

MAR 13 2015

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE CONVENING OF A FAMILY CAREGIVERS WORKING GROUP TO
EXAMINE AND ASSESS LEGISLATION RELATING TO THE ROLE OF
CAREGIVERS OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM HOSPITALS.

1 WHEREAS, many patients who are discharged from the hospital
2 require continued care at home; and

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4 WHEREAS, because of costs and other factors, family
5 caregivers are increasingly called upon to provide such care;
6 and

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8 WHEREAS, based on estimates from 2009, there were 247,000
9 family caregivers in Hawaii; and

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11 WHEREAS, caregiver advocates in Hawaii believe that the
12 amount of instruction that family caregivers currently receive
13 from hospitals depends largely on the individual hospital
14 treating the patient; however, there is a need to provide a
15 minimum and consistent level of instruction for all caregivers
16 statewide; and

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18 WHEREAS, hospitals face greater pressure from the federal
19 government and private insurers to avoid the readmission of
20 patients within thirty days of their initial discharge; and

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22 WHEREAS, hospitals presently provide discharge plans for
23 all patients, which may or may not involve family caregivers;
24 and

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26 WHEREAS, the hospital members of the Healthcare Association
27 of Hawaii remain concerned about how legislation would affect
28 factors such as liability, cost, and implementation; and



1 WHEREAS, S.B. No. 296, introduced during the Regular
2 Session of 2015, includes provisions that seek to address many
3 of these concerns; and
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5 WHEREAS, the working group that was created by H.C.R. No.
6 78, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, Regular Session of 2014, was unable to reach
7 consensus and unable to submit a written report of its findings
8 and recommendations to the Legislature no later than twenty days
9 prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2015, as
10 directed; and
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12 WHEREAS, there must be an even balance between caregiver
13 advocates and hospitals in the membership of the working group;
14 and
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16 WHEREAS, the working group must cease to exist prior to the
17 convening of the next regular session of the Legislature; now,
18 therefore,
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20 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth
21 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2015, the
22 House of Representatives concurring, that the co-chairs, as
23 identified in this measure, are requested to convene a Family
24 Caregivers Working Group to examine and assess issues contained
25 in S.B. No. 296, Regular Session of 2015, including but not
26 limited to:
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- 28 (1) The role of family caregivers;
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- 30 (2) The state of the current practice of designating
31 family caregivers;
- 32
- 33 (3) Notification of family caregivers when a hospital
34 discharges a patient or transfers a patient to another
35 licensed facility;
- 36
- 37 (4) Family caregivers' involvement in discharge planning
38 and instruction;
- 39
- 40 (5) The role of hospitals in the instruction of family
41 caregivers; and



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1 (6) Providing legislative and regulatory recommendations
2 on how best to involve family caregivers in the
3 patient-discharge process and prepare family
4 caregivers for post-discharge tasks; and
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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the participation of the
7 following individuals is invited:
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- 9 (1) The Director of Health, or the Director's designee;
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11 (2) A representative from AARP Hawaii;
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13 (3) A representative from the Healthcare Association of
14 Hawaii;
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16 (4) A representative from the Kokua Council;
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18 (5) Six representatives of private hospitals in Hawaii;
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20 (6) A representative from the Policy Advisory Board for
21 Elder Affairs;
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23 (7) A representative from the Hawaii Health Systems
24 Corporation;
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26 (8) A representative from ILWU Local 142;
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28 (9) A representative from the Hawaii Family Caregiver
29 Coalition;
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31 (10) A representative from each of the county Area Agencies
32 on Aging;
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34 (11) A representative from Project Dana;
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36 (12) A representative from the Hawaii Alliance for Retired
37 Americans;
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39 (13) A member of the Senate, appointed by the President of
40 the Senate, who shall serve as co-chair of the Family
41 Caregivers Working Group; and



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1 (14) A member of the House of Representatives, appointed by
2 the Speaker of the House of Representatives, who shall
3 serve as co-chair of the Family Caregivers Working
4 Group; and
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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the co-chairs of the Family
7 Caregivers Working Group shall:
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9 (1) Listen to the discussions and presentations made by
10 all members of the Family Caregivers Working Group;
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12 (2) Report on areas of agreement, the concerns of the
13 various stakeholders, and any solutions proposed by
14 the various members; and
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16 (3) Make recommendations, as appropriate; and
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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the Family
19 Caregivers Working Group shall not vote on any findings,
20 recommendations, or proposed solutions; and
21

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health shall:
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24 (1) Provide logistical support to the co-chairs of the
25 Family Caregivers Working Group, as requested by the
26 co-chairs; and
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28 (2) Prepare and draft any reports produced by the Family
29 Caregivers Working Group; and
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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Family Caregivers Working
32 Group shall cease to exist on December 1, 2015; and
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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group created by
35 H.C.R. No. 78, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, Regular Session of 2014, shall
36 cease to exist on the date of the adoption of this Concurrent
37 Resolution by both houses of the Legislature; and
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39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that no action taken or not taken by
40 the Family Caregivers Working Group shall in any way prohibit or
41 forestall legislative action by the House of Representatives,
42 the Senate, or both; and



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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director
3 of Health, and all other entities named herein to be invited as
4 members of the Family Caregivers Working Group.
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