

MAR 02 2023

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# 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

3  
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

9  
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

15  
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.           , 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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31           WHEREAS, section 23-51, Hawaii Revised Statutes, requires  
32 that "[b]efore any legislative measure that mandates health



# S.C.R. NO. 29

1 insurance coverage for specific health services, specific  
2 diseases, or certain providers of health care services as part  
3 of individual or group health insurance policies, can be  
4 considered, there shall be concurrent resolutions passed  
5 requesting the auditor to prepare and submit to the legislature  
6 a report that assesses both the social and financial effects of  
7 the proposed mandated coverage"; and

8  
9 WHEREAS, section 23-51, Hawaii Revised Statutes, further  
10 provides that "[t]he concurrent resolutions shall designate a  
11 specific legislative bill that:

- 12  
13 (1) Has been introduced in the legislature; and  
14  
15 (2) Includes, at a minimum, information identifying the:  
16  
17 (A) Specific health service, disease, or provider  
18 that would be covered;  
19  
20 (B) Extent of the coverage;  
21  
22 (C) Target groups that would be covered;  
23  
24 (D) Limitations on utilization, if any; and  
25  
26 (E) Standards of care.

27  
28 For purposes of this part, mandated health insurance coverage  
29 shall not include mandated optionals"; and  
30

31 WHEREAS, section 23-52, Hawaii Revised Statutes, further  
32 specifies the minimum information required for assessing the  
33 social and financial impact of the proposed health coverage  
34 mandate in the Auditor's report; now, therefore,  
35

36 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second  
37 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023, the  
38 House of Representatives concurring, that the Auditor is  
39 requested to conduct an impact assessment report in accordance  
40 with sections 23-51 and 23-52, Hawaii Revised Statutes, of  
41 mandating health insurance coverage for services provided by



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1 pharmacists within their scope of practice as proposed in Senate  
2 Bill No. , introduced in the Regular Session of 2023; and  
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is further  
5 requested to include in its assessment the impact of section  
6 1311(d)(3) of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care  
7 Act (PPACA) on Senate Bill No. , Regular Session of 2023,  
8 or similar legislation, that includes but is not limited to the  
9 additional cost of any benefits beyond the essential health  
10 benefits of Hawaii's qualified health plans under the PPACA; and  
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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is also requested  
13 to determine how many qualified health plans are available in  
14 Hawaii, including plans offered by health maintenance  
15 organizations; the individual or group enrollment in these  
16 plans; and the actuarial cost of the defrayment to the State for  
17 the reimbursement of services provided by pharmacists; and  
18

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to  
20 submit a report on its findings and recommendations, including  
21 any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than  
22 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of  
23 2024; and  
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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
26 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Auditor and  
27 Insurance Commissioner, who is requested to transmit copies to  
28 each insurer in the State that issues health insurance policies.  
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OFFERED BY: 

