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## MAR 1 1 2022

## SENATE 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 care; and

WHEREAS, the economic vitality of Hawaii is closely linked to the physical well-being of its residents; and

WHEREAS, the novel coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic led to record levels of unemployment and the loss of employersponsored health insurance for hundreds of thousands of Hawaii's workers; and

WHEREAS, according to a University of Michigan study published in 2010, Native Hawaiians are far more likely to suffer an early death in comparison to Caucasians; and

WHEREAS, people often delay needed medical treatments due to an inability to pay for health care costs, which further jeopardizes the health of those individuals; and

WHEREAS, these individuals are significantly more likely to develop serious illness if they contract COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, managed care and other market-based reforms have failed to contain health care costs, resulting in medical problems and cost burdens for working families; and

WHEREAS, under a single-payer health care system, non-medical expenses nationwide could be reduced to approximately six to eight percent of total health care costs, saving more than one trillion dollars; and

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

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

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

OFFERED BY:

