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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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REQUESTING A SUNRISE REVIEW OF ATHLETIC TRAINERS.

1 WHEREAS, certified athletic trainers are health care  
2 professionals who specialize in the prevention, assessment,  
3 immediate care, treatment, referral, and rehabilitation of  
4 injuries and illnesses sustained by athletes and others engaged  
5 in physical activity; and  
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7 WHEREAS, athletic trainers are certified by the National  
8 Athletic Trainers Board of Certification, an independent  
9 credentialing agency whose certifications are based on standards  
10 that provide protection to the public and indicate that the  
11 athletic trainers have knowledge and skill in six practice  
12 domains of athletic training; and  
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14 WHEREAS, the Legislature has affirmed the value,  
15 importance, and qualifications of certified athletic trainers in  
16 the past by appropriating funds to place certified athletic  
17 trainers in each of Hawaii's public secondary schools; and  
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19 WHEREAS, in addition to the public secondary schools,  
20 certified athletic trainers are employed in private secondary  
21 schools, colleges and universities, physician offices,  
22 hospitals, sports medicine clinics, the military, and fitness  
23 centers; and  
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25 WHEREAS, there are currently one hundred sixty-five  
26 certified athletic trainers in the State of Hawaii; and  
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28 WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii-Manoa has an accredited  
29 athletic training curriculum; and  
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31 WHEREAS, because the public has difficulty discerning the  
32 difference between athletic trainers, personal trainers, and  
33 boxing trainers, there is a risk that unqualified non-



1   credentialed persons will represent themselves as "trainers" and  
2   mislead the public into believing that they are receiving care  
3   from health care professionals; and  
4

5         WHEREAS, there is a risk that Hawaii's athletic population  
6   could suffer consequences such as chronic pain, disability, or  
7   loss of life if health care is received from unqualified  
8   practitioners; and  
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10        WHEREAS, athletic trainers routinely work with children as  
11   young as twelve but are one of the few types of medical  
12   professionals not regulated in Hawaii; and  
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14        WHEREAS, licensure would ensure that Hawaii's athletic  
15   population receives specialized emergency care and appropriate  
16   treatment and rehabilitation, and meet appropriate criteria  
17   before being returned to play; and  
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19        WHEREAS, licensure would require and verify, as is now  
20   required of other health care professions, demonstration of  
21   minimum competency in the profession; and  
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23        WHEREAS, licensure would provide a mechanism to report and  
24   remedy malpractice and ethical violations, thereby reducing an  
25   existing threat of harm to the public; and  
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27        WHEREAS, Hawaii is one of the few states without licensure  
28   so there is no one to whom the National Athletic Trainers  
29   Association Board of Certification can report disciplinary  
30   actions to ensure that appropriate action is taken to protect  
31   the public; and  
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33        WHEREAS, the Legislature adopted House Concurrent  
34   Resolution 67, Senate Draft 1, "Requesting a Sunrise Review of  
35   Athletic Health Care Trainers," in 2005; and  
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37        WHEREAS, the Auditor did not perform the requested analysis  
38   because the resolution did not identify a specific legislative  
39   bill to be analyzed as required by section 26H-6, Hawaii Revised  
40   Statutes; and  
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42        WHEREAS, House Bill No. 593 was introduced in the 2007  
43   Regular Session and calls for the regulation of athletic  
44   trainers through licensure; now, therefore,

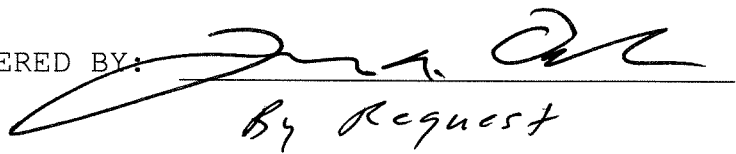


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2 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
3 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
4 Session of 2007, the Senate concurring, that the Auditor is  
5 requested to perform a sunrise review regarding the licensure of  
6 athletic trainers; and  
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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to  
9 submit findings and recommendations, including any proposed  
10 amendments to House Bill No. 593, to the Legislature not later  
11 than twenty days before the convening of the Regular Session of  
12 2007; and  
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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this  
15 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Auditor.  
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17  
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OFFERED BY:

  
By Request

MAR 13 2007

