H.C.R. NO. **18**

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE UNTIED STATES CONGRESS AND HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SUPPORT LEGISLATION ESTABLISHING MEDICARE FOR ALL.

WHEREAS, Hawaii's residents deserve high quality health 1 2 care; and 3 4 WHEREAS, the economic vitality of Hawaii is closely linked 5 to the physical well-being of its residents; and 6 WHEREAS, the novel coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic led 7 to record levels of unemployment and the loss of employer-8 sponsored health insurance for hundreds of thousands of Hawaii's 9 10 workers; and 11 12 WHEREAS, according to a University of Michigan study published in 2010, Native Hawaiians are far more likely to 13 suffer an early death in comparison to Caucasians; and 14 15 16 WHEREAS, people often delay needed medical treatments due to an inability to pay for health care costs, which further 17 jeopardizes the health of those individuals; and 18 19 WHEREAS, these individuals are significantly more likely to 20 21 develop serious illness if they contract COVID-19; and 22 23 WHEREAS, managed care and other market-based reforms have 24 failed to contain health care costs, resulting in medical 25 problems and cost burdens for working families; and 26 27 WHEREAS, under a single-payer health care system, non-28 medical expenses nationwide could be reduced to approximately 29 six to eight percent of total health care costs, saving more 30 than one trillion dollars; and

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2 WHEREAS, Medicare for All would provide national health 3 insurance without copayments and deductibles for every person in 4 the United States for all necessary medical care, including 5 prescription drugs, hospital visits, surgical and outpatient 6 services, primary and preventive care, emergency services, 7 reproductive care, dental and vision services, and long-term 8 care; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022, the Senate concurring, that the United States Congress and Hawaii's congressional delegation are urged to support legislation establishing Medicare for All; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this 17 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to each member of the 18 United States Congress and Hawaii's congressional delegation. 19

OFFERED BY:

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