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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING COLLABORATION AMONG VARIOUS STATE AGENCIES TO  
IDENTIFY AND REMOVE BARRIERS RELATING TO WORKFORCE DATA  
SHARING AND NURSING PRACTICE IN THE STATE.

1 WHEREAS, health care in the United States is experiencing a  
2 period of unprecedented change; and

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4 WHEREAS, the national reconfiguration of health care  
5 services will have major implications at the federal, state, and  
6 local levels; and

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8 WHEREAS, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act  
9 marks the undertaking of significant health care reform  
10 throughout the country; and

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12 WHEREAS, reform efforts that increase access to care,  
13 provide health care to the uninsured, and close gaps in health  
14 inequalities will depend on a stable and enduring workforce that  
15 can provide health care services across many settings; and

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17 WHEREAS, in 2010, a report from the Institute of Medicine  
18 of the National Academies and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation  
19 proposed a series of recommendations to advance and strengthen  
20 the United States health care system during this period of  
21 change; and

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23 WHEREAS, according to the report, nurses' roles,  
24 responsibilities, and education should change significantly to  
25 meet the increased demand for care created by health care  
26 reform; and

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28 WHEREAS, the Legislature supports the key messages in the  
29 report, including recommendations that: nurses should practice  
30 to the full extent of their education and training; nurses  
31 should achieve higher levels of education and training through  
32 an improved education system that promotes seamless academic



1 progression; nurses should be full partners, with physicians and  
2 other health care professionals, in redesigning the nation's  
3 health care; and effective workforce planning and policymaking  
4 require better data collection and an improved information  
5 infrastructure; and

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7 WHEREAS, the fulfillment of these recommendations will  
8 require collaboration and commitment from national and state  
9 organizations and government agencies; and

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11 WHEREAS, the Legislature further supports the Institute of  
12 Medicine's recommendation that states build an infrastructure  
13 for the collection and analysis of interprofessional health care  
14 workforce data and collaborate with government agencies to  
15 ensure that the data are timely and publicly accessible; and

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17 WHEREAS, in recent years, the Legislature has passed  
18 legislation relating to nurses and Advanced Practice Registered  
19 Nurses that has addressed most of the Institute of Medicine's  
20 recommendations; and

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22 WHEREAS, the Legislature established the Hawaii State  
23 Center for Nursing in 2003 to ensure the quality of health care  
24 for the people of Hawaii by proactively addressing nursing  
25 workforce issues; and

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27 WHEREAS, section 304A-1407, Hawaii Revised Statutes,  
28 requires state agencies, educational institutions, hospitals,  
29 and professional organizations to provide workforce data to the  
30 Hawaii State Center for Nursing; and

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32 WHEREAS, the State Board of Nursing and the Professional  
33 and Vocational Licensing Division of the Department of Commerce  
34 and Consumer Affairs are responsible for the regulation of  
35 nursing practices in the State; and

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37 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that the State Board of  
38 Nursing and the Professional and Vocational Licensing Division  
39 have cited a lack of resources and expertise to address existing  
40 nursing workforce issues and those that will be created through  
41 implementation of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care  
42 Act; and

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1 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that increased collaboration  
2 between the State Board of Nursing and the Hawaii State Center  
3 for Nursing will ensure that the State has a stable and enduring  
4 nurse workforce that can provide seamless, quality care in  
5 response to federal health care reform; and  
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7 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that this collaboration will  
8 also allow the State Board of Nursing and the Professional and  
9 Vocational Licensing Division to have access to expert analyses  
10 of Hawaii State Center for Nursing data, analyze and discuss  
11 nursing workforce data, and receive valuable insight necessary  
12 to understand complex nursing issues; and  
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14 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that the Hawaii State Center  
15 for Nursing has encountered barriers, including the high cost of  
16 mailing information to licensees and concerns from the  
17 Professional and Vocational Licensing Division regarding  
18 statutory authority to release information, that have kept it  
19 from sharing workforce data and information on planned new  
20 initiatives; and  
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22 WHEREAS, in recent years, the Legislature has passed  
23 legislation requiring insurers to recognize Advance Practice  
24 Registered Nurses as primary care providers and permitting  
25 Advanced Practice Registered Nurses to practice within the full  
26 scope of their practice; and  
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28 WHEREAS, the Legislature also finds that despite passage of  
29 these barrier-breaking Acts, the provisions of these Acts have  
30 not been fully implemented by the State Board of Nursing and the  
31 Professional and Vocational Licensing Division; now, therefore,  
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33 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth  
34 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2012, the  
35 House of Representatives concurring, that the State Board of  
36 Nursing, the Professional and Vocational Licensing Division, and  
37 the Department of the Attorney General are requested to work  
38 with the Hawaii State Center for Nursing to identify barriers  
39 that have prevented the Hawaii State Center for Nursing from  
40 sharing its data and information on planned new initiatives; and  
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42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State Board of Nursing, the  
43 Professional and Vocational Licensing Division, and the  
44 Department of the Attorney General are requested to work with



1 the Hawaii State Center for Nursing to identify barriers that  
2 have prevented the State Board of Nursing and the Professional  
3 and Vocational Licensing Division from fully implementing recent  
4 legislation relating to nursing, such as legislation allowing  
5 Advanced Practice Registered Nurses to practice to the full  
6 extent of their education and training; and  
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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State Board of Nursing, the  
9 Professional and Vocational Licensing Division, the Department  
10 of the Attorney General, and the Hawaii State Center for Nursing  
11 are requested to collaborate to identify ways to remove these  
12 barriers; and  
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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State Board of Nursing, the  
15 Professional and Vocational Licensing Division, the Department  
16 of the Attorney General, and the Hawaii State Center for Nursing  
17 are requested to report to the Legislative Reference Bureau  
18 their efforts to:  
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20 (1) Identify and remove barriers that prevent the Hawaii  
21 State Center for Nursing from sharing its data; and  
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23 (2) Identify and remove barriers that prevent the State  
24 Board of Nursing and the Professional and Vocational  
25 Licensing Division from fully implementing recent  
26 legislation relating to nursing; and  
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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State Board of Nursing, the  
29 Professional and Vocational Licensing Division, the Department  
30 of the Attorney General, and the Hawaii State Center for Nursing  
31 are requested to transmit a draft report of the agencies'  
32 findings and recommendations, including any proposed  
33 legislation, to the Legislative Reference Bureau no later than  
34 November 1, 2012; and  
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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference  
37 Bureau is requested to submit a final report of the agencies'  
38 findings and recommendations, including any proposed  
39 legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior  
40 to the convening of the Regular Session of 2013; and  
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42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
43 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Attorney General,  
44 Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau, Division



- 1 Administrator of the Professional and Vocational Licensing
- 2 Division of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs,
- 3 Executive Director of the Hawaii State Center for Nursing, and
- 4 the Chairperson of the State Board of Nursing.

