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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO ESTABLISH A TASK FORCE ON AGING TO EXAMINE THE NEED FOR AND FEASIBILITY OF, AND TO PREPARE PRELIMINARY PLANS FOR, THE CONSOLIDATION OF PUBLICLY FUNDED PROGRAMS AND SERVICES THAT WOULD APPROPRIATELY FALL WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF A NEW DEPARTMENT OF AGING.

1           WHEREAS, in 1980, older adults comprised twelve per cent of  
2 the State's total population and in 2000, the population nearly  
3 doubled, with over two hundred seven thousand older adults  
4 comprising seventeen per cent of Hawaii's total population; and  
5

6           WHEREAS, according to a May 2006 report prepared by the  
7 Executive Office on Aging, by the year 2020, persons aged sixty  
8 and older will constitute nearly one-third, or thirty per cent,  
9 of Hawaii's adult population; and  
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11           WHEREAS, the number of persons who are eighty-five years of  
12 age and older is projected to continue to increase dramatically,  
13 from 5,561 in 1980 to 33,800 in 2020; and  
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15           WHEREAS, the array of publicly funded programs and services  
16 that serve the older population in the areas of health care,  
17 disability services, insurance, long-term care, caregiver  
18 support, Medicaid, Medicare, and institutional and community-  
19 based adult care, for example, are scattered among various state  
20 departments; and  
21

22           WHEREAS, these programs and services help to meet the  
23 multi-faceted needs of older adults and are provided by various  
24 county, state, federal, private, and not-for-profit entities but  
25 can be challenging for care recipients, caregivers, and families  
26 to navigate; and  
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28           WHEREAS, as a central agency, the Executive Office on Aging  
29 currently coordinates some of the programs and services  
30 available to Hawaii's older population; however, the scope and  
31 magnitude of overlapping issues facing the elderly may



1 necessitate action at the department level where resources and  
2 personnel can be more efficiently allocated and top-level  
3 policymakers can focus directly on the multi-faceted needs of  
4 Hawaii's older population; now, therefore,

5  
6 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
7 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
8 Session of 2008, that the Department of Health is requested to  
9 establish a Task Force on Aging to examine the need for and  
10 feasibility of, and to prepare preliminary plans for, the  
11 consolidation of publicly funded programs and services that  
12 would appropriately fall within the jurisdiction of a new  
13 Department of Aging; and

14  
15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is  
16 requested to include the following as members of the Task Force  
17 on Aging:

- 18  
19 (1) Two members of the Senate to be appointed by the  
20 President of the Senate;  
21  
22 (2) Two members of the House of Representatives to be  
23 appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
24 Representatives;  
25  
26 (3) The Director of Health or a designee, as an ex-  
27 officio, non-voting member;  
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29 (4) The Director of Human Services or a designee, as an  
30 ex-officio, non-voting member;  
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32 (5) The Director of Transportation or a designee, as an  
33 ex-officio, non-voting member;  
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35 (6) The Director of Finance or a designee, as an ex-  
36 officio, non-voting member;  
37  
38 (7) The Attorney General or a designee, as an ex-officio,  
39 non-voting member;  
40  
41 (8) One representative from the City and County of  
42 Honolulu Elderly Care Division;  
43



- 1           (9) One representative from the Hawaii County Office of  
2           Aging;
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- 4           (10) One representative from the Maui County Office on  
5           Aging;
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- 7           (11) One representative from the Kauai Agency on Elder  
8           Affairs;
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- 10          (12) One representative from the Policy Advisory Board for  
11          Elderly Affairs;
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- 13          (13) One representative from CARE Hawaii, Inc.;
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- 15          (14) One representative from the Hawaii Caregiver  
16          Coalition;
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- 18          (15) One representative from the Hawaii Alliance of Retired  
19          Americans; and
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- 21          (16) One representative from the Kokua Council; and
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23           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Task Force on Aging is  
24 requested to gather input from:

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- 26          (1) The Department of Health, the Department of Human  
27          Services, the Department of Transportation, the  
28          University of Hawaii, and the Executive Office on  
29          Aging regarding specific programs and services, to be  
30          identified by their current State of Hawaii program  
31          structure identification numbers, currently within  
32          their respective jurisdictions, that would  
33          appropriately fall within the jurisdiction of the new  
34          Department of Aging;
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- 36          (2) The Department of Budget and Finance, the Department  
37          of Human Resources Development, the Department of the  
38          Attorney General, and the Department of Accounting and  
39          General Services regarding the budget, personnel,  
40          legal, and administrative impacts of shifting programs  
41          from the specified departments to the new Department  
42          of Aging; and
- 43



1           (3) The Policy Advisory Board for Elderly Affairs, the  
 2           Hawaii Alliance of Retired Americans, the Kokua  
 3           Council, the Hawaii Aging Advocates Coalition, AARP  
 4           Hawaii, the Hawaii Caregiver Coalition, the City and  
 5           County of Honolulu Elderly Care Division, the Hawaii  
 6           County Office of Aging, the Maui County Office on  
 7           Aging, the Kauai Agency on Elder Affairs, and other  
 8           elderly, disability, business, and faith based  
 9           organizations and advocates regarding the need for a  
 10          specific Department of Aging and the programs and  
 11          services that would appropriately fall within the  
 12          jurisdiction of the new Department of Aging; and  
 13

14           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Task Force on Aging is  
 15          requested to submit its findings and recommendations, including  
 16          necessary proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than  
 17          twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of  
 18          2009. The Executive Office on Aging is requested to assist the  
 19          Task Force on Aging in preparing the report; and  
 20

21           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 22          Resolution be transmitted to the Directors of Health, Human  
 23          Services, Human Resources Management, Transportation, and  
 24          Finance, the Comptroller, Attorney General, the Mayors of the  
 25          respective counties, the Chairperson of the Policy Advisory  
 26          Board for Elderly Affairs, and the Director of the Executive  
 27          Office on Aging who, in turn, is requested to transmit copies to  
 28          CARE Hawaii, Inc., Hawaii Caregiver Coalition, Hawaii Alliance  
 29          of Retired Americans, the Hawaii Aging Advocates Coalition,  
 30          American Association of Retired Persons Hawaii, and the Kokua  
 31          Council.  
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OFFERED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

*[Handwritten signature]*  
*John M. Agnew*  
*Josh Green M.D.*

