
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO ASSESS THE ADEQUACY OF THE PHYSICIAN
NETWORKS ON ALL ISLANDS OF THE STATE.

1 WHEREAS, there is a significant shortage of physicians in
2 the State, particularly on the neighbor islands; and
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4 WHEREAS, this shortage has been verified through the
5 canvassing of physicians in Hawaii in the annual physician
6 workforce assessment, which the John A. Burns School of Medicine
7 at the University of Hawaii submits to the Legislature pursuant
8 to Act 18, Special Session Laws of Hawaii 2009, as amended by
9 Act 186, Session Laws of Hawaii 2012, as amended by Act 40,
10 Session Laws of Hawaii 2017; and
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12 WHEREAS, members of the Twenty-ninth Legislature of the
13 State of Hawaii considered legislation to encourage an increase
14 in the number of physicians providing care to the State's
15 population; and
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17 WHEREAS, the Insurance Commissioner of the State of Hawaii,
18 through the National Association of Insurance Commissioners, has
19 submitted proposed legislation regulating health provider
20 network adequacy requirements; and
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22 WHEREAS, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act
23 placed on insurance providers the responsibility of maintaining
24 adequate networks of health care providers; and
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26 WHEREAS, insurance providers in Hawaii declare existing
27 health provider networks to be adequate; and
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29 WHEREAS, patients, particularly those living on neighbor
30 islands, contend that they experience extended wait times for



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1 physician appointments because of a shortage of physicians
2 within a convenient geographic range; and
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4 WHEREAS, patients who live on neighbor islands contend that
5 they are required to make regular airline trips to Oahu, at
6 significant personal cost, to receive specialty care because of
7 a lack of specialist physicians on their home islands; now,
8 therefore,
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10 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
11 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
12 of 2018, the Senate concurring, that the Auditor is requested to
13 assess the adequacy of the physician networks on all islands of
14 the State; and
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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in preparing the assessment,
17 the Auditor is requested to seek cooperation and information
18 from the John A. Burns School of Medicine at the University of
19 Hawaii and the comprehensive health insurance providers in the
20 State; and
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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to
23 submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including
24 any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than
25 January 1, 2019; and
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
28 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Auditor, the Dean of
29 the John A. Burns School of Medicine at the University of
30 Hawaii, Hawaii Medical Service Association, Kaiser Permanente
31 Hawaii, and the Hawaii Medical Association.
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OFFERED BY:

T. Stach
Kiridechiana
MAR 07 2018

