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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU TO STUDY RESPITE  
CARE.

1           WHEREAS, family caregiver is the term used to refer to an  
2 unpaid individual, including a family member, friend, or  
3 neighbor, who provides full- or part-time care to another  
4 individual in need and either lives separately from or with the  
5 care recipient; and

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7           WHEREAS, individuals who need the assistance of family  
8 caregivers typically have complex, chronic medical conditions  
9 and functional limitations; and

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11           WHEREAS, it is estimated that fourteen to twenty-one per  
12 cent of adults, or 126,598 to 192,390 individuals, in the State  
13 provide regular care or assistance to another individual aged  
14 sixty years or older; and

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16           WHEREAS, family caregivers provide an invaluable service  
17 and economic benefit to care recipients and State taxpayers by  
18 way of deferred paid caregiving and institutionalization; and

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20           WHEREAS, nationally, if the work of family caregivers had  
21 to be replaced by paid home care staff, the estimated cost would  
22 be forty-five to ninety-four billion dollars per year; and

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24           WHEREAS, sustainable family caregiving depends on meeting a  
25 family caregiver's own needs for support and respite care; and

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27           WHEREAS, although there are different approaches to respite  
28 care, the basic objective is to provide a family caregiver with  
29 temporary relief from the responsibilities of caring for a care  
30 recipient so that the family caregiver can attend to other  
31 personal and professional obligations; and

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1           WHEREAS, respite care can include a range of services such  
2 as medical or social adult day care or a short-term stay in a  
3 nursing home or assisted living facility for the care recipient,  
4 a home health aide or home health companion, or a private duty  
5 nurse or adult foster care; and

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7           WHEREAS, a study of respite care and the provision of  
8 respite care in other states would be helpful to establishing  
9 respite care programs for family caregivers in this State; now,  
10 therefore,

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12           BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
13 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
14 Session of 2007, the Senate concurring, that the Legislative  
15 Reference Bureau is requested to study respite care; and

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17           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference  
18 Bureau's study should:

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20           (1) Focus on the provision of respite care to family  
21 caregivers who provide care to other individuals aged  
22 sixty years or older or to chronically ill adults; and  
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24           (2) Include:  
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26                   (A) A compilation of the various definitions used to  
27 describe the term "respite care";  
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29                   (B) A description of the respite care policies and  
30 programs that other states have adopted or  
31 considered;  
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33                   (C) A description of how other states assess the  
34 quality of respite care provided in those states;  
35 and  
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37                   (D) An inventory of the respite services provided in  
38 Hawaii that are supported by federal, state, and  
39 county funds, including a description of each  
40 program and the amount and source of funding; and  
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42           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference  
43 Bureau is requested to submit a report of its findings to the



1 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
2 the 2008 Regular Session; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this  
5 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Acting Director of  
6 the Legislative Reference Bureau.  
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OFFERED BY:

*John M. [Signature]*  
*Michael J. Wynne*  
*Cindy Evans*  


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*[Signature]*  
*Mele Carroll*  


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*[Signature]*  


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*Tony [Signature]*  


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*[Signature]*  


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*029.2 -*  
*Paul Wood*  
*Ben Brown*  
*Alex M. [Signature]*

