

MAR 18 2009

## SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE LONG TERM CARE COMMISSION TO CONDUCT A STUDY OF  
INCREASING MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENTS TO HOSPITALS FOR  
PATIENTS WHO ARE WAITLISTED FOR LONG TERM CARE AND TO LONG  
TERM CARE FACILITIES TO ACCEPT WAITLISTED PATIENTS.

1 WHEREAS, the Legislature adopted Senate Concurrent  
2 Resolution No. 198 in 2007 to request the Healthcare Association  
3 of Hawaii to study the long-term care waitlist problem, and  
4 subsequently House Concurrent Resolution No. 53 in 2008 to  
5 continue the study; and

6  
7 WHEREAS, these Concurrent Resolutions address the problem  
8 of patients who have been treated in acute care hospitals and  
9 whose conditions have improved so that they may be transferred  
10 for long term care, but who remain in hospitals because the cost  
11 of caring for their needs exceeds the reimbursement amounts; and

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13 WHEREAS, waitlisted patients represent a serious problem in  
14 Hawaii because it results in a diminished number of acute care  
15 beds that are available for those with serious illnesses or  
16 injuries and high costs to hospitals; and

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18 WHEREAS, in response to the Concurrent Resolutions, the  
19 Healthcare Association of Hawaii created the Waitlist Task  
20 Force, which studied relevant issues and submitted a report to  
21 the 2009 Legislature that included a recommendation to increase  
22 Medicaid reimbursements to hospitals for patients who are  
23 waitlisted for long term care, and also to long term care  
24 facilities to accept these patients; and

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26 WHEREAS, H.B. No. 706 and S.B. No. 417 were introduced in  
27 the 2009 Regular Session to implement the recommendations of the  
28 Waitlist Task Force; and

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30 WHEREAS, long term care issues are now being considered  
31 comprehensively by the Long Term Care Commission, which was  
32 created pursuant to Act 224, Session Laws of Hawaii 2008, to  
33 study the financing of long term care so that the needed  
34 infrastructure would be created; now, therefore,



## S.R. NO. 116

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009, that the Legislature requests the Long Term Care Commission to consider increasing Medicaid reimbursements to hospitals for patients who are waitlisted for long term care and to long term care facilities to accept waitlisted patients; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Long Term Care Commission review the report by the Waitlist Task Force, along with H.B. No. 706 and S.B. No. 417, Regular Session of 2009, and the testimony submitted on those bills; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Long Term Care Commission submit a report to the Legislature of findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to address Medicaid reimbursements for waitlisted patients no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2010; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Director of Health, the Director of Human Services, and the Chairperson of the Long Term Care Commission.

OFFERED BY:

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