

MAR 07 2025

# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO ASSESS THE SOCIAL AND FINANCIAL  
EFFECTS OF MANDATING HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR  
AMBULANCE AND COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE SERVICES.

1 WHEREAS, a substantial number of transfers to a hospital  
2 provided by an emergency medical services ambulatory service are  
3 for health conditions that are not considered to be an  
4 emergency, which can result not only in wasted health care  
5 resources but can also potentially prevent the delivery of  
6 life-saving services to other individuals who may truly be  
7 experiencing a life-threatening emergency; and

8  
9 WHEREAS, community paramedicine is a model of  
10 community-based health care in which paramedics function outside  
11 their customary emergency response and transport roles in ways  
12 that facilitate more appropriate use of emergency care  
13 resources; and

14  
15 WHEREAS, an important advantage of community paramedicine  
16 is the ability to treat patients at home without transport to a  
17 hospital or clinic, which enhances access to primary care and  
18 support services, especially for medically underserved areas;  
19 and

20  
21 WHEREAS, community paramedicine services can also improve  
22 access to preventative care, help triage patients, and alleviate  
23 the overburdened hospital and emergency departments, which in  
24 turn can help decrease health care costs; and

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26 WHEREAS, reimbursement for community paramedicine services  
27 is essential to the Community Paramedicine Program's  
28 sustainability; and

29  
30 WHEREAS, pursuant to section 23-51, Hawaii Revised  
31 Statutes, before any legislative measure that mandates health  
32 insurance coverage for specific health services, specific



1 diseases, or certain providers of health care services as part  
2 of individual or group health insurance policies, can be  
3 considered, concurrent resolutions shall be passed that  
4 designate a specific legislative bill for the Auditor to review  
5 and prepare a report for submission to the Legislature that  
6 assesses both the social and financial effects of the proposed  
7 mandated coverage under that legislative bill; now, therefore,  
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9 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third  
10 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025, the  
11 House of Representatives concurring, that the Auditor is  
12 requested to assess both the social and financial effects of the  
13 proposed mandated health insurance coverage under S.B. No. 783,  
14 introduced in the Regular Session of 2025, that:

15  
16 (1) Requires Medicaid and private insurance coverage of  
17 ambulance services; and  
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19 (2) Authorizes Medicaid programs, and requires private  
20 insurers, to cover community paramedicine services  
21 rendered statewide by emergency medical technicians or  
22 paramedics; and  
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24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is further  
25 requested to include in its assessment the impact of section  
26 1311(d)(3) of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care  
27 Act (PPACA) on Senate Bill No. 783, or similar legislation, that  
28 includes but is not limited to the additional cost of any  
29 benefits beyond the essential health benefits of Hawaii's  
30 qualified health plans under the PPACA; and  
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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is also requested  
33 to determine how many qualified health plans are available in  
34 the State, including plans offered by health maintenance  
35 organizations; the individual or group enrollment in these  
36 plans; and the actuarial cost of the defrayment to the State for  
37 ambulance services and community paramedicine services; and  
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39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to  
40 submit a report on the Auditor's findings and recommendations,  
41 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later



1 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session  
2 of 2026; and  
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
5 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Auditor and  
6 Insurance Commissioner, who is requested to transmit copies to  
7 each insurer in the State that issues health insurance policies.  
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OFFERED BY:



