REQUESTING THE JOHN A. BURNS SCHOOL OF MEDICINE TO CONVENE A CHRONIC DISEASE WORKING GROUP TO DISCUSS NUTRITION AND LIFESTYLE BEHAVIOR FOR THE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF CHRONIC DISEASE.

WHEREAS, the United States devotes far more of its economy to health than any other country; and

WHEREAS, in 2013, United States health care spending reached $2,900,000,000,000, or about $9,255 per resident; and

WHEREAS, chronic diseases are a substantial factor in this cost escalation; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that preventable diseases account for approximately seventy-five percent of national health expenditures; and

WHEREAS, in 2010 the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that seven of the top ten causes of death among Americans were from chronic diseases; and

WHEREAS, changes in nutrition and lifestyle behavior are a key part of the solution to managing chronic disease and moderating future healthcare costs; and

WHEREAS, physicians are uniquely positioned to educate patients about the links among chronic disease, diet, and physical activity yet fewer than twenty-five percent of physicians believe they have sufficient training to talk to patients about nutrition and physical activity; and

WHEREAS, less than one-eighth of medical visits include nutrition counseling; and
WHEREAS, more than one-half of medical school graduates do not believe the nutrition education they receive is sufficient for medical practice; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2017, the House of Representatives concurring, that the John. A. Burns School of Medicine is requested to convene a chronic disease working group; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the chronic disease working group include interested parties and discuss nutrition and lifestyle behavior changes for the prevention and treatment of chronic disease, including exploring the potential benefits of:

(1) Periodically disseminating information and educational material regarding the prevention and treatment of chronic disease, through the application of changes in nutrition and lifestyle behavior, to each licensed physician and surgeon and each hospital in the State; and

(2) Setting content standards for continuing education requirements concerning chronic disease, including appropriate information on prevention of chronic disease, and treatment of patients with chronic disease through changes in nutrition and lifestyle behavior; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the chronic disease working group convene no later than July 1, 2018; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the chronic disease working group is requested to submit a report, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2019; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Dean of the John A. Burns School of Medicine and Director of Health.

OFFERED BY:

[Signatures]

[Names]

[Names]