

MAR 18 2009

## SENATE RESOLUTION

ENSURING THAT ANY LEGISLATIVE EFFORT TO REPAIR THE HEALTHCARE  
SYSTEM IN HAWAII SHOULD INCORPORATE SUSTAINABLE WELLNESS  
PROGRAMS THAT ADDRESS THE UNDERLYING CASUAL FACTORS  
ASSOCIATED WITH CHRONIC DISEASE.

1 WHEREAS, increases in costs related to providing healthcare  
2 for an aging population and the increasing number of people with  
3 chronic disease create a crisis for the healthcare system in  
4 Hawaii; and

5  
6 WHEREAS, over 72,000 individuals in Hawaii have been  
7 diagnosed with diabetes and more than 25,000 remain undiagnosed;  
8 and

9  
10 WHEREAS, the leading cause of death in Hawaii is  
11 cardiovascular disease, which is responsible for more than 36%  
12 of all deaths in the state; and

13  
14 WHEREAS, overweight and obese individuals are at increased  
15 risk for developing many diseases, including cardiovascular  
16 disease and diabetes; and

17  
18 WHEREAS, low-income families face an increased risk of  
19 developing chronic disease and do not have the resources  
20 necessary to avoid developing serious health problems related to  
21 such chronic disease; and

22  
23 WHEREAS, there is a growing body of evidence that suggests  
24 wellness programs that promote lifestyle changes can diminish  
25 the incidence and severity of chronic disease, provide a  
26 substantial return on investment, and reduce reliance on the  
27 conventional medical care system; and

28  
29 WHEREAS, the state of Hawaii has a responsibility to  
30 reengineer the Nation's healthcare system to allow for the  
31 provision of adequate healthcare for future generations; and  
32



1 WHEREAS, Hawaii's healthcare system must be revised to  
2 allow for the provision of adequate healthcare for future  
3 generations; now, therefore,

4  
5 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth  
6 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009,  
7 that the Hawaii State Legislature should ensure that any  
8 revisions of the healthcare system in Hawaii incorporate  
9 sustainable wellness programs that address the underlying casual  
10 factors associated with chronic disease; and

11  
12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the public have access to  
13 strategies for improving individual health through lifestyle  
14 change, including strategies relating to diet, exercise, smoking  
15 cessation, and stress reduction; and

16  
17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
18 Resolution be transmitted to the Department of Health.  
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20  
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OFFERED BY:

*Franzanne Chun Oakland*  
*Michelle N. Sedani*  
*Mike Hadden*  
*David Y. Lee*

