

JAN 25 2023

---

---

# SENATE 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  
6

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  
11

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  
15

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  
21

22           WHEREAS, lactation consultants commonly work in hospitals,  
23  physician or midwife practices, public health programs, and  
24  private practice; and  
25

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



# S.C.R. NO. 6

1 certification through the International Board of Lactation  
2 Consultant Examiners; and

3  
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

10  
11 WHEREAS, Hawaii's Medicaid population would greatly benefit  
12 from increased access to lactation consultant services to assist  
13 breastfeeding mothers; now, therefore,

14  
15 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second  
16 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023, the  
17 House of Representatives 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

22  
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

29  
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

36  
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.



S.C.R. NO. 6

1

OFFERED BY: Phuehille N. Kedani

