HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONVENE A CAREGIVERS WORKING GROUP TO EXAMINE AND ASSESS THE ROLE OF CAREGIVING FOR PATIENTS RELEASED FROM HOSPITALS AND THE OVERALL CIRCUMSTANCES OF PATIENTS RELEASED FROM HOSPITALS AS WELL AS THE RESOURCES IN THE COMMUNITY NEEDED AND AVAILABLE TO ASSIST THEM.

WHEREAS, many patients who are released from their hospital care require continued care at home; and,

WHEREAS, such care often requires a high level of skill; and,

WHEREAS, increasingly, because of costs and other factors untrained caregivers are often called upon to provide such care; and.

WHEREAS, the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) believes that volunteer caregivers require more training than they are receiving to take care of the patients they have volunteered to care for; and,

WHEREAS, hospitals are under increased pressure from the federal government to avoid readmission of patients within thirty days of their release; and,

WHEREAS, hospitals do presently provide discharge plans for all patients that do involve caregivers; and,

WHEREAS, there may be other resources already in the community or that need to be developed in the community to meet this need; and,

WHEREAS, the hospital members of the Healthcare Association of Hawaii (HAH) are willing to review their role with regard to the training of caregivers; and,

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WHEREAS, hospitals have concerns regarding the possible liability they may incur if they undertake more intensive training of caregivers; and,

 WHEREAS, AARP and HAH are agreeable to working with each other and its members and other appropriate entities and persons in the community to assess this matter and develop solutions; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Health, is requested to convene a caregivers working group to examine and assess the role of caregivers, the status of caregiver training, the question of what role hospitals should play in the training of caregivers and the role others might or should play in the training of caregivers to assure the best outcomes for all patients released from hospitals; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is requested to invite the participation of:

- (1) The Director of Health, or her designee who shall serve as Chair;
 - (2) Two representatives from AARP Hawaii;
 - (3) The Director of the Executive Office on Aging, or his designee;
 - (4) The Chief of the Office of Healthcare Assurance, or his designee;
 - (5) Two representatives from HAH member hospitals;
 - (6) One representative from Home Health Care;
 - (7) One representative from a Skilled Nursing Facility;
 - (8) One representative from each of the County Area Agencies on Aging;
 - (9) One representative from the Kokua Council;
 - (10) One representative from Ohana Health Plan;
 - (11) One representative from the American Cancer Society;
 - (12) One representative from Papa Ola Lokahi; and
 - (13) One representative from an Alzheimer's Disease treatment organization; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the caregivers working group is requested to submit a written report of its findings and

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recommendations to the Legislature no later than 20 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2015; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Healthcare Association of Hawaii, AARP, Director of Health, and the Executive Office on Aging.