
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PHYSICIAN WORKFORCE ASSESSMENT.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the State's
2 population growth and rapidly aging population will
3 significantly increase the demand for physician services.
4 Hawaii's physician workforce is also aging. Federal statistics
5 show that over a third of the State's physicians are fifty-five
6 years of age or older and can be expected to leave the workforce
7 at a time when demand is escalating. Furthermore, physician
8 shortages will likely reduce access to care, particularly for
9 neighbor island residents, the elderly, and the indigent
10 statewide. Physician workforce shortages will also
11 significantly raise the already high cost of medical care. In
12 2006, the federal government projected an across-the-board
13 national physician shortage by the year 2020. Medical
14 specialties whose physicians serve a large proportion of the
15 elderly, such as ophthalmology and cardiology, may experience
16 shortages ranging from thirty to fifty per cent. Many states



1 have published internal studies that similarly forecast
2 physician shortages.

3 The legislature finds it prudent to assess Hawaii's
4 physician workforce on a continual basis. On-going assessments
5 based on reliable physician workforce data will support
6 proactive measures to prevent or ameliorate the impact of
7 physician shortages in Hawaii.

8 The purpose of this Act is to implement statewide physician
9 workforce assessment and planning.

10 SECTION 2. Chapter 304A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
11 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
12 and to read as follows:

13 **"§304A- John A. Burns school of medicine special fund.**

14 (a) There is established the John A. Burns school of medicine
15 special fund, to be administered and expended by the University
16 of Hawaii.

17 (b) The following shall be deposited into the special
18 fund:

19 (1) Appropriations by the legislature;

20 (2) Physician workforce assessment fees established
21 pursuant to section 453- ;



1 (3) Grants, donations, gifts, or other income received for
2 the purposes of the special fund; and

3 (4) Interest earned or accrued on moneys in the special
4 fund.

5 (c) Moneys in the special fund shall be used to support
6 the John A. Burns school of medicine's activities related to
7 physician workforce assessment and planning within Hawaii. This
8 shall include but not be limited to maintaining accurate
9 physician workforce assessment information and providing or
10 updating personal and professional information, that shall be
11 maintained in a secure database. The John A. Burns school of
12 medicine may disclose information specific to any physician only
13 with the express written consent of that physician."

14 SECTION 3. Chapter 453, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
15 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
16 and to read as follows:

17 "**§453- Physician workforce assessment fee; license;**
18 **physician workforce information.** When a license is renewed,
19 each physician or surgeon and each osteopathic physician or
20 surgeon shall be assessed a fee of \$ that shall be deposited
21 into the John A. Burns school of medicine special fund
22 established under section 304A- to support ongoing assessment



1 and planning of the physician workforce in Hawaii. Payment of
2 the physician workforce assessment fee shall be required for
3 license renewal."

4 SECTION 4. The director of commerce and consumer affairs
5 shall disburse on a quarterly basis from the compliance
6 resolution fund, established pursuant to section 26-9(o), Hawaii
7 Revised Statutes, to the credit of the John A. Burns school of
8 medicine special fund established pursuant to section 304A- ,
9 Hawaii Revised Statutes, all moneys deposited in the separate
10 account established pursuant to section 453- .

11 SECTION 5. The John A. Burns school of medicine shall
12 submit a report of findings and recommendations detailing its
13 assessment of the physician workforce to the legislature, the
14 state health planning and development agency, and the Hawaii
15 medical board no later than twenty days prior to the convening
16 of the regular session of 2011 and each odd-numbered year
17 thereafter. The report to the Hawaii medical board shall also
18 include information on the expenditure of fees collected
19 pursuant to section 453- , Hawaii Revised Statutes, to produce
20 a physician workforce plan for Hawaii.

21 SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general
22 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ so much



1 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2009-2010 and the
2 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
3 2010-2011 to implement statewide physician workforce assessment
4 and planning as provided in this Act.

5 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the John A.
6 Burns school of medicine of the University of Hawaii for the
7 purposes of this Act.

8 SECTION 7. There is appropriated out of the compliance
9 resolution fund the sum of \$ or so much thereof as may be
10 necessary for fiscal year 2009-2010 and the same sum or so much
11 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2010-2011 to be
12 deposited into the John A. Burns school of medicine special
13 fund. These sums shall be reimbursed from the John A. Burns
14 school of medicine special fund to the compliance resolution
15 fund by July 1, 2010.

16 SECTION 8. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
17 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

18 SECTION 9. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2010;
19 provided that sections 3 and 4 shall be repealed on June 30,
20 2012.



Report Title:

Physician Workforce Assessment and Planning

Description:

Creates John A. Burns school of medicine special fund; establishes a physician workforce assessment fee to renew physician and osteopathic physician licenses. Transfers those fees from compliance resolution fund for deposit to the special fund for Hawaii physician workforce assessment information. Appropriates funds. Requires annual and biennial reports. Repeals the physician workforce assessment fee and the transfer of fees from the compliance resolution fund on June 30, 2012. (SB43 HD1)

