

MAR 10 2023

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO ASSESS THE SOCIAL AND FINANCIAL
EFFECTS OF MANDATING HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR
AMBULANCE AND COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE SERVICES.

1 WHEREAS, a substantial number of transfers to a hospital
2 provided by an emergency medical services ambulatory service are
3 for health conditions that are not considered to be an
4 emergency, which can result not only in wasted health care
5 resources but can also potentially prevent the delivery of life-
6 saving services to other individuals who may truly be
7 experiencing a life-threatening emergency; and

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9 WHEREAS, community paramedicine is a model of community-
10 based health care in which paramedics function outside their
11 customary emergency response and transport roles in ways that
12 facilitate more appropriate use of emergency care resources; and

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14 WHEREAS, an important advantage of community paramedicine
15 is the ability to treat patients at home without transport to a
16 hospital or clinic, which enhances access to primary care and
17 support services, especially for medically underserved areas;
18 and

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20 WHEREAS, community paramedicine services can also improve
21 access to preventative care, help triage patients, and alleviate
22 the overburdened hospital and emergency departments, which in
23 turn can help decrease health care costs; and

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25 WHEREAS, reimbursement for community paramedicine services
26 is essential to the Community Paramedicine Program's
27 sustainability; and

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29 WHEREAS, section 23-51, Hawaii Revised Statutes, requires
30 that "[b]efore any legislative measure that mandates health
31 insurance coverage for specific health services, specific
32 diseases, or certain providers of health care services as part



1 of individual or group health insurance policies, can be
2 considered, there shall be concurrent resolutions passed
3 requesting the auditor to prepare and submit to the legislature
4 a report that assesses both the social and financial effects of
5 the proposed mandated coverage"; and

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

- 10 (1) Has been introduced in the legislature; and
- 11 (2) Includes, at a minimum, information identifying the:
 - 12 (A) Specific health service, disease, or provider
 - 13 that would be covered;
 - 14 (B) Extent of the coverage;
 - 15 (C) Target groups that would be covered;
 - 16 (D) Limitations on utilization, if any; and
 - 17 (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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24 WHEREAS, section 23-52, Hawaii Revised Statutes, further
25 specifies the minimum information required for assessing the
26 social and financial impact of the proposed health coverage
27 mandate in the State Auditor's report; and

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29 WHEREAS, S.B. No. , introduced in the Regular Session
30 of 2023, would mandate insurance coverage for ambulance services
31 and community paramedicine services rendered statewide by
32 emergency medical technicians or paramedics; now, therefore,

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34 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second
35 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023, the
36 House of Representatives concurring, that the Auditor is
37 requested to conduct an impact assessment report in accordance
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S.C.R. NO. 199

1 with sections 23-51 and 23-52, Hawaii Revised Statutes, of
 2 mandating health insurance coverage for ambulance services and
 3 community paramedicine services rendered statewide by emergency
 4 medical technicians or paramedics as proposed by Senate Bill
 5 No. _____, Regular Session of 2023; and

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 7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is further
 8 requested to include in its assessment the impact of section
 9 1311(d)(3) of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care
 10 Act (PPACA) on Senate Bill No. _____, or similar legislation,
 11 that includes but is not limited to the additional cost of any
 12 benefits beyond the essential health benefits of Hawaii's
 13 qualified health plans under the PPACA; and

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 15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is also requested
 16 to determine how many qualified health plans are available in
 17 Hawaii, including plans offered by health maintenance
 18 organizations; the individual or group enrollment in these
 19 plans; and the actuarial cost of the defrayment to the State for
 20 ambulance services and community paramedicine services; and

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 22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to
 23 submit a report on the Auditor's findings and recommendations,
 24 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later
 25 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session
 26 of 2024; and

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 28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 29 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Auditor and
 30 Insurance Commissioner, who is requested to transmit copies to
 31 each insurer in the State that issues health insurance policies.

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OFFERED BY: _____

