HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ADOPTING THE UNIFORM GUARDIANSHIP, CONSERVATORSHIP, AND OTHER PROTECTIVE ARRANGEMENTS ACT.

WHEREAS, the Uniform Guardianship and Protective Proceedings Act, published by the Uniformed Law Commission, was adopted by the Legislature in 2004 and codified as parts 1 through 4 of article V, chapter 560, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the Uniformed Law Commission revised the Uniform Guardianship and Protective Proceedings Act in 2017, renaming it as the Uniform Guardianship, Conservatorship, and Other Protective Arrangements Act (UGCOPAA); and

WHEREAS, the UGCOPAA has three overarching goals: the provision of care and services in a more person-centered approach; promotion and protection of the rights and interests of individuals in need of guardian or conservatorship; and development and implementation of systems that make it easier for all persons involved in the guardianship and conservatorship process to meet these goals; and

WHEREAS, the UGCOPAA, in furtherance of its first goal, rejects outdated and offensive terminology and includes new provisions that require the individuals subject to the guardianship or conservatorship to be given meaningful notice of their rights and how to assert them; require the involvement of individuals subject to a guardianship or conservatorship in decisions about their lives; and require the guardians and conservators to create person-centered plans and facilitate court monitoring of compliance with those plans; and

WHEREAS, the UGCOPAA, in furtherance of its second goal, includes provisions designed to ensure that the least restrictive means are used to protect an individual alleged to need a quardianship or conservatorship, provide better quidance

to guardians and conservators, and help courts monitor guardians and conservators; and

WHEREAS, the UGCOPAA, in furtherance of its third goal, creates new petition requirements to ensure judges have the information needed to make appropriate decisions, creates an option for courts to enter orders instead of guardianship or conservatorship where such less restrictive alternatives would meet a respondent's needs, and offers model forms to make it easier for petitioners to seek limited appointments instead of full ones; and

WHEREAS, it is crucial for the State to adopt the UGCOPAA to make the process of establishing a guardianship or conservatorship easier to understand for all individuals who need to comply with its directives; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024, the Senate concurring, that this body adopt the UGCOPAA in the form most recently published by the Uniformed Law Commission; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body introduce and support proposed legislation that reflects a more person-centered philosophy, adopting the revisions that identify and remove intangible barriers for individuals living with developmental disabilities thereby improving access to goods, services, and interests to their managed care; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Director of Human Services, Director of Health, and Attorney General.

OFFERED BY:

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