

MAR 10 2023

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# SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON AGING TO DEVELOP A STANDARD TRAINING WORKSHOP FOR KUPUNA AND CAREGIVERS ON HOW TO SELECT AND PURCHASE APPROPRIATE BROADBAND CONNECTIVITY EQUIPMENT, AUDIO VISUAL EQUIPMENT SUCH AS TABLETS, AND HOW TO OPERATE EQUIPMENT TO ACCESS TELEHEALTH SERVICES.

1           WHEREAS, over seven million low-income seniors in America  
2 are enrolled in Medicaid for their health coverage; and  
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4           WHEREAS, the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic  
5 has changed the way many people access health care, making  
6 online doctor visits a more common occurrence; and  
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8           WHEREAS, telehealth and online doctor visits can increase  
9 access to health care for the most vulnerable populations,  
10 including those enrolled in Medicaid and Medicare beneficiaries;  
11 and  
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13           WHEREAS, technologies to increase access to care and health  
14 outcomes, especially for kupuna and residents in rural areas of  
15 the State, are limited due to lack of access to broadband  
16 internet or unfamiliarity with computers and advancing  
17 technologies; and  
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19           WHEREAS, modern equipment such as tablets provide a simple  
20 interface tailored to high-risk and older patients by featuring  
21 brighter screens and larger icons; and  
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23           WHEREAS, the Executive Office on Aging is the designated  
24 lead agency in the coordination of a statewide system of aging  
25 and caregiver support services in the State; now, therefore,  
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27           BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second  
28 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023,  
29 that the Executive Office on Aging is urged to develop a  
30 standard training workshop for kupuna and caregivers on how to  
31 select and purchase appropriate broadband connectivity  
32 equipment, audio visual equipment such as tablets, and how to  
33 operate equipment to access telehealth services; and



# S.R. NO. 169

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that curriculum topics for the standard training workshop are requested to include:

- (1) Establishing a reasonable budget related to broadband access; and
- (2) Identifying reputable contractors in the area to install and maintain broadband equipment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the Executive Office on Aging.

OFFERED BY:

