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# SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONVENE AN AEROMEDICAL SERVICES WORKING GROUP.

1 WHEREAS, it is of critical importance to the State to  
2 ensure residents have prompt access to primary health care; and  
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4 WHEREAS, most rural communities in the State have fewer  
5 health care resources compared to communities on Oahu, including  
6 access to advanced levels of trauma care, medical specialists,  
7 and subspecialists; and  
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9 WHEREAS, patients in these rural areas are at greater risk  
10 of poor health outcomes for serious medical conditions, such as  
11 heart attack, stroke, and traumatic bodily injuries; and  
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13 WHEREAS, the existing aeromedical services system is  
14 overburdened and is currently served by only one statewide  
15 aeromedical services provider, for which there are few viable  
16 and cost-effective alternatives in the event of a grounding, for  
17 example, due to maintenance issues or crew availability; and  
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19 WHEREAS, there are a number of barriers to expanding the  
20 aeromedical services system, including insufficient funding,  
21 plans, procedures, and protocols; now, therefore,  
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23 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third  
24 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025,  
25 that the Department of Health is requested to convene an  
26 Aeromedical Services Working Group; and  
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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested  
29 to consist of the following members:  
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31 (1) The Director of Health, or the Director's designee;  
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- 1           (2) The Chair of the Senate Standing Committee on Health  
2           and Human Services, or a member appointed by the  
3           President of the Senate;  
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- 5           (3) The Chair of the House of Representatives Standing  
6           Committee on Health, or a member appointed by the  
7           Speaker of the House of Representatives;  
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- 9           (4) The Director of the Hawaii Emergency Management  
10          Agency, or the Director's designee;  
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- 12          (5) The Director of the Department of Emergency Management  
13          of the City and County of Honolulu, or the Director's  
14          designee;  
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- 16          (6) The Administrator of the Maui Emergency Management  
17          Agency, or the Administrator's designee;  
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- 19          (7) The Administrator of the Kauai Emergency Management  
20          Agency, or the Administrator's designee;  
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- 22          (8) The Administrator of the Hawaii County Civil Defense  
23          Agency, or the Administrator's designee;  
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- 25          (9) A representative of the Healthcare Association of  
26          Hawaii, to be selected and invited to participate by  
27          the Director of Health;  
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- 29          (10) A representative of the Hawaii Association of Health  
30          Plans, to be selected and invited to participate by  
31          the Director of Health;  
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- 33          (11) One representative from a health system operating in  
34          the State, to be selected and invited to participate  
35          by the Director of Health;  
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- 37          (12) Two representatives from independent providers  
38          operating in the State, at least one of whom operates  
39          in the County of Maui, Kauai, or Hawaii, to be  
40          selected and invited to participate by the Director of  
41          Health; and  
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1 (13) Two representatives from providers of emergency  
 2 aeromedical services who have conducted operations in  
 3 the State within the last five years and can provide  
 4 comprehensive air medical services with rotor- and  
 5 fixed-wing support, to be selected and invited to  
 6 participate by the Director of Health; and  
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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested  
 9 to, at a minimum:

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- 11 (1) Study and assess emergency aeromedical services needs  
 12 across the State and in each county; and
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  - 14 (2) Develop and recommend future plans, procedures,  
 15 protocols, and funding to increase the predictability  
 16 and stability of air ambulance medical services for  
 17 the State; and  
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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested  
 20 to submit a report of its findings and recommendations,  
 21 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later  
 22 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session  
 23 of 2026; and  
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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested  
 26 to dissolve on June 30, 2026; and  
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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 29 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health, Senate  
 30 President, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Chair of the  
 31 Senate Standing Committee on Health and Human Services, Chair of the  
 32 House of Representatives Standing Committee on Health,  
 33 Director of the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency, Director of  
 34 the Department of Emergency Management of the City and County of  
 35 Honolulu, Administrator of the Maui Emergency Management Agency,  
 36 Administrator of the Kauai Emergency Management Agency, and  
 37 Administrator of the Hawaii County Civil Defense Agency.

