

MAR 11 2022

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS SUPPORT THE PASSAGE OF H.R. 4803, THE ACUPUNCTURE FOR OUR SENIORS ACT OF 2021, WHICH WOULD AMEND TITLE XVIII OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT PROVIDE COVERAGE FOR ACUPUNCTURIST SERVICES UNDER THE MEDICARE PROGRAM.

1 WHEREAS, there is an acute need to address pain and
2 addiction issues with complementary and integrative services,
3 including acupuncture; and
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5 WHEREAS, extensive studies on acupuncture published by the
6 National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health show
7 that acupuncture is a viable treatment option for those
8 suffering from musculoskeletal conditions, chronic pain, and
9 addiction issues; and
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11 WHEREAS, these studies have also shown that acupuncture is
12 generally considered safe when performed by an experienced,
13 well-trained practitioner using sterile needles; and
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15 WHEREAS, having acupuncture performed by a well-trained
16 practitioner is as important to public health and safety as
17 having healthcare services performed by a healthcare
18 professional having an extensive educational and clinical
19 training history; and
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21 WHEREAS, reflecting the scientific consensus that
22 acupuncture is a safe practice when performed by an experienced,
23 well-trained practitioner using sterile needles, the Center for
24 Medicare and Medicaid Services issued a national coverage
25 determination in January 2020 to have Medicare cover acupuncture
26 services for Medicare benefit recipients experiencing chronic
27 lower back pain; now, therefore,
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29 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
30 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022, the



S.C.R. NO. 134

1 House of Representatives concurring, that the United States
2 Congress is requested to support H.R. 4803, the Acupuncture for
3 Our Seniors Act of 2021, which would amend Title XVIII of the
4 Social Security Act to provide coverage for acupuncturist
5 services under the Medicare program; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Majority Leader of
the United States Senate, Speaker of the United States House of
Representatives, and members of Hawaii's congressional
delegation.

OFFERED BY:

