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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING CAREGIVERS AND RECOGNIZING THEIR ROLE IN MAINTAINING THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF HAWAII'S FRAIL AND VULNERABLE POPULATION.

WHEREAS, Hawaii is faced with enormous problems related to 1 the delivery of long-term care services to its rapidly growing 2 elderly and disabled population. Those eighty-five years of age 3 4 and older are in the fastest growing age group among Hawaii's elderly and they are also at the greatest risk of physical 5 6 frailty, financial vulnerability, hospitalization, and long-term 7 care services; and 8 9 WHEREAS, community-based caregivers administering adult residential care homes and adult foster homes provide a much 10 needed service within Hawaii's acute and long-term care delivery 11 12 systems to Hawaii's medicaid program and to families throughout 13 the State; and 14 WHEREAS, adult residential care homes and adult foster 15 homes have long served as a non-institutional and less costly 16 17 alternative, but many caregivers are now struggling to care for residents with much more complex health issues and personal care 18 19 needs; and 20 WHEREAS, Hawaii has an acute shortage of nursing home beds, 21 which has resulted in increased placement of nursing home level 22 residents in extended care adult residential care homes and 23 adult foster homes; and 24 25 WHEREAS, while small homes provide a community-based 26 residential setting for frail seniors and are increasingly 27 28 encouraged to accommodate residents with higher level of care needs, these small residential homes' ability to provide an 29

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optimal quality of care and life for the frail elderly will 1 2 become increasingly important; and 3 4 WHEREAS, in recognition of the important role of adult 5 residential care homes and adult foster homes, the Hawaii State 6 Legislature passed Act 6, Session Laws of Hawaii 2008, 7 designating the first Saturday of November as "Caregiver 8 Recognition Day"; now, therefore, 9 10 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session 11 12 of 2010, the Senate concurring, that the Legislature is 13 encouraged to continue to support and work in concert with caregivers to advance caregivers' initiatives and promote 14 15 recognition and appreciation of their role as partners in the long-term care continuum for Hawaii's frail and vulnerable 16 population; and 17 18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this 19 20 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the 21 Governor, and the Director of Human Services. 22 23 24 25 OFFERED BY:

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