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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO ESTABLISH A  
WORKING GROUP TO ADDRESS ISSUES RELATING TO REIMBURSEMENTS  
AND PAYMENTS TO HOME AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES  
PROVIDERS.

1           WHEREAS, home and community-based services providers carry  
2 out essential and necessary services to the State's elderly and  
3 vulnerable populations; and  
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5           WHEREAS, a 2022 study conducted by the actuarial firm  
6 Milliman of reimbursement rates for home and community-based  
7 services found that, for all provider types, current median  
8 direct care wages paid by the service providers fell below the  
9 United States Bureau of Labor Statistics twenty-fifth percentile  
10 for those occupations; and  
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12           WHEREAS, adequate reimbursements and payments are crucial  
13 to sustain and improve the quality of care provided by home and  
14 community-based residential care home facilities; and  
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16           WHEREAS, there is a pressing need to identify and implement  
17 measure to enhance reimbursement rates for all home and  
18 community-based services providers; now, therefore,  
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20           BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
21 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
22 Session of 2024, that the Department of Human Services is  
23 requested to establish a working group to address issues  
24 relating to reimbursements and payments to home and community-  
25 based services providers; and  
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27           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested  
28 to consist of the following members:  
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- 1 (1) The Director of Human Services, or the Director's  
2 designee who is requested to serve as chair of the  
3 working group;
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- 5 (2) The Director of Health, or the Director's designee;
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- 7 (3) The Director of Labor and Industrial Relations, or the  
8 Director's designee;
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- 10 (4) The Director of the Executive Office on Aging, or the  
11 Director's designee;
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- 13 (5) One member of the House Standing Committee on Health  
14 and Homelessness, who shall also be a past or present  
15 member of the Kupuna Caucus, to be appointed by the  
16 Speaker of the House of Representatives;
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- 18 (6) One member of the House Standing Committee on Human  
19 Services, who shall also be a past or present member  
20 of the Kupuna Caucus, to be appointed by the Speaker  
21 of the House of Representatives; and
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- 23 (7) Two members of the Senate Standing Committee on Health  
24 and Human Services, who shall also be past or present  
25 members of the Kupuna Caucus, to be appointed by the  
26 President of the Senate; and
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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested  
29 to invite the following individuals to become members of the  
30 working group:

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- 32 (1) A representative from the International Longshore &  
33 Warehouse Union, Local 1000;
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- 35 (2) A representative from AARP Hawaii;
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- 37 (3) A representative from the Healthcare Association of  
38 Hawaii;
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- 40 (4) A representative from Providing Healthy Homecare for  
41 Hawaii;
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- 1 (5) A representative from the Oahu Filipino Community
- 2 Council;
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- 4 (6) A representative from United Community Healthcare of
- 5 Hawaii;
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- 7 (7) A representative from the Adult Foster Homecare
- 8 Association of Hawaii;
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- 10 (8) A representative from the Alliance of Professional
- 11 Primary Care Administrators;
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- 13 (9) A representative from the Association of Residential
- 14 Care Administrators;
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- 16 (10) A representative from the Primary Care Providers of
- 17 Hawaii; and
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- 19 (11) An individual who owns and operates a community care
- 20 foster family home; and
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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested  
 23 to:

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- 25 (1) Conduct a comprehensive analysis of the current
- 26 reimbursement and payment system for home and
- 27 community-based services providers;
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- 29 (2) Identify areas where improvements can be made to
- 30 better support home and community-based services
- 31 providers;
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- 33 (3) Explore strategies to enhance reimbursements and
- 34 payments to home and community-based services
- 35 providers, including identifying any necessary policy
- 36 changes, negotiation strategies, and alternative
- 37 funding sources; and
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- 39 (4) Engage with home and community-based services
- 40 providers, clients, family members, and other relevant
- 41 stakeholders to gather input and feedback on proposed
- 42 reimbursement and payment enhancement measures; and



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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that when conducting its activities, the working group is requested to prioritize equality and fairness in reimbursement and payment distribution to ensure all home and community-based services providers, regardless of size and location, have access to increased funding opportunities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested to provide quarterly updates to the Legislature on its progress to stakeholders and the public, to ensure transparency and accountability; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested to submit a report of 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 2025; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group shall cease to exist on June 30, 2025; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health, Director of Human Services; Director of Labor and Industrial Relations; Director of the Executive Office on Aging; President of the International Longshore & Warehouse Union, Local 1000; State Director of AARP Hawaii; President and Chief Executive Officer of the Healthcare Association of Hawaii; President of Providing Healthy Homecare for Hawaii; President of the Oahu Filipino Community Council; President of United Community Healthcare of Hawaii; President of the Adult Foster Homecare Association of Hawaii; President of the Alliance of Professional Primary Care Administrators; President of the Association of Residential Care Administrators; and President of the Primary Care Providers of Hawaii.