THE SENATE TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE, 2010 STATE OF HAWAII

5

9

14

18

24

28

S.C.R. NO. <sup>239</sup> S.D. 1

## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTS THE OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR TO REVIEW AND COMPARE THE HEALTH CARE BENEFITS AVAILABLE UNDER THE MEDICAID PROGRAM AND THE PREPAID HEALTH CARE ACT.

WHEREAS, under the Hawaii Prepaid Health Care Act, many
 employees and their families are able to receive health care
 benefits by paying for a portion of the health care premium with
 the remainder being paid for by their employers; and

6 WHEREAS, despite the broad coverage of the Hawaii Prepaid 7 Health Care Act, there are still many employees who are not able 8 or eligible to receive health care benefits; and

10 WHEREAS, under the federal Medicaid program, states can 11 receive a waiver under Section 1115, U.S.C.A. Title 42, to 12 expand Medicaid coverage to families earning up to three hundred 13 per cent of the federal poverty level; and

WHEREAS, under the Medicaid program, states must contribute a percentage of the funds, known as the state match, to pay for the health care benefits provided; and

19 WHEREAS, sweeping health care reform recently passed by 20 Congress has provided a great opportunity for each state to 21 revisit and analyze its own health care coverage in a manner 22 that would improve upon the number of people covered with health 23 care as well as the quality of care each person receives; and

WHEREAS, the health care benefits provided under the
Medicaid program are similar to the benefits available under the
Prepaid Health Care Act; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth
Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010, the
House of Representatives concurring, that the Office of the
Auditor is requested to review the health care benefits

2010-1775 SCR239 SD1 SMA-1.doc

available under the Medicaid program and the Prepaid Health Care Act and report where the benefits provided are the same and where they differ, and whether the benefits under the Medicaid program can be made similar to the benefits available under the Prepaid Health Care Act, and to analyze the federal health care reform recently passed by Congress to determine its potential impact on the people of Hawaii; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Office of the Auditor is 10 requested to review the scope of the Medicaid waiver program or 11 any program in the Medicaid Act which allows for expansion of 12 coverage to determine the feasibility of:

(1) Covering private sector employees and their families earning less than three hundred per cent of the federal poverty level under the Medicaid Act regardless of whether the employee is currently covered under the Prepaid Health Care Act; and

(2) Using the amount of the employer's payment for coverage under the Prepaid Health Care Act to reimburse the State for its portion of the state match in order to pay for coverage of private employees who are eligible for Medicaid because they earn less than three hundred per cent of the federal poverty level; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Office of the Auditor is requested to submit its report to the Legislature on the above matters no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the 2011 Regular Session of the Legislature; and

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this 34 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the 35 Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the State 36 Auditor, and the Director of Health.



8

13

14

15

16

17

18 19

20 21

22

23 24

25

26 27

32