

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 422

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 20 2009

RE: S.B. No. 169  
S.D. 1

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Fifth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2009  
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred S.B. No. 169  
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HAWAII HEALTH CORPS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Hawaii Health  
Corps, a program that will provide stipends for physicians and  
dentists who agree to provide a minimum of three years of service  
in health professional shortage areas of the State.

Testimony in support of this measure was submitted by the  
State Council on Developmental Disabilities, Hawaii Medical  
Services Association, Hawaii Primary Care Association, Healthy  
Mothers Healthy Babies, and the Hawaii Dental Hygienists'  
Association. Testimony in opposition of this measure was  
submitted by the Department of Health. Copies of written  
testimony are available for review on the Legislature's website.

Your Committee finds that changes in demographics, the  
delivery of health care services, and the escalating costs of  
education have resulted in severe shortages of health care  
professionals. A poor distribution of health care professionals  
has resulted in a surplus of these professionals in some areas of  
the State and a shortage in other parts of the State, particularly  
in the more rural areas. The rural shortage areas often require  
more services because the health care needs are greater due to  
socio-economic or geographic circumstances. The shortage of  
health care professionals is compounded as the salary potential



for areas of shortage is often not as favorable when compared to non-shortage areas. This results in many health care practitioners being financially unable to serve in those shortage areas.

This measure is intended to alleviate the problem of health professional shortage areas by establishing a Hawaii Health Corps Program to encourage physicians and dentists to serve in areas of the State where there is a shortage of health care professionals.

Your Committee has amended this measure by substituting a similar measure, Senate Bill No. 416, relating to the Hawaii health corps program. Your Committee has retained the provisions of Senate Bill 169 (2009), relating to Hawaii Health Corps first responder service obligation; Hawaii health corps special fund; stipends; and an appropriation.

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 S.B. No. 169, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 169, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

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

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
DAVID Y. IGE, Chair



The Senate  
Twenty-Fifth Legislature  
State of Hawaii

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Health**  
**HTH**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SB 169	HTH, WAM	2-18-9		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is:				
<input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
IGE, David Y. (C)	✓			
GREEN, M.D., Josh (VC)	✓			
BAKER, Rosalyn H.	✓			
ESPERO, Will	✓			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.	✓			
HEMMINGS, Fred	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original                      Yellow                      Pink                      Goldenrod File with Committee Report                      Clerk's Office                      Drafting Agency                      Committee File Copy				

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes