
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO REPORT TO THE
LEGISLATURE REGARDING WHAT IMPACT A CASH AND COUNSELING
PROGRAM WOULD HAVE ON MEDICAID AND ADULT SERVICES PROGRAMS.

1 WHEREAS, Cash and Counseling is a national program
2 sponsored by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the Office of
3 the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation at the
4 United States Department of Health and Human Services, and the
5 Administration on Aging; and

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7 WHEREAS, under the program, recipients of Medicaid personal
8 care services or home- and community-based services receive a
9 flexible monthly allowance and decide who to hire and what
10 services they want to receive; and

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12 WHEREAS, the program's innovative approach enables
13 participants to direct and manage their personal assistance
14 services according to their own specific needs; and

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16 WHEREAS, participants receive counseling and fiscal
17 assistance to help them manage their allowance and
18 responsibilities; and

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20 WHEREAS, participants can choose a family member or friend,
21 in lieu of an agency worker, to provide the services; and

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23 WHEREAS, the program was first implemented in Arkansas, New
24 Jersey, and Florida, and has since expanded to include twelve
25 other states; and

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27 WHEREAS, the potential exists to establish a similar Cash
28 and Counseling program here in Hawaii to serve the needs of
29 residents receiving Medicaid personal care services or home- and
30 community-based services; and



1 WHEREAS, it is important to ascertain what impact, if any,
2 a Cash and Counseling program would have on Medicaid and adult
3 services programs before establishing a similar program here in
4 Hawaii; now, therefore,

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6 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
7 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007, the
8 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of
9 Human Services is requested to report to the Legislature
10 regarding what impact a Cash and Counseling program would have
11 on Medicaid and adult services programs in Hawaii; and

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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in completing its report, the
14 Department of Human Services should:

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16 (1) Contact the National Program Office at the Boston
17 College Graduate School of Social Work, which
18 coordinates replications of the program; and
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20 (2) Consult with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the
21 Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and
22 Evaluation at the United States Department of Health
23 and Human Services, and the Administration on Aging;
24 and

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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Human
27 Services is requested to submit a report of its findings to the
28 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
29 the 2008 Regular Session; and

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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
32 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Human
33 Services.

