

MAR 08 2019

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT THE AUDITOR CONDUCT A SUNRISE ANALYSIS OF
MANDATING HEALTH CARE COVERAGE FOR CANNABIDIOL OIL DERIVED
FROM INDUSTRIAL HEMP.

1 WHEREAS, industrial hemp is defined under the State's
2 Industrial Hemp Pilot Program as the cultivated plant Cannabis
3 sativa L. and any part of that plant, whether growing or not,
4 with a delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol concentration of not more
5 than 0.3 percent on a dry weight basis or a tetrahydrocannabinol
6 concentration allowed by federal law, whichever is greater; and
7

8 WHEREAS, industrial hemp contains cannabidiol, a
9 therapeutic non-psychoactive chemical compound, and low levels
10 of tetrahydrocannabinol, a psychoactive chemical compound that
11 is found in high levels in other types of cannabis plant, that
12 are classified as marijuana; and
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14 WHEREAS, the medicinal benefits of cannabidiol have been
15 recently recognized by the United States Food and Drug
16 Administration, which, on June 25, 2018, approved Epidiolex
17 (cannabidiol) oral solution for the treatment of seizures
18 associated with severe forms of epilepsy, specifically, Lennox-
19 Gastaut syndrome and Dravet syndrome, in patients two years of
20 age and older; and
21

22 WHEREAS, both cannabidiol and tetrahydrocannabinol have
23 similar medicinal benefits, such as relieving pain, reducing
24 nausea, easing migraines, and reducing inflammation; however,
25 cannabidiol, unlike tetrahydrocannabinol, does not produce a
26 high, does not have psychoactive side effects, does not increase
27 appetite, and does decrease seizures; and
28

29 WHEREAS, House Bill No. 20, introduced during the Regular
30 Session of 2019, requires health insurers and similar entities
31 that provide coverage for health care to provide drug coverage
32 for cannabidiol oil that is derived from industrial hemp; and



1 WHEREAS, pursuant to section 23-51, Hawaii Revised
2 Statutes, before any legislative measure that mandates health
3 insurance coverage for specific health services, specific
4 diseases, or certain providers of health care services as part
5 of individual or group health insurance policies, can be
6 considered, Concurrent Resolutions shall be passed that
7 designate a specific legislative bill for the Auditor to review
8 and prepare a report for submission to the Legislature that
9 assesses both the social and financial effects of the proposed
10 mandated coverage under that legislative bill; now, therefore,
11

12 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature
13 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, the House of
14 Representatives concurring, that the Auditor is requested to
15 assess both the social and financial effects of the proposed
16 mandated coverage of cannabidiol oil that is derived from
17 industrial hemp, as described in House Bill No. 20, introduced
18 during the Regular Session of 2019; and
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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to
21 submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including
22 any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than
23 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of
24 2020; and
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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
27 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Auditor and the
28 Insurance Commissioner.
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OFFERED BY:

Randy H. Bih
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