

Honolulu, Hawaii

Feb 6, 2009

RE: H.B. No. 343

H.D. 1

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Fifth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2009
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred H.B. No. 343
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO RURAL PRIMARY HEALTH CARE
TRAINING,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to provide relief to medically
underserved areas of the state by increasing the number of primary
care health providers in rural areas of Hawaii through the:

- 1) Development of a statewide Rural Primary Health Care
Training Program (Program); and
- 2) Expansion of the University of Hawaii John A. Burns
School of Medicine's (JABSOM) Family Residency Program
to provide rural primary health care services.

JABSOM, the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC), HHSC's
Hilo Medical Center Medical Group Practice Director, County of
Hawaii, Hawaii Medical Association, Hawaii Primary Care
Association, Hawaii Medical Service Association, League of Women
Voters of Hawaii, and Hawaii Association for Justice supported
this bill.



Your Committee has amended this bill by:

- (1) Including the four major counties of the state to participate in the development of the Program, beginning with the County of Hawaii;
- (2) Appropriating an unspecified amount for JABSOM's Family Medicine Residence Program and the statewide Rural Primary Health Care Training Program;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2020, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive changes for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 343, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 343, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Higher Education.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Health,



RYAN I. YAMANE, Chair



