
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH CARE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that there is a growing
2 shortage of health care professionals in Hawaii, especially on
3 the neighbor islands and in rural areas. The state's rapidly
4 aging population will significantly increase the demand for
5 health care services and long-term care. As the general
6 population ages, so does the health care workforce, exacerbating
7 the growing shortage of providers. In addition, low
8 reimbursement rates, issues related to living and working in
9 remote communities, challenging working conditions, and the cost
10 of medical malpractice insurance continue to create barriers to
11 recruitment and retention of health care providers, especially
12 in certain specialty areas.

13 Even if people have health insurance, they are often unable
14 to access appropriate care. A fully staffed, well-trained
15 health care workforce is a key component in providing quality
16 health care to all Hawaii residents.



1 The purpose of this Act is to develop and maintain a
2 statewide comprehensive health care workforce map and database
3 to:

4 (1) Compile and analyze existing data on the supply and
5 distribution of all health care practitioners,
6 technicians, and other health care workers by
7 specialty and practice location;

8 (2) Develop a plan to collect and systematically update
9 data; and

10 (3) Project and develop a plan to meet future health care
11 workforce needs.

12 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$500,000 or so much
14 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2006-2007 for the
15 state health planning and development agency to develop and
16 maintain a statewide comprehensive health care workforce map and
17 database.

18 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
19 health for the purposes of this Act.

20 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2006.

SB 3283
SD1 HD1

Report Title:

Health Care Workforce; Map; Database; Supply and Distribution

Description:

Establishes a statewide comprehensive health care workforce map and database to compile and analyze data on the supply and distribution of all health care workers by specialty and practice location. Appropriates funds. (SB3283 HD1)

