

MAR 10 2023

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HAWAII STATE CENTER FOR NURSING TO CONVENE A
WORKING GROUP TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY AND IMPACT OF THE
STATE ADOPTING THE NURSE LICENSURE COMPACT.

1 WHEREAS, according to the United States Bureau of Labor
2 Statistics, the registered nursing workforce is expected to grow
3 by six percent over the next decade, from 3.1 million in 2021 to
4 3.3 million in 2031, an increase of 195,400 nurses; and

5
6 WHEREAS, the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics
7 projects 203,200 openings nationwide each year through 2031 for
8 registered nurses; and

9
10 WHEREAS, according to the Hawaii State Center for Nursing,
11 there are fifteen thousand seventy-two licensed registered
12 nurses living and practicing in the State; and

13
14 WHEREAS, according to the Healthcare Association of Hawaii,
15 there were approximately one thousand vacant registered nursing
16 positions in Hawaii in 2022, and, according to the Hawaii State
17 Center for Nursing, sixteen percent of registered nurses plan to
18 retire in the next five years; and

19
20 WHEREAS, during the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic,
21 hospitals, nursing facilities, and other health care practices
22 faced nursing shortages, and those shortages continue to persist
23 today; and

24
25 WHEREAS, shortages in the local nursing workforce require
26 health care facilities to recruit traveling nurses, the
27 employment of which is often costly to the State; and

28
29 WHEREAS, the State and local health care systems continue
30 to invest in growing the local nursing and health care
31 professional workforce through expanded educational
32 opportunities, incentives, and other investments; and



1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42

WHEREAS, the Nurse Licensure Compact would enable:

- (1) Nurses to practice in person or provide telenursing services to patients located across the country without needing to obtain additional licenses;
- (2) Nurses to work across state borders and provide vital services in the event of a disaster; and
- (3) Nurses who are spouses of active duty military personnel to seamlessly continue working without needing to obtain a new license each time they relocate, thus expanding the nursing workforce; and

WHEREAS, as of March 2023, thirty-nine jurisdictions have adopted the Nurse Licensure Compact; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023, the House of Representatives concurring, that the Hawaii State Center for Nursing is requested to convene a working group to study the feasibility and impact of the State adopting the Nurse Licensure Compact; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii State Center for Nursing is requested to invite the following individuals to serve as members of the working group:

- (1) The Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, or the Director's designee;
- (2) A representative from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs' Regulated Industries Complaints Office;
- (3) A representative from the Board of Nursing;
- (4) The Chairs of the Senate Standing Committees on Commerce and Consumer Protection and Health and Human Services, or the Chairs' designees;



- 1 (5) The Chairs of the House Standing Committees on
2 Consumer Protection and Commerce and Health and
3 Homelessness, or the Chairs' designees;
4
- 5 (6) A representative from the Healthcare Association of
6 Hawaii;
7
- 8 (7) A representative from the Hawaii Government Employees
9 Association;
10
- 11 (8) A representative from the Hawaii Association of Health
12 Plans; and
13
- 14 (9) A representative from the American Nurses Association
15 - Hawaii Chapter; and
16

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study is requested to
18 identify and assess the Nurse Licensure Compact's potential
19 impacts relating to:

- 20
- 21 (1) The State's nursing workforce;
22
- 23 (2) Fiscal obligations of the State, including any fees or
24 other costs;
25
- 26 (3) The potential for workforce migration into and out of
27 the State, including job transfers, travel nursing,
28 and telehealth nursing;
29
- 30 (4) The regulation of out-of-state nurses, including
31 recouping costs arising from investigations of
32 consumer complaints or other disciplinary actions;
33
- 34 (5) Disciplinary actions taken against a nurse with a
35 multistate licensure privilege;
36
- 37 (6) Health care workforce research and planning efforts;
38
- 39 (7) Differences in licensure renewal and competency
40 requirements between member states;
41



1 (8) Jurisdiction and regulatory oversight of nurses in the
2 State; and

3
4 (9) Any other matters that the working group deems
5 applicable to the evaluation of the State's adoption
6 of the Nurse Licensure Compact; and
7

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
9 to submit a report of its findings and recommendations,
10 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later
11 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session
12 of 2024; and
13

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
15 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Commerce
16 and Consumer Affairs, Complaints and Enforcement Officer of the
17 Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs' Regulated
18 Industries Complaints Office, Chairperson of the Board of
19 Nursing, President of the Senate, Speaker of the House of
20 Representatives, Chair of the Senate Standing Committee on
21 Commerce and Consumer Protection, Chair of the Senate Standing
22 Committee on Health and Human Services, Chair of the House
23 Standing Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce, Chair of
24 the House Standing Committee on Health and Homelessness,
25 President and Chief Executive Officer of the Healthcare
26 Association of Hawaii, President of the Hawaii Government
27 Employees Association, President of the Hawaii Association of
28 Health Plans, and Executive Director of the American Nurses
29 Association - Hawaii Chapter.
30
31
32

OFFERED BY: 

