

MAR 14 2007

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU TO CANVASS
LEGISLATION IN OTHER STATES TARGETED SPECIFICALLY AT
REDUCING NEGATIVE MEDICAL OUTCOMES.

1 WHEREAS, physicians and medical facilities throughout the
2 country strive to provide the most effective and safe treatment
3 and services possible to patients; and
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5 WHEREAS, it is unlikely that an entire health care system
6 or even a single provider can ensure perfection consistently
7 over time in the delivery of effective and safe treatment and
8 services for patients; and
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10 WHEREAS, the scope of incidents of failure to ensure the
11 safety of patients that result in negative medical outcomes is
12 extremely broad and can range from the general and systemwide,
13 such as allowing conditions to exist that promote hospital
14 infections, to the unique and specific such as negligently
15 leaving surgical forceps within a patient's body after an
16 operation, incorrectly diagnosing a medical condition, or
17 incorrectly prescribing medications for a patient resulting in
18 foreseeable harm; and
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20 WHEREAS, it is likely that various private sector
21 individuals, medical institutions and facilities, health care
22 organizations, and the like have instituted programs or
23 established guidelines that focus on reducing the number and
24 scope of negative medical outcomes within their respective
25 medical practices, health networks, or geographic areas; and
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27 WHEREAS, however, it is uncertain whether states have
28 enacted specific legislation or state programs for the same
29 purpose; now, therefore,
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1 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
 2 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007, the
 3 House of Representatives concurring, that the Legislative
 4 Reference Bureau is requested to canvass legislation in other
 5 states that are targeted specifically at reducing negative
 6 medical outcomes; and

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 8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference
 9 Bureau is specifically requested to enlist the assistance of the
 10 National Conference of State Legislatures in searching for and
 11 identifying any state legislation targeted specifically at
 12 reducing negative medical outcomes; and

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 14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of Health is
 15 requested to cooperate with and provide any assistance that the
 16 Legislative Reference Bureau may request; and

17
 18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference
 19 Bureau is requested to submit its findings and recommendations,
 20 including any necessary proposed legislation, to the Legislature
 21 no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular
 22 Session of 2008; and

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 24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 25 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the
 26 Legislative Reference Bureau and the Director of Health.

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OFFERED BY: David Y. Ige
Will Espero

