
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO ASSESS THE SOCIAL AND FINANCIAL
EFFECTS OF REQUIRING HEALTH INSURERS TO PROVIDE COVERAGE
FOR CERTAIN TOBACCO USE CESSATION METHODS.

1 WHEREAS, according to the American Cancer Society, almost
2 six hundred individuals died in Hawaii of lung cancer in 2010;
3 and
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5 WHEREAS, according to the American Cancer Society, over
6 seven hundred fifty new cases of lung cancer were reported in
7 Hawaii in 2010; and
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9 WHEREAS, lung cancer accounts for more deaths than any
10 other single type of cancer; and
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12 WHEREAS, cigarette smoking is by far the greatest risk
13 factor for lung cancer and its risks increase with quantity and
14 duration of cigarette smoking; and
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16 WHEREAS, quitting smoking greatly reduces the risk factor
17 for lung cancer, even for long-time smokers; and
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19 WHEREAS, section 23-51, Hawaii Revised Statutes, requires
20 that "[b]efore any legislative measure that mandates health
21 insurance coverage for specific health services, specific
22 diseases, or certain providers of health care services as part
23 of individual or group health insurance policies, can be
24 considered, there shall be concurrent resolutions passed
25 requesting the auditor to prepare and submit to the legislature
26 a report that assesses both the social and financial effects of
27 the proposed mandated coverage"; and
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29 WHEREAS, section 23-51, Hawaii Revised Statutes, further
30 provides that "[t]he concurrent resolutions shall designate a
31 specific legislative bill that:
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- 1 (1) Has been introduced in the legislature; and
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3 (2) Includes, at minimum, information identifying the:
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5 (A) Specific health service, disease, or provider
6 that would be covered;
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8 (B) Extent of the coverage;
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10 (C) Target groups that would be covered;
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12 (D) Limits on utilization, if any; and
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14 (E) Standards of care.
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16 For purposes of this part, mandated health insurance coverage
17 shall not include mandated optionals"; and
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19 WHEREAS, section 23-52, Hawaii Revised Statutes, further
20 specifies the minimum information required for assessing the
21 social and financial impact of the proposed health coverage
22 mandate in the Auditor's report; and
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24 WHEREAS, Senate Bill No. 1452, S.D. 1 (2011), mandates
25 insurance coverage for certain tobacco use cessation methods
26 recommended by the United States Preventative Services Task
27 Force, specifically telephone and individual counseling and
28 intervention sessions; prescription coverage for nicotine
29 replacement products and tobacco cessation medications approved
30 by the United States Food and Drug Administration; and
31 counseling and medication coverage for tobacco use cessation
32 attempts; now, therefore,
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34 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth
35 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2011, the
36 House of Representatives concurring, that the Auditor is
37 requested to conduct an impact assessment report, pursuant to
38 sections 23-51 and 23-52, Hawaii Revised Statutes, of the social
39 and financial impacts of mandating insurance coverage for
40 telephone and individual counseling and intervention sessions,
41 prescription coverage for nicotine replacement products and
42 tobacco use cessation medications, and counseling and medication
43 coverage for tobacco use cessation attempts, effective as of



1 July 1, 2011, as provided in Senate Bill No. 1452, S.D. 1
2 (2011); and
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to
5 submit findings and recommendations to the Legislature,
6 including any necessary implementing legislation, no later than
7 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of
8 2012; and
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
11 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Auditor and to the
12 Insurance Commissioner, who, in turn, is requested to transmit
13 copies to each insurer in the State that issues health insurance
14 policies.
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