
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO ASSESS BOTH THE SOCIAL AND FINANCIAL
EFFECTS OF PROPOSED MANDATED HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR
A PERCENTAGE OF THE COSTS OF KETAMINE THERAPY TO TREAT
DEPRESSION.

1 WHEREAS, the State has a duty to protect and improve the
2 health and environment of the people; and

3
4 WHEREAS, a number of state residents suffer from
5 depression; and

6
7 WHEREAS, according to an article published in Current
8 Neuropharmacology, the use of ketamine is a valid antidepressant
9 option for the treatment of treatment-resistant depression and
10 has rapid antidepressant effects; and

11
12 WHEREAS, Senate Bill No. 279, introduced during the Regular
13 Session of 2023 proposes to require insurance coverage for
14 ketamine therapy; and

15
16 WHEREAS, section 23-51, Hawaii Revised Statutes, requires
17 that "[b]efore any legislative measure that mandates health
18 insurance coverage for specific health services, specific
19 diseases, or certain providers of health care services as part
20 of individual or group health insurance policies, can be
21 considered, there shall be concurrent resolutions passed
22 requesting the auditor to prepare and submit to the legislature
23 a report that assesses both the social and financial effects of
24 the proposed mandated coverage"; now, therefore,

25
26 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second
27 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023, the
28 House of Representatives concurring, that the Auditor is
29 requested to assess, pursuant to section 23-51, Hawaii Revised
30 Statutes, both the social and financial effects of the proposed



1 mandated health insurance coverage under Senate Bill No. 279,
2 Regular Session of 2023, which requires insurance coverage for a
3 percentage of the costs of ketamine therapy to treat depression;
4 and

5

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to
7 submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including
8 any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than
9 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of
10 2024; and

11

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
13 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Auditor and
14 Insurance Commissioner.

