
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU TO STUDY RESPITE CARE POLICIES AND PROGRAMS IN OTHER STATES AND THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON AGING TO CONDUCT AN INVENTORY OF RESPITE CARE SERVICES IN HAWAII.

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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33 WHEREAS, respite care can include a range of services such
34 as medical or social adult day care or a short-term stay in a



1 nursing home or assisted living facility for the care recipient,
2 a home health aide or home health companion, or a private duty
3 nurse or adult foster care; and
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5 WHEREAS, a study of respite care and the provision of
6 respite care in other states would be helpful to establishing
7 respite care programs for family caregivers in this State; now,
8 therefore,
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10 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
11 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
12 Session of 2007, that the Legislative Reference Bureau is
13 requested to study respite care; and
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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in conducting this study, the
16 Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to:
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- 18 (1) Focus on the provision of respite care to family
19 caregivers who provide care to other individuals aged
20 sixty years or older or to chronically ill adults; and
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- 22 (2) Include a compilation of the definitions used to
23 describe the term "respite care" in other states;
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- 25 (3) Describe respite care policies and programs in other
26 states;
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- 28 (4) Describe procedures used by other states to assess the
29 quality of respite care provided in those states; and
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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference
32 Bureau is requested to submit a report of its findings to the
33 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
34 the Regular Session of 2008; and
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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Office on Aging
37 is requested to conduct an inventory of the respite services
38 provided in Hawaii that are supported by federal, state, and
39 county funds, including a description of each program and the
40 amount and source of funding; and
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42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Office on Aging
43 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 Regular Session of 2008; and
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
5 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the Legislative
6 Reference Bureau and the Executive Director of the Office on
7 Aging.

