
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT A SOCIAL AND FINANCIAL
ASSESSMENT OF PROPOSED MANDATORY HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE
FOR SERVICES PROVIDED BY PHARMACISTS.

1 WHEREAS, there is a shortage of physicians throughout the
2 State; and

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4 WHEREAS, all four counties in the State include areas
5 designated as "medically underserved"; and

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7 WHEREAS, pharmacists could help to bridge the gap in
8 providing access to basic health care; and

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10 WHEREAS, pharmacists graduate with a doctor of pharmacy
11 that requires a minimum of six years to complete, and may
12 complete two years of post-graduation residency training
13 programs alongside their physician colleagues or become
14 nationally board certified in numerous specialties; and

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16 WHEREAS, a pharmacist's skill set includes educating
17 patients on how and when to check blood sugar, ways to avoid and
18 manage hypoglycemia, how to take their medications correctly to
19 avoid adverse effects, and various medication utilization
20 techniques; and

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22 WHEREAS, patients are three times more likely to stay out
23 of the hospital when pharmacists provide clinical services after
24 a hospital discharge; and

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26 WHEREAS, Senate Bill No. 165, introduced in the Regular
27 Session of 2023, proposes to expand existing health insurance
28 coverage to cover medical services provided by pharmacists
29 within their scope of practice; and
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1 WHEREAS, section 23-51, Hawaii Revised Statutes, requires
2 that "[b]efore any legislative measure that mandates health
3 insurance coverage for specific health services, specific
4 diseases, or certain providers of health care services as part
5 of individual or group health insurance policies, can be
6 considered, there shall be concurrent resolutions passed
7 requesting the auditor to prepare and submit to the legislature
8 a report that assesses both the social and financial effects of
9 the proposed mandated coverage"; and

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WHEREAS, section 23-51, Hawaii Revised Statutes, further provides that "[t]he concurrent resolutions shall designate a specific legislative bill that:

- (1) Has been introduced in the legislature; and
- (2) Includes, at a minimum, information identifying the:
 - (A) Specific health service, disease, or provider that would be covered;
 - (B) Extent of the coverage;
 - (C) Target groups that would be covered;
 - (D) Limitations on utilization, if any; and
 - (E) Standards of care.

For purposes of this part, mandated health insurance coverage shall not include mandated optionals."; and

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WHEREAS, section 23-52, Hawaii Revised Statutes, further specifies the minimum information required for assessing the social and financial impact of the proposed health coverage mandate in the Auditor's report; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023, the House of Representatives concurring, that the Auditor is requested to conduct an impact assessment report in accordance with sections 23-51 and 23-52, Hawaii Revised Statutes, of



1 mandating health insurance coverage for services provided by
2 pharmacists within their scope of practice as proposed in Senate
3 Bill No. 165, introduced in the Regular Session of 2023; and
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is further
6 requested to include in its assessment the impact of section
7 1311(d)(3) of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care
8 Act (PPACA) on Senate Bill No. 165, Regular Session of 2023, or
9 similar legislation, that includes but is not limited to the
10 additional cost of any benefits beyond the essential health
11 benefits of Hawaii's qualified health plans under the PPACA; and
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is also requested
14 to determine how many qualified health plans are available in
15 Hawaii, including plans offered by health maintenance
16 organizations; the individual or group enrollment in these
17 plans; and the actuarial cost of the defrayment to the State for
18 the reimbursement of services provided by pharmacists; and
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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to
21 submit a report on its findings and recommendations, including
22 any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than
23 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of
24 2024; and
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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
27 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Auditor and
28 Insurance Commissioner, who is requested to transmit copies to
29 each insurer in the State that issues health insurance policies.
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