
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES MED-QUEST DIVISION
TO EXPAND THE TYPES OF QUALIFIED PROVIDERS ALLOWED TO
PROVIDE LACTATION CONSULTANT SERVICES FOR THE MEDICAID
POPULATION IN THE STATE.

1 WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and
2 Prevention, breastfeeding has health benefits for babies and
3 mothers, as breast milk provides a baby with ideal nutrition,
4 supports growth and development, and can also help protect the
5 baby and mother against certain illnesses and diseases; and
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7 WHEREAS, the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends
8 exclusive breastfeeding for about six months then continued
9 breastfeeding while introducing complementary foods until a
10 child is twelve months or older; and
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12 WHEREAS, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act,
13 Public Law 111-148, includes guidelines for coverage of
14 breastfeeding support and counseling; and
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16 WHEREAS, a lactation consultant is a certified health
17 professional who specializes in the clinical management of
18 breastfeeding and is trained to assist mothers in preventing and
19 solving breastfeeding difficulties, such as sore nipples and low
20 milk supply; and
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22 WHEREAS, lactation consultants commonly work in hospitals,
23 physician or midwife practices, public health programs, and
24 private practice; and
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26 WHEREAS, lactation consultants in the United States are
27 often nurses, midwives, nurse practitioners, dietitians, and
28 other healthcare professionals who have obtained additional



1 certification through the International Board of Lactation
2 Consultant Examiners; and
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4 WHEREAS, Hawaii's QUEST Integration Program, which provides
5 eligible low-income adults and children access to health and
6 medical coverage through managed care plans, does not currently
7 allow all qualified providers who have obtained International
8 Board of Lactation Consultant Examiners certification to provide
9 lactation consultant services; and
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11 WHEREAS, Hawaii's Medicaid population would greatly benefit
12 from increased access to lactation consultant services to assist
13 breastfeeding mothers; now, therefore,
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15 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
16 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
17 Session of 2023, the Senate concurring, that the Department of
18 Human Services Med-QUEST Division is requested to expand the
19 types of qualified providers allowed to provide lactation
20 consultant services for the Medicaid population in the State;
21 and
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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that to expand the types of
24 qualified providers, the Department of Human Services Med-QUEST
25 Division is requested to take any steps necessary to obtain
26 necessary approvals, create internal processes, and credential
27 appropriate providers who have obtained International Board of
28 Lactation Consultant Examiners certification; and
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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Human
31 Services Med-QUEST Division is requested to submit a report to
32 the Legislature on the steps taken and progress made in
33 expanding the types of providers who can provide lactation
34 consultant services no later than twenty days prior to the
35 convening of the Regular Session of 2024; and
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37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
38 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Human
39 Services, Director of Health, and Administrator of the Med-QUEST
40 Division.
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H.C.R. NO. 7

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OFFERED BY:


JAN 20 2023

