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# 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 is scheduled to dissolve on  
17 June 30, 2016; now, therefore,  
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19 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth  
20 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2015, the  
21 House of Representatives concurring, that the co-chairs, as  
22 identified in this measure, are requested to convene a Family  
23 Caregivers Working Group to examine and assess issues contained  
24 in S.B. No. 296, Regular Session of 2015, including but not  
25 limited to:  
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- 27 (1) The role of family caregivers;
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- 29 (2) The state of the current practice of designating  
30 family caregivers;
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- 32 (3) Notification of family caregivers when a hospital  
33 discharges a patient or transfers a patient to another  
34 licensed facility;
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- 36 (4) Family caregivers' involvement in discharge planning  
37 and instruction;
- 38
- 39 (5) The role of hospitals in the instruction of family  
40 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  
5

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;  
15  
16 (4) A representative from the Kokua Council;  
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18 (5) Six representatives of private hospitals or long-term  
19 care facilities in Hawaii;  
20  
21 (6) A representative from the Policy Advisory Board for  
22 Elder Affairs;  
23  
24 (7) A representative from the Hawaii Association of Health  
25 Plans;  
26  
27 (8) The Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Health  
28 Systems Corporation or the Chief Executive Officer's  
29 designee;  
30  
31 (9) A representative from International Longshore and  
32 Warehouse Union Local 142 Hawaii;  
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34 (10) A representative from the Hawaii Family Caregiver  
35 Coalition;  
36  
37 (11) A representative from each of the county Area Agencies  
38 on Aging;  
39  
40 (12) A representative from Project Dana;  
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- 1 (13) A representative from the Hawaii Alliance for Retired  
2 Americans;
- 3
- 4 (14) A member of the Senate, appointed by the President of  
5 the Senate, who shall serve as co-chair of the Family  
6 Caregivers Working Group; and  
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- 8 (15) A member of the House of Representatives, appointed by  
9 the Speaker of the House of Representatives, who shall  
10 serve as co-chair of the Family Caregivers Working  
11 Group; and  
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the co-chairs of the Family  
14 Caregivers Working Group:

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- 16 (1) Listen to the discussions and presentations made by  
17 all members of the Family Caregivers Working Group;
- 18
- 19 (2) Report on areas of agreement, the concerns of the  
20 various stakeholders, and any solutions proposed by  
21 the various members;
- 22
- 23 (3) Analyze public and private community-based resources  
24 that are available throughout the State; and  
25
- 26 (4) Make recommendations, as appropriate; and  
27

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the Family  
29 Caregivers Working Group not vote on any findings,  
30 recommendations, or proposed solutions; and  
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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference  
33 Bureau:

- 34
- 35 (1) Provide logistical support to the co-chairs of the  
36 Family Caregivers Working Group, as requested by the  
37 co-chairs; and  
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- 39 (2) Prepare and draft any reports produced by the Family  
40 Caregivers Working Group; and  
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Family Caregivers Working  
2 Group cease to exist on December 1, 2015; and  
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group created by  
5 H.C.R. No. 78, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, Regular Session of 2014, cease to  
6 exist on the date of the adoption of this Concurrent Resolution  
7 by both houses of the Legislature; and  
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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that no action taken or not taken by  
10 the Family Caregivers Working Group in any way prohibit or  
11 forestall legislative action by the House of Representatives,  
12 the Senate, or both; and  
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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
15 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director  
16 of Health, Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau, Hawaii  
17 County Office of Aging, Maui County Office of Aging, County of  
18 Kauai Agency on Elderly Affairs, Elderly Affairs Division of the  
19 City and County of Honolulu Department of Community Services,  
20 AARP Hawaii, Healthcare Association of Hawaii, Kokua Council,  
21 Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs, Hawaii Association of  
22 Health Plans, Hawaii Health Systems Corporation, International  
23 Longshore and Warehouse Union Local 142 Hawaii, Hawaii Family  
24 Caregiver Coalition, Project Dana, and Hawaii Alliance for  
25 Retired Americans.

