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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE BOARD OF PHARMACY TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO REVIEW THE CURRENT SCOPE OF PRACTICE, LICENSING REQUIREMENTS, AND CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR PHARMACISTS AND CONSIDER WHETHER THE SCOPE OF PRACTICE AND CORRESPONDING LICENSING REQUIREMENTS FOR PHARMACISTS SHOULD BE ENHANCED.

1           WHEREAS, there is a need for more access to health care  
2 professionals, particularly registered pharmacists, who can  
3 safely provide certain health care services and achieve positive  
4 health outcomes for patients; and

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6           WHEREAS, pharmacists have more direct access to patients  
7 than other health care professionals, which can help resolve  
8 public health issues with a minimal impact to the overall health  
9 system; and

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11           WHEREAS, advances in technology have changed the delivery  
12 of health care over the last thirty years and as a result, the  
13 definition of "practice of pharmacy" under existing law is no  
14 longer accurate; and

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16           WHEREAS, pharmacy education has also increased over the  
17 years, from an apprentice program to a six-year doctorate  
18 program that includes education assessment training and a year  
19 working as a pharmacist intern; and

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21           WHEREAS, pharmacy education now also includes immunization  
22 and smoking cessation training, along with other specialty  
23 training, which ensures pharmacists are well prepared to provide  
24 appropriate health care services to patients; and

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26           WHEREAS, pharmacists have had a positive impact on public  
27 health throughout the State and now immunize more patients than  
28 any other health care professional, which has increased the



1 State's immunization rate, thereby reducing disease and  
2 morbidity in the overall population; and

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4 WHEREAS, registered pharmacists who receive proper  
5 training, working under written protocols, can:

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7 (1) Provide health care services, such as furnishing  
8 Naloxone and Epi-pens;

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10 (2) Administer immunizations and vaccines for bacterial  
11 and viral infections, such as influenza, pneumonia,  
12 and Hepatitis A;

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14 (3) Furnish and counsel patients on self-administered  
15 hormonal contraception and smoking cessation  
16 replacement therapy; and

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18 (4) Order and perform laboratory tests to determine  
19 appropriate medication use and outcomes; and

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21 WHEREAS, the disciplines of medicine, nursing, and  
22 naturopathy are complemented by registered pharmacists, who are  
23 an essential part of a primary health care team; and

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25 WHEREAS, House Bill No. 1950, H.D. 2, introduced during the  
26 Regular Session of 2018, proposes to amend the definition of  
27 "practice of pharmacy" to expand the scope of services and  
28 specific medications that pharmacists may furnish; now,  
29 therefore,

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31 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth  
32 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2018, the  
33 House of Representatives concurring, that the Board of Pharmacy  
34 is requested to convene a working group to review the current  
35 scope of practice, licensing requirements, and continuing  
36 education requirements for pharmacists and consider whether the  
37 scope of practice and corresponding licensing requirements for  
38 pharmacists should be enhanced; and

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40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is also  
41 requested to:

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- 1 (1) Gather information on other state laws and regulations  
2 relating to the practice of pharmacy or scope of  
3 practice of pharmacists;  
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- 5 (2) Review and recommend implementation of pharmacist best  
6 practices to promote access to pharmacists who can  
7 address public health issues;  
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- 9 (3) Review and recommend, if necessary, any additional  
10 education, training, or licensing requirements to  
11 enhance pharmacists' scope of practice and  
12 responsibilities; and  
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- 14 (4) Clarify the definition of "furnishing" health care  
15 services or medications and "standing orders", as  
16 these terms appear in House Bill No. 1950, H.D. 2,  
17 Regular Session of 2018; and  
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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group be composed  
20 of the following members:  
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- 22 (1) The Chairperson of the Board of Pharmacy;  
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- 24 (2) A representative from the Communicable Disease and  
25 Public Health Nursing Division of the Department of  
26 Health;  
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- 28 (3) A representative from the Hawaii Pharmacists  
29 Association;  
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- 31 (4) A representative from the Daniel K. Inouye College of  
32 Pharmacy, University of Hawai'i at Hilo;  
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- 34 (5) A representative from the Hawaii Medical Association;  
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- 36 (6) A representative from a retail/chain store pharmacy;  
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- 38 (7) A representative from a community pharmacy;  
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- 40 (8) A representative from a hospital pharmacy; and  
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1 (9) A representative from the local health insurance  
2 industry; and  
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested  
5 to submit a report of its findings and recommendations,  
6 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later  
7 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session  
8 of 2019; and  
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
11 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Commerce  
12 and Consumer Affairs and Director of Health.

