 23 (7) Systematically improve data collection relevant to  
24 Native Hawaiian oral health; and  
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26 WHEREAS, the State should promote the health and welfare of  
27 the Native Hawaiian people; now, therefore,  
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29 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
30 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
31 Session of 2023, that the Department of Health is requested to  
32 create a formal plan to implement the recommendations of the "E  
33 Ola Mau a Mau: The Next Generation of Native Hawaiian Health"  
34 report with respect to oral health care for Native Hawaiians;  
35 and  
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37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is  
38 requested to collaborate with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs in  
39 the creation of the plan; and  
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41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is  
42 requested to submit to the Legislature, no later than twenty



1 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2024, a  
2 report of the plan, including any findings, recommendations, and  
3 proposed legislation; and  
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
6 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health, Chairperson  
7 of the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and  
8 Chairperson of the Hawaiian Homes Commission.  
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OFFERED BY:

FEB 27 2023

