
SENATE 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
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32 WHEREAS, it is important to ascertain what impact, if any,
33 a Cash and Counseling program would have on Medicaid and adult
34 services programs before establishing a similar program here in
35 Hawaii; now, therefore,



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

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

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

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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Human
23 Services is requested to submit a report of its findings to the
24 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
25 the 2008 Regular Session; and

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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
28 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Human Services.

