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SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU AND THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON THE POTENTIAL FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT TO THE STATE AND THE STATE'S HEALTHCARE SYSTEM OF PROVIDING CARE FOR PATIENTS WITH CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE AT ALL FIVE STAGES.

WHEREAS, chronic kidney disease is a potentially fatal disease that may affect all age groups, and its progression is divided into five stages; and

WHEREAS, patients at the last stage of chronic kidney disease, also called end stage renal disease, require dialysis or kidney transplantation; and

WHEREAS, the cost of treatment and care for patients with end stage renal disease is much higher than for patients who are in the earlier stages of chronic kidney disease; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that over twenty per cent of Hawaii's population have or are predisposed to develop chronic kidney disease, and over two thousand four hundred of these patients have end stage renal disease; and

WHEREAS, Hawaii's percentage of the population with end stage renal disease is higher than the rest of the country, and the number of these patients is also increasing at a higher rate than the rest of the country; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that the current costs for caring for end stage renal disease patients in Hawaii is \$125,000,000, and that costs is projected to reach \$144,000,000 by 2011; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008, that the Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to conduct a study on the potential financial impact to the State and the State's healthcare system of providing care for patients with chronic kidney disease at all five stages; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism is requested to conduct a study analyzing the potential impact to the State's economy of providing care for patients with chronic kidney disease at all five stages; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference Bureau and the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, in preparing the study, are requested to consult with and utilize data available from the John A. Burns School of Medicine and the School of Public Health at the University of Hawaii as well as the Hawaii Chapter of the National Kidney Foundation and the St. Francis Healthcare System of Hawaii; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference Bureau and the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism is requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2009; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau; the Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; the President of the University of Hawaii; the Dean of the John A. Burns School of Medicine; the Executive Director of the Hawaii Chapter of the National Kidney Foundation; and the Executive Director of St. Francis Healthcare System of Hawaii.