
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CREATE A FORMAL PLAN TO
IMPLEMENT CERTAIN RECOMMENDATIONS WITH RESPECT TO ORAL
HEALTH CARE FOR NATIVE HAWAIIANS.

1 WHEREAS, in a 2019 report entitled "E Ola Mau a Mau: The
2 Next Generation of Native Hawaiian Health", Papa Ola Lokahi
3 observed that there has been increased oral health research over
4 the last thirty years, with more scholarly publications and
5 increased interest in and understanding of oral health needs;
6 and

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8 WHEREAS, the report recognized that linking patients to
9 prevention and treatment through school-based oral health
10 education, screening and referral programs, dental case
11 management, and pediatricians' offices is effective; and

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13 WHEREAS, the report, among other findings, determined that:

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15 (1) Native Hawaiian adults have higher rates of tooth loss
16 than Caucasian and Japanese adults;

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18 (2) Native Hawaiian children have higher rates of tooth
19 decay than their Caucasian and Japanese peers;

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21 (3) Available data suggests that Native Hawaiians lack
22 access to preventative and treatment visits, and have
23 great need for prevention and treatment of dental
24 issues; and

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26 (4) Native Hawaiians' lack of access to dental care is not
27 surprising, as they are overrepresented in other risk
28 groups, including those with low socioeconomic status
29 and rural residence; and
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H.C.R. NO. 26

1 WHEREAS, the report also found that there is a lack of
2 funding for capital expansion for Native Hawaiian Health Care
3 Systems and Federally Qualified Health Centers to enhance access
4 to dental care, screening, referrals, and education, including
5 access by children, adults, kupuna, and low-income families; and
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7 WHEREAS, the recommendations of the report recognized the
8 need to:
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- 10 (1) Address oral health in connection with overall health;
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- 12 (2) Increase oral health literacy and awareness;
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- 14 (3) Develop a diversified oral health workforce, including
15 in rural areas;
- 16
- 17 (4) Invest in prevention;
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- 19 (5) Increase access to care and decrease oral health care
20 disparities;
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- 22 (6) Implement culturally-adapted programs and practices;
23 and
24
- 25 (7) Systematically improve data collection relevant to
26 Native Hawaiian oral health; and
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28 WHEREAS, the State should promote the health and welfare of
29 the Native Hawaiian people; now, therefore,
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31 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
32 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
33 Session of 2023, the Senate concurring, that the Department of
34 Health is requested to create a formal plan to implement the
35 recommendations of the "E Ola Mau a Mau: The Next Generation of
36 Native Hawaiian Health" report with respect to oral health care
37 for Native Hawaiians; and
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39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
40 requested to collaborate with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs in
41 the creation of the plan; and
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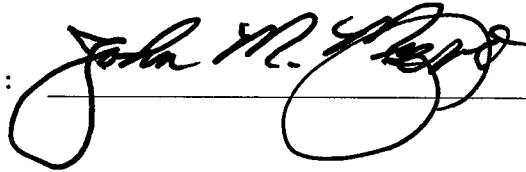
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
2 requested to submit to the Legislature, no later than twenty
3 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2024, a
4 report of the plan, including any findings, recommendations, and
5 proposed legislation; and

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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
8 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health,
9 Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian
10 Affairs, and Chairperson of the Hawaiian Homes Commission.

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OFFERED BY:



FEB 27 2023

