HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING A COMPREHENSIVE MANAGEMENT AND FINANCIAL AUDIT OF FOR-PROFIT ENTITIES CONTRACTED AS MANAGED CARE PROVIDERS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES'S QUEST EXPANDED ACCESS PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, in 1965, the United States Congress established Medicaid as a jointly funded state and federal program that provides medical assistance to low-income individuals who qualify under Title XIX of the Social Security Act; and

WHEREAS, within a general statutory framework, each state creates and administers its own Medicaid program; and

WHEREAS, in the State of Hawaii, the Med-QUEST Division of the Department of Human Services (DHS) administers the Medicaid Program; and

WHEREAS, the Med-QUEST Division oversees a number of programs that provide coverage for certain medical, mental health, and dental services for qualified children and adults, including Medicaid Fee-For-Service, Hawaii QUEST, and QUEST Expanded Access; and

WHEREAS, the various Med-QUEST programs are financed through the State and the Federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; and

WHEREAS, DHS developed the QUEST Expanded Access Program to administer Medicaid benefits for Hawaii's 37,000 aged, blind, and disabled residents; and

WHEREAS, DHS administers the Medicaid health care coverage program, including QUEST Expanded Access, through several contracts with managed care providers; and

WHEREAS, two of these contracts were awarded to for-profit insurance companies; and

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WHEREAS, several states have found a number of serious law violations and instances of Medicaid fraud while administering similar Medicaid programs through for-profit insurance companies; and

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WHEREAS, Medicaid fraud squanders limited funds, threatens safety, and cheats taxpayers, thereby inhibiting government efforts to obtain necessary health care and services for Hawaii's vulnerable populations; and

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WHEREAS, it is particularly imperative to ensure proper management and fiscal responsibility with respect to State-run programs during periods of economic difficulty; now, therefore,

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BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010, the Senate concurring, that the Auditor is requested to perform a comprehensive management and financial audit of the for-profit entities contracted by DHS to administer the QUEST Expanded Access Program; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the audit should cover the life of each contract; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DHS is requested to cooperate with and assist the Auditor in the performance of this audit; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor report all findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2011; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Auditor, Director of Human Services, and Administrator of the Med-OUEST Division.

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OFFERED BY:

HCR HMS 2010-1147

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