
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE CONVENING OF A WORKING GROUP TO DETERMINE THE GAPS IN ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE AND THE SCOPE OF CARE OF ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii's health care system is in crisis due to
2 the severe shortage of physicians in the State; and
3

4 WHEREAS, according to the Hawai'i Physician Workforce
5 Assessment Project study conducted in 2020 by the Area Health
6 Education Center of Hawaii at the University of Hawaii, the gap
7 between supply and demand for doctors in Hawaii has grown by
8 sixty-five percent since 2010; and
9

10 WHEREAS, the biennial Hawai'i Physician Workforce Assessment
11 Project study also reported a current shortage of eight hundred
12 twenty physicians statewide, with the neighbor islands hardest
13 affected; and
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15 WHEREAS, there is a physician shortfall of sixteen percent
16 on Oahu, compared to a forty-four percent shortfall for the
17 island of Hawaii, thirty-six percent for Maui County, and
18 thirty-two percent for the island of Kauai; and
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20 WHEREAS, advanced practice registered nurses may assist in
21 increasing the supply of health care providers, especially for
22 the neighbor islands and rural areas in the State; and
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24 WHEREAS, studies show that advanced practice registered
25 nurses are competent and able to perform many health care
26 procedures that physicians perform; and
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28 WHEREAS, it is appropriate and necessary for the State to
29 determine the scope of care that advanced practice registered
30 nurses may perform or provide; now, therefore,



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1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
2 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
3 of 2021, that the Board of Nursing and Hawaii Medical Board are
4 requested to convene a working group to determine the gaps in
5 access to health care and the scope of care that advanced
6 practice registered nurses may be allowed to perform or provide;
7 and
8

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task of the working group
10 is requested to include:
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- 12 (1) The gaps and limitations that exist in providing
13 access to health care, especially on the neighbor
14 islands and in rural communities;
15
- 16 (2) The scope of procedures and care that advanced
17 practice registered nurses should be allowed to
18 provide;
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- 20 (3) A comparative study of the scope of practice of
21 advanced practice registered nurses in other states
22 and Hawaii; and
23
- 24 (4) An evaluation of how advanced practice registered
25 nurses would increase equitable access to health care
26 on the neighbor islands and in rural areas in the
27 State; and
28

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
30 to comprise the following members, or their designees:
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- 32 (1) The Chairperson of the Board of Nursing, who is
33 requested to serve as a co-chair of the working group;
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- 35 (2) The Chairperson of the Hawaii Medical Board, who is
36 requested to serve as a co-chair of the working group;
37
- 38 (3) The Dean of the University of Hawaii at Manoa John A.
39 Burns School of Medicine;



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- 1 (4) The Dean of the University of Hawaii at Manoa School
- 2 of Nursing and Dental Hygiene;
- 3
- 4 (5) The Director of Health;
- 5
- 6 (6) The Director of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing;
- 7
- 8 (7) The President of the Hawai'i Psychological Association;
- 9
- 10 (8) The President of the Hawaii Association of
- 11 Professional Nurses;
- 12
- 13 (9) One member to be designated by the Senate President;
- 14 and
- 15
- 16 (10) One member to be designated by the Speaker of the
- 17 House of Representatives; and
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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested

20 to submit a report of its findings and recommendations,

21 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later

22 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session

23 of 2022; and

24

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested

26 to dissolve on June 30, 2022; and

27

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this

29 Resolution be transmitted to the Dean of the University of

30 Hawaii at Manoa John A. Burns School of Medicine, Dean of the

31 University of Hawaii at Manoa School of Nursing and Dental

32 Hygiene, Director of Health, Chairperson of the Board of

33 Nursing, Chairperson of the Hawaii Medical Board, Director of

34 the Hawaii State Center for Nursing, President of the Hawaii

35 Psychological Association, and President of the Hawaii

36 Association of Professional Nurses.

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OFFERED BY: *Lia Kitagawa*

MAR 12 2021

