

MAR 13 2008

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR, THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH, THE DIRECTOR OF
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS, AND ALL OTHERS WORKING IN
THE HEALTH CARE FIELD TO WORK TOGETHER TO INTEGRATE ALL
LICENSED HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS, INCLUDING NATUROPATHIC,
ACUPUNCTURE, AND EASTERN MEDICINE PRACTITIONERS, INTO THE
CONTINUUM OF AVAILABLE HEALTH CARE OPTIONS FOR THE
RESIDENTS OF THIS STATE.

1 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii is renowned for its Aloha
2 Spirit and is also a gathering place for many different cultures
3 and traditions from around the world that believe in alternative
4 forms of health care; and

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6 WHEREAS, alternative, complementary, and integrative forms
7 of health care are becoming more mainstream due to consumer
8 demand and a growing body of scientific evidence demonstrating
9 its benefits and cost-effectiveness; and

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11 WHEREAS, many illnesses and diseases that the people of our
12 State face today require a multidisciplinary approach to patient
13 care; and

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15 WHEREAS, the majority of health insurance companies only
16 cover traditional, Western health care services which tend to be
17 more expensive and pharmaceutically-based; and

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19 WHEREAS, patients have the right to make informed decisions
20 regarding their medical care, including the choice of physician
21 and type of treatment; and

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23 WHEREAS, many forms of alternative medicine, such as
24 naturopathy, acupuncture, and massage therapy, require
25 practitioners to be licensed; and

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27 WHEREAS, in order for the residents of Hawaii to have a
28 choice in their health care, legislation needs to be enacted to



1 require health insurers to cover alternative, complementary, and
2 integrative forms of health care service; now, therefore,

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4 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
5 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008, the
6 House of Representatives concurring, that the Governor, the
7 Director of Health, the Director of Commerce and Consumer
8 Affairs, and all others working in the health care field, are
9 requested to work together to integrate all licensed health care
10 providers, including naturopathic, acupuncture, and eastern
11 medicine practitioners, into the continuum of available health
12 care options for the residents of this State; and

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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor, the Director of
15 Health, and the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs are
16 requested to remove all barriers that may impede the integration
17 of all licensed health care providers into the continuum of
18 available health care options for the residents of this State;
19 and

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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
22 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the
23 Director of Health, and the Director of Commerce and Consumer
24 Affairs.

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OFFERED BY: 

By Request

