
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE UNITED NATIONS, AND THE CONGRESS AND PRESIDENT OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES TO TAKE AFFIRMATIVE ACTION TO
PROMOTE THE NURSING PROFESSION AND PREVENT THE EXPLOITATION
OF FILIPINO NURSES.

1 WHEREAS, there are nearly 300,000 Philippine-born nurses
2 working abroad, according to World Health Organization; and
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4 WHEREAS, according to the National Institutes of Health in
5 Manila, the Philippines already is the largest exporter of
6 nurses in the world; and
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8 WHEREAS, there is evidence expatriation is rising because
9 Filipinos speak English and are educated in an American-based
10 school system, and are highly motivated to work abroad; and
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12 WHEREAS, nursing graduates need to have one year of
13 practical work experience in order to be eligible to work
14 abroad; and
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16 WHEREAS, there have been reports that hospitals and medical
17 centers in the Philippines has exacted fees from young nursing
18 graduates in order to work in the hospital to earn their one
19 year experience; and
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21 WHEREAS, the advancement of Filipino nurses abroad can be
22 enhanced if the Republic of the Philippines would provide
23 safeguards and enforcement of laws that prohibit the "pay to
24 work" program and this type of exploitation and slavery of
25 nursing graduates; now, therefore,
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27 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
28 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
29 of 2009, the Senate concurring, requesting the United Nations,
30 and the Congress and President of the Republic of the



1 Philippines, the Philippines Chamber of Commerce and Philippines
2 hospitals and medical centers to take affirmative action to
3 promote the nursing profession and prevent the exploitation of
4 Filipino nurses who need to obtain one year of work experience
5 to apply for nursing jobs abroad; and
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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
8 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Congress and the
9 President of the Republic of the Philippines and the United
10 Nations.
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