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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HEALTH DATA ADVISORY COUNCIL TO CONFIRM THE NUMBER OF UNINSURED CHILDREN STATEWIDE AND PER COUNTY IN 2025 AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES MED-QUEST DIVISION TO ESTIMATE COSTS AND COLLABORATE WITH THE STATE HEALTH PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY ON POLICY CHANGES NEEDED TO ACHIEVE THE GOAL OF UNIVERSAL HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR CHILDREN.

1           WHEREAS, based on United States Census Bureau 2024 data, an  
2 estimated 3.6 percent of children from birth to eighteen years  
3 of age statewide do not have health insurance, with that number  
4 estimated to be as high as nine percent on Hawaii Island and  
5 five percent on Maui; and

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7           WHEREAS, in Hawaii, if a child qualifies for Medicaid at  
8 any time during the period from birth to age six, they are  
9 eligible for continuous coverage through age six, and if they  
10 qualify at any time after age six, they qualify for continuous  
11 coverage for a period of two years until they reach the age of  
12 eighteen; and

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14           WHEREAS, additional expansion of Med-QUEST coverage is an  
15 efficient option for covering uninsured children in Hawaii, and  
16 the cost of coverage for children is significantly lower than  
17 coverage for adults; and

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19           WHEREAS, a plan to achieve universal health insurance  
20 coverage for children in the State should be informed by policy  
21 recommendations based on accurate population and cost data; now,  
22 therefore,

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24           BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
25 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
26 of 2025, that the Health Data Advisory Council of the State  
27 Health Planning and Development Agency is requested to confirm



1 the number of uninsured children statewide and per county in  
2 2025; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Health Data Advisory  
5 Council is requested to examine at least sixty days of de-  
6 identified privacy-assured hospital and emergency department  
7 claims or discharge data, or both, through available and  
8 reliable data sources, including the impacts of any changes that  
9 may occur in Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services coverage  
10 policies; and

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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Med-QUEST Division of the  
13 Department of Human Services is requested to estimate the state-  
14 related cost of increasing the coverage of children between the  
15 ages of six to eighteen from the current two years of continuous  
16 coverage following Medicaid eligibility to up to twelve years of  
17 continuous coverage by Med-QUEST, as necessary; and

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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Med-QUEST Division is also  
20 requested to estimate the number of remaining uninsured and  
21 underinsured children from birth to age eighteen who are  
22 ineligible by virtue of Centers for Medicare and Medicaid  
23 Services regulations for Med-QUEST coverage and estimate the  
24 state-related cost of Med-QUEST coverage for these children; and

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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Med-QUEST Division and  
27 State Health Planning and Development Agency are requested to  
28 collaborate to propose policy changes that may be needed to  
29 achieve the goal of universal health insurance coverage for  
30 children in the State, including consideration of any new  
31 developments in Medicaid funding resulting from federal policy  
32 changes; and

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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Med-QUEST Division and  
35 State Health Planning and Development Agency are requested to  
36 submit a report on the data, findings, and recommendations,  
37 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later  
38 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session  
39 of 2026; and

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41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
42 Resolution be transmitted to the Administrator for the State



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1 Health Planning and Development Agency, Med-QUEST Division  
2 Administrator, and Chairperson of the Health Data Advisory  
3 Council.

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OFFERED BY:

*Lin Mante*

MAR 03 2025

