
SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HAWAII STATE CENTER FOR NURSING TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP COMPOSED OF VARIOUS STATE AGENCIES TO IDENTIFY BARRIERS RELATING TO THE PRACTICE OF ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES TO THE FULL EXTENT OF THE NURSES' EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN THE STATE.

1 WHEREAS, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act
2 marks the undertaking of significant health care reform
3 throughout the country; and
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5 WHEREAS, reform efforts that increase access to care,
6 provide health care to the uninsured, and close gaps in health
7 inequalities will depend on a stable and enduring workforce that
8 can provide health care services across many settings; and
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10 WHEREAS, in 2010, a report from the Institute of Medicine
11 of the National Academies and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
12 proposed a series of recommendations to advance and strengthen
13 the United States health care system during this period of
14 change; and
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16 WHEREAS, according to the report, Advanced Practice
17 Registered Nurses should practice to the full extent of their
18 education and training, and scope of practice barriers to
19 Advanced Practice Registered Nurses should be removed; and
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21 WHEREAS, this body is dedicated to addressing the needs and
22 interests of the people of Hawaii, including ensuring that
23 quality health care is easily accessible to consumers throughout
24 the State; and
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26 WHEREAS, this body recognizes that Hawaii's physician-
27 primary care provider shortage has increased the need for
28 Advanced Practice Registered Nurses who can provide primary
29 health care; and
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31 WHEREAS, this body also recognizes that national data
32 supports the fact that Advanced Practice Registered Nurses can



1 immediately increase access to quality, cost effective care if
2 restrictions to their ability to practice are removed; and

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4 WHEREAS, in recent years, the Legislature has passed
5 legislation requiring insurers to recognize Advanced Practice
6 Registered Nurses as primary care providers and permitting
7 Advanced Practice Registered Nurses to practice within the full
8 scope of their practice; and

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10 WHEREAS, this body finds that despite passage of these
11 barrier-breaking Acts, the provisions of these Acts have not
12 been fully implemented by the responsible executive departments
13 of the State; and

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15 WHEREAS, simultaneous collaboration among state agencies is
16 needed to align and modernize their applicable state statutes
17 and administrative rules with recent legislation; and

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19 WHEREAS, these obsolete statutes will continue to
20 negatively impact Hawaii consumers until state agencies align
21 and modernize their statutes and rules for the benefit of the
22 people of Hawaii; and

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24 WHEREAS, the assistance and recommendations of the
25 Department of the Attorney General and the Legislative Reference
26 Bureau will be needed due to the scope of the required
27 revisions; and

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29 WHEREAS, there is an immediate need to ensure that the
30 State has a stable and enduring Advanced Practice Registered
31 Nurse workforce that can provide seamless, quality care in
32 response to federal health care reform, including in medically
33 underserved rural areas; now, therefore,

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35 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh
36 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2013,
37 that the Hawaii State Center for Nursing is requested to convene
38 a working group composed of various state agencies to identify
39 barriers relating to the practice of Advanced Practice
40 Registered Nurses to the full extent of the nurses' education
41 and training in the statutes and administrative rules specific
42 to their respective departments; and

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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group include
2 representatives from the following state agencies:

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- 4 (1) Department of Health;
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- 6 (2) Department of Human Services;
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- 8 (3) Department of Public Safety;
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- 10 (4) Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs;
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- 12 (5) State Board of Nursing; and
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- 14 (6) Disability and Communication Access Board; and
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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is further
17 requested to enlist the assistance of the Department of the
18 Attorney General in identifying barriers and proposing
19 amendments to remove barriers in their respective statutes and
20 administrative rules; and

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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group may enlist
23 the assistance of the Department of the Attorney General, other
24 state agencies, or professional groups as needed to complete its
25 task; and

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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
28 to transmit a draft report of the working group's findings and
29 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
30 Legislative Reference Bureau no later than November 1, 2013; and

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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference
33 Bureau is requested to submit a final report of the agencies'
34 findings and recommendations, including any proposed
35 legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior
36 to the convening of the Regular Session of 2014; and

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38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
39 Resolution be transmitted to the Attorney General, Director of
40 the Legislative Reference Bureau, Director of Health, Director
41 of Human Services, Director of Public Safety, Division
42 Administrator of the Professional and Vocational Licensing
43 Division of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs,
44 Executive Director of the Disability and Communication Access



1 Board, Executive Director of the Hawaii State Center for
2 Nursing, State Board of Nursing, and Hawaii Association of
3 Professional Nurses.
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