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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO NURSING EDUCATION.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that numerous studies  
2 have recognized a national shortage of qualified nurses that  
3 will reach a twenty per cent staffing shortfall by the year  
4 2020. In 2006, Hawaii experienced a shortage of 960 registered  
5 nurses that is estimated to grow to 2,220 by 2016 and 2,670 by  
6 2020. A nursing shortage jeopardizes the quality of health care  
7 provided in hospitals, nursing homes, hospices, clinics, and  
8 other health care settings. Without enough registered nurses,  
9 patient safety is at risk with rural and underserved communities  
10 being most affected.

11           The nursing shortage is exacerbated by the increasing aging  
12 population. Hawaii's population is aging faster than the rest  
13 of the country. Between 2000 and 2020, the number of people age  
14 sixty and older will increase by almost seventy-five per cent.  
15 Hawaii's registered nurse workforce is also aging, with an  
16 increasing number of registered nurses anticipated to retire.  
17 Estimates indicate that by 2015, thirty-one per cent of Hawaii's



1 registered nurse workforce will retire. By 2020, sixty-one per  
2 cent of Hawaii's current workforce will retire. The already  
3 significant shortage of registered nurses will worsen.

4 The legislature finds that the key to promoting health in  
5 Hawaii are efforts to increase the educational capacity of the  
6 State's nursing programs that are impacted by the number of  
7 faculty and support positions to admit additional students and  
8 by adequate facilities. Increasing faculty training and nursing  
9 graduates requires a minimum of two to five years. More  
10 teaching staff would enable admittance of additional students to  
11 expand learning resource opportunities to satisfy growing  
12 demands. The legislature finds that an ongoing and strategic  
13 public sector approach is necessary to sustain a robust,  
14 qualified nursing workforce to meet Hawaii's health care needs  
15 into the future.

16 The legislature agrees with the University of Hawaii  
17 statewide nursing consortium's commitment to maximize the  
18 State's investment in nursing education, without unnecessary  
19 duplication among the various campuses. The legislature  
20 recognizes that the University of Hawaii plays a vital role in  
21 nursing workforce development in Hawaii.



1           The purpose of this Act is to make appropriations to the  
2 University of Hawaii to hire more nursing faculty and support  
3 positions, provide nursing scholarships and loans, increase  
4 facilities, advance the work of the statewide nursing  
5 consortium, and provide distance learning.

6           SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
7 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$4,015,538, or so  
8 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, for  
9 the University of Hawaii to hire additional nursing personnel  
10 for the various campuses, as follows:

11           (1) School of nursing and dental hygiene, University of  
12 Hawaii at Manoa: faculty, program, and student  
13 services program support to expand Manoa nursing  
14 courses to the leeward-side (at Leeward community  
15 college) and to develop an innovative course of study  
16 providing a second career master's program:

17                           18 positions (2007-2008)                           \$2,000,000

18           (2) Kapiolani community college: faculty and student  
19 services program support to expand enrollment:

20                           4 positions (2007-2008)                           \$263,888

21           (3) Hawaii community college: faculty and student  
22 services program support to expand enrollment:



1                   5 positions (2007-2008)                   \$342,750

2           (4) Maui community college: Faculty and student services  
3           program support to expand enrollment:

4                   8.5 positions (2007-2008)                   \$606,625

5           (5) Kauai community college: Faculty and student services  
6           program support to expand enrollment:

7                   5 positions (2007-2008)                   \$365,875

8           (6) University of Hawaii at Hilo: Faculty and student  
9           services program support to expand enrollment:

10                   6 positions (2007-2008)                   \$436,400

11           SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
12 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$100,000, or so much  
13 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and the  
14 same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
15 2008-2009, for the University of Hawaii to create a graduate  
16 nursing faculty loan program with loan forgiveness for those who  
17 work as faculty in the State of Hawaii after graduation;  
18 provided that to be eligible for the graduate nursing faculty  
19 loan the individual shall be a Hawaii resident and enrolled at a  
20 University of Hawaii nursing program as a full or part-time  
21 student in a master of science in nursing program; provided  
22 further that the program shall allow loan forgiveness of \$5,000



1 a year for up to five years; provided further that for every  
2 year of loan forgiveness, the recipient shall work for one year  
3 as a nurse educator at the University of Hawaii.

4 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general  
5 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$500,000, or so much  
6 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and the  
7 same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
8 2008-2009, for the University of Hawaii to create a nursing  
9 student scholarship program; provided that to be eligible for  
10 the nursing student scholarship program, the individual shall be  
11 enrolled as a full or part-time student in a University of  
12 Hawaii associate, bachelor's, master's, or doctoral degree  
13 nursing program; provided further that need and merit, including  
14 class rank, grade point average, and service activities, shall  
15 be considered in selecting recipients.

16 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general  
17 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$750,000, or so much  
18 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and the  
19 same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
20 2008-2009, for the University of Hawaii at Manoa school of  
21 nursing and dental hygiene to conduct facility planning and  
22 development, and tasks necessary to expand the school's physical



1 facility to provide optimal educational experiences and for  
2 students to participate in cross disciplinary education with  
3 other students in the health sciences, and provide temporary  
4 classrooms for all nursing programs.

5 SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general  
6 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$545,000, or so much  
7 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and the  
8 same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
9 2008-2009, for the University of Hawaii statewide nursing  
10 consortium to undertake implementation of a statewide nursing  
11 curriculum utilizing a statewide distance-learning network to  
12 all islands that will prepare students with the competencies to  
13 address the rapidly changing health care needs of the State;  
14 provided that funding shall support personnel and staff  
15 positions for the curriculum development phase and expenses to  
16 convert existing classroom space and purchase equipment to  
17 establish a distance learning center on each island; provided  
18 further that distance learning centers shall expand the current  
19 distance learning modalities to offer the statewide curriculum;  
20 provided further that the University of Hawaii at Manoa school  
21 of nursing and dental hygiene shall administer the funding and  
22 coordinate the activities of the consortium.



1           SECTION 7. The sums appropriated in this Act shall be  
2 expended by the University of Hawaii for the purposes of this  
3 Act.

4           SECTION 8. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.



**Report Title:**

UH; Nursing Education Workforce Development; Appropriation

**Description:**

Makes appropriations to University of Hawaii campuses to implement nursing education workforce development. (SD1)

