
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE ADOPTION OF A STATE POLICY ASSURING THAT SAVINGS
REALIZED BY THE STATE THROUGH THE EXTENSION OF FEDERAL
MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PERCENTAGE PAYMENTS OF ONE HUNDRED
PERCENT FOR NATIVE HAWAIIAN HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS IS USED TO
ADDRESS HEALTH DISPARITIES EXPERIENCED BY NATIVE HAWAIIAN
COMMUNITIES.

1 WHEREAS, Papa Ola Lōkahi is a Hawaii nonprofit corporation,
2 501(c)(3) public charity, and consortium of public agencies and
3 private nonprofit organizations that are concerned with
4 improving Native Hawaiian cultural, physical, mental, and
5 spiritual health and well-being, including by entering into
6 agreements or memoranda of understanding with relevant
7 organizations that are capable of providing resources or
8 services to the Native Hawaiian health care systems that serve
9 the unique health needs of Hawaiian communities; and

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11 WHEREAS, AHARO Hawaii (AHARO) is a Hawaii nonprofit
12 corporation, 501(c)(3) public charity, and consortium of Hawaii
13 nonprofit corporations, each of which is a 501(c)(3) public
14 charity and federally qualified community health center that has
15 demonstrated records of contributing to the health and well-
16 being of Native Hawaiians and providing a wide range of
17 culturally-sensitive, holistic, and primary care health services
18 to predominately rural, multi-generational Native Hawaiian
19 communities in medically underserved areas within the State; and

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21 WHEREAS, AHARO is currently comprised of five federally
22 qualified health center organizations: Bay Clinic, Inc.; Hamakua
23 Health Center, Inc.; Molokai Ohana Health Care, Inc. (dba
24 Molokai Community Health Center); Waianae District Comprehensive
25 Health and Hospital Board, Inc. (dba Waianae Coast Comprehensive
26 Health Center); and Waimanalo Health Center; and
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1 WHEREAS, AHARO member organizations integrate traditional
2 Native Hawaiian healing practices into their primary care
3 services; and
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5 WHEREAS, each AHARO member organization has established a
6 Kupuna Council of traditional Hawaiian healers recognized by
7 Papa Ola Lōkahi that distinguishes practitioners of Hawaiian
8 healing traditions from medical clinicians in Hawaii and
9 provides for the protection and preservation of such healing
10 practices as assured by the Hawaii State Constitution; and
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12 WHEREAS, under section 9815 of the American Rescue Plan Act
13 of 2021 (ARPA), the federal government will pay one hundred
14 percent of the cost of Medicaid services provided at Native
15 Hawaiian Health Centers for sixteen fiscal year quarters, which
16 may be extended; and
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18 WHEREAS, Papa Ola Lōkahi and AHARO have agreed that AHARO
19 member health centers will serve as additional Native Hawaiian
20 Health Centers and are recognized as part of the federal effort
21 to address health disparities experienced by Native Hawaiians;
22 and
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24 WHEREAS, the current limited QUEST dental program does not
25 address the needs in multi-generational Hawaiian communities
26 where extensive dental work is needed; and
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28 WHEREAS, full adult dental services are a required service
29 of a federally qualified health center and are typically
30 supported through a state match; and
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32 WHEREAS, state savings, realized from the Native Hawaiian
33 Federal Medical Assistance Percentage recalculation, should be
34 used to address continuing health disparities of Native
35 Hawaiians, which include dental disease and the early onset of
36 chronic diseases; and
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38 WHEREAS, these supplemental health care services should be
39 provided by health care providers authorized by Papa Ola Lōkahi;
40 now, therefore,
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1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
2 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
3 of 2022, that all executive departments are requested to adopt a
4 state policy assuring that savings realized by the State through
5 the extension of Federal Medical Assistance Percentage payments
6 of one hundred percent for Native Hawaiian health care systems
7 is used to address health disparities experienced by Native
8 Hawaiian communities; and
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all executive departments are
11 urged to review their policies and prioritize the goal of
12 adopting this state policy; and
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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
15 Resolution be transmitted to the members of Hawaii's
16 congressional delegation; Governor; Director of Health; Director
17 of Human Services; Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the
18 Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Executive Director of Papa Ola
19 Lōkahi; President of AHARO Hawaii; Chief Executive Officer of
20 the Bay Clinic, Inc.; Chief Executive Officer of the Hamakua
21 Health Center, Inc.; Chief Executive Officer of the Molokai
22 Community Health Center; Chairperson of the Waianae Coast
23 Comprehensive Health Center; and Chief Executive Officer of the
24 Waimanalo Health Center.
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