
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU TO STUDY RESPITE CARE AND REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO PROVIDE AN INVENTORY OF THE RESPITE SERVICES PROVIDED 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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 2 WHEREAS, respite care can include a range of services such
 3 as medical or social adult day care or a short-term stay in a
 4 nursing home or assisted living facility for the care recipient,
 5 a home health aide or home health companion, or a private duty
 6 nurse or adult foster care; and

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

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 13 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
 14 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007, the
 15 House of Representatives concurring, that:

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 17 (1) The Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to study
 18 respite care; and
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 20 (2) The Department of Human Services is requested to
 21 provide an inventory of the respite services provided
 22 in Hawaii; and

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 24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference
 25 Bureau's study should:

- 26
 27 (1) Focus on the provision of respite care to family
 28 caregivers who provide care for:
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 30 (A) Their children with special health care needs;
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 32 (B) Adult family members, or other individuals, aged
 33 sixty years or older with a disability; or
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 35 (C) Chronically ill adults; and
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 37 (2) Include:
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 39 (A) A compilation of the various definitions used to
 40 describe the term "respite care";
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 42 (B) A description of the respite care policies and
 43 programs that other states have adopted or
 44 considered; and



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2 (C) A description of how other states assess the
3 quality of respite care provided in those states;
4 and
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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference
7 Bureau is requested to submit a report of its findings to the
8 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
9 the 2008 Regular Session; and
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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Human
12 Services is requested to submit a report to the Legislature no
13 later than twenty days prior to the convening of the 2008
14 Regular Session; and
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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Human
17 Services' report is requested to include an inventory of the
18 respite services provided in Hawaii that are supported by
19 federal, state, and county funds, including a description of
20 each program, eligibility criteria, quality and safety
21 monitoring procedures, evaluation and quality improvement
22 processes, and the amount and source of funding; and
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24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
25 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Human
26 Services and the Acting Director of the Legislative Reference
27 Bureau.

