

MAR 18 2009

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING EACH STATE AGENCY THAT IS PLANNING ANY ACTION THAT WILL RESULT IN REDUCTIONS IN SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC TO CONSIDER THE POSSIBLE IMPACT THE REDUCED SERVICES WILL HAVE ON RURAL COMMUNITIES AND TO PROVIDE PREFERENCE TO ENSURING CONTINUED SERVICE TO THOSE RURAL COMMUNITIES.

1 WHEREAS, the state budget is divided into eleven different
2 program areas and is administered by eighteen state departments
3 that provide services to both urban and rural communities; and
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5 WHEREAS, the dire economic circumstances of the State may
6 force a reduction in services to the public; and
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8 WHEREAS, certain reductions in services may have profound
9 consequences on rural communities, especially if a reduction
10 effectively terminates all services to rural communities; and
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12 WHEREAS, an effective termination of services may occur if
13 alternative or substitute means of service are not readily
14 available to rural communities; now, therefore,
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16 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth
17 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009,
18 that each state agency that is planning any action that will
19 result in a reduction of services to the public is requested to
20 consider the possible impact the reduced services would have on
21 rural communities and to provide preference for continuing to
22 provide a reasonable level of service to those rural
23 communities; and
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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each state department that is
26 planning a reduction of services presently provided to the
27 public through any of its organic or administratively attached
28 agencies is requested to submit a report to the Legislature with
29 respect to: the affected rural communities identified by the
30 state department, an analysis of the preference that will be
31 provided to that community; and whether any alternative or
32 substitute services are contemplated for the community; and



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2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each state department that is
3 planning a reduction in services is requested to submit its
4 report, including findings, recommendations, and any proposed
5 legislation, to the Legislature not later than twenty days prior
6 to the convening of the Regular Session of 2010; and
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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
9 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, who in turn is
10 requested to distribute copies to each state department.
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OFFERED BY: Russell Kohl

