3

4

5 6 7

8

9 10

11

12

13 14

17 18

19

20 21

22

23

24

25

26 27

28 29

30

S.C.R. NO. 38

JAN 2 5 2017

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE GOVERNOR TO ESTABLISH A FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR CANCER PATIENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES.

WHEREAS, more than six thousand Hawaii residents are diagnosed yearly with an invasive form of cancer, and in 2016 there were over fifty-eight thousand Hawaii residents living with cancer, including those newly diagnosed and those diagnosed with invasive cancer in the past; and

WHEREAS, advancements in medical technology have led to increased survival rates and longer life expectancy for those diagnosed with cancer; and

WHEREAS, the costs of treating cancer continue to escalate, and a cancer diagnosis often leads to exorbitant medical fees; and

WHEREAS, the financial burden of cancer, along with the physical and mental toll that accompanies a diagnosis, afflicts thousands of Hawaii families every day; and

WHEREAS, this body has consistently supported quality health care for all, as evidenced by such laws as the Hawaii Prepaid Health Care Act; and

WHEREAS, this body declares that financial assistance for cancer patients and their families is an integral component of our commitment to support quality health care for all people of Hawaii; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2017, the House of Representatives concurring, that this body supports providing financial assistance for individuals and families who have difficulty paying for cancer-related health care costs and 2 3

urges the Governor to support the establishment of a financial assistance program for cancer patients and their families; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body take all steps necessary to provide sufficient funds to establish a financial assistance program for cancer patients and their families; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Speaker of the House of Representatives, President of the Senate, and Director of Health.

OFFERED BY:

2017-0622 SCR SMA.doc