
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE CENTER FOR NURSING TO EVALUATE THE NEED AND
RESOURCES REQUIRED TO ESTABLISH A CONTINUING EDUCATION
PROGRAM FOR NURSES.

1 WHEREAS, section 457-9(b), Hawaii Revised Statutes,
2 provides that a nurse who has not actively practiced in this
3 State or any other state in the United States or any territory
4 or possession under the jurisdiction of the United States for
5 more than five years may be required to submit proof of
6 continued competency by retaking and passing the licensing
7 examination or successfully completing a refresher course
8 approved by the State Board of Nursing; and
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10 WHEREAS, section 16-89C-20(a)(2), Hawaii Administrative
11 Rules, requires advanced practice registered nurses with
12 prescriptive authority to submit proof of successfully completing
13 thirty contact hours of continuing education including eight
14 hours of advanced pharmacology to renew prescriptive authority;
15 and
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17 WHEREAS, advanced practice registered nurses without
18 prescriptive authority, registered nurses, and licensed
19 practical nurses are not required to submit proof of having
20 completed continuing education to renew their licenses; and
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22 WHEREAS, nursing careers take widely divergent paths,
23 varying by professional role, setting, clients, disease
24 conditions, and therapeutic modalities as well as level of
25 health care delivery; and
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27 WHEREAS, there is an inherent evolution of practice from
28 the new graduate-entry-generalist level to the experienced-
29 focused practice level of competence; and
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31 WHEREAS, the need and the costs involved in implementing an
32 effective mandatory continuing education program for twenty-four
33 thousand nurses licensed in the State need to be assessed; and
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1 WHEREAS, the costs as they relate to anticipated financial
2 resources need to be assessed; and

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4 WHEREAS, the cost for an effective, mandatory continuing
5 education program which may result in increased fees to the
6 nurses and possible increased costs to consumers need to be
7 assessed to determine whether the benefits to the nurses, the
8 employers, and the public outweigh the costs; and

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10 WHEREAS, continuing education requirements must be
11 administratively feasible, cost-effective, and equitably applied
12 and enforced; and

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14 WHEREAS, the continuing education program should include
15 the descriptions of proposed offerings, the objectives, the
16 intended audience, faculty credentials, the administrative
17 structure, sources of financial support, the recordkeeping
18 mechanism, and a valid method of evaluation; and

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20 WHEREAS, an adequate phase-in period proposed to allow
21 educational institutions, employers, and professionals
22 sufficient time to meet the mandatory continuing education
23 requirements needs to be determined; and

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25 WHEREAS, the National Council of State Boards of Nursing
26 explored the characteristics of registered and licensed
27 practical or vocational nursing from entry through five years of
28 practice; now, therefore,

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30 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
31 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
32 of 2010, that the Center for Nursing is requested to:

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34 (1) Evaluate whether there is a demonstrated need for
35 mandatory continuing education and whether there is
36 documented evidence that problems exist because of
37 actual performance deficiencies, rather than
38 inadequacies in supervision, facilities, financial
39 resources, or equipment, are responsible for
40 unacceptable professional performance;
- 41
42 (2) Identify the resources required to ensure proper
43 delivery, monitoring, and compliance of the program,
44 including funds for additional program operation such



1 as qualified staff, space, materials, and equipment,
2 and the identification and weighing of the cost
3 impacts on the professional, the employer, and the
4 educational institution;

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- 6 (3) Identify the availability of the needed resources to
7 establish a continuing education program for twenty-
8 four thousand nurses licensed in Hawaii;
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- 10 (4) Perform a comprehensive examination of the
11 characteristics of post-entry nursing practice and how
12 the characteristics change over time;
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- 14 (5) Identify the chronologic evolution of nursing
15 practice;
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- 17 (6) Evaluate how factors specific to the individual nurse
18 (e.g., age, gender, type of basic nursing educational
19 program, propensity for self-study, specialty area,
20 work setting, etc.) influence the evolution of
21 practice;
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- 23 (7) Identify the determinants of safe post-entry practice,
24 including the characteristics of safe versus unsafe
25 practice;
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- 27 (8) Identify a professional program suitable for analyzing
28 the training and educational needs of nurses and for
29 evaluating competence on the basis of current practice
30 criteria; and
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- 32 (9) Identify the fiscal impacts on the State, the public,
33 the nurse, the employer, and the educational system of
34 establishing and maintaining a mandatory continuing
35 education system; and
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37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Center for Nursing is
38 requested to establish a joint advisory committee that includes
39 the following persons as members:

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- 41 (1) A representative from each of the following Hawaii
42 schools of nursing:
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- 1 (A) University of Hawaii at Manoa;
- 2
- 3 (B) Hawaii Pacific University;
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- 5 (C) University of Hawaii at Hilo;
- 6
- 7 (D) Kapiolani Community College;
- 8
- 9 (E) Maui Community College;
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- 11 (F) Kauai Community College;
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- 13 (G) Hawaii Community College; and
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- 15 (H) University of Phoenix; and
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- 17 (2) A representative from each of the following
- 18 organizations or associations:
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- 20 (A) Hawaii Association of Nurse Anesthetists;
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- 22 (B) Hawaii Association of Nurse Executives;
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- 24 (C) Hawaii Association of Professional Nurses;
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- 26 (D) Hawaii Long Term Care Association;
- 27
- 28 (E) Hawaii Nurses Association;
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- 30 (F) Healthcare Association of Hawaii;
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- 32 (G) National Council of State Boards of Nursing;
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- 34 (H) Philippine Nurses Association; and
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- 36 (3) A representative from each of the following
- 37 governmental agencies:
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- 1 (A) Department of Health;
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- 3 (B) Department of Human Services;
- 4
- 5 (C) Department of Commerce & Consumer Affairs; and
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- 7 (D) Office of the State Auditor;
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- 9 (4) Representatives of employers, including but not
- 10 limited to, Hawaii Pacific Health; and
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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the joint
13 advisory committee are requested to serve without compensation
14 and without reimbursement for expenses; and

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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Center for Nursing is
17 requested to take the recommendations of the joint advisory
18 committee under advisement; and

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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Center for Nursing is
21 further requested to review all reports prepared by the State
22 Auditor and the National Council of State Boards of Nursing
23 relating to continuing education; and

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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Center for Nursing is
26 requested to report its findings and recommendations (based on
27 research and statistical analyses), including any proposed
28 legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior
29 to the convening of the Regular Session of 2012; and

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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the joint advisory committee is
32 requested to dissolve on June 30, 2012, unless otherwise provided
33 by the Legislature; and

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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
36 Resolution be transmitted to the Speaker of the House of
37 Representatives, the President of the Senate, the Dean of the
38 University of Hawaii at Manoa School of Nursing, the Director of
39 the Center for Nursing, the President of Hawaii Pacific
40 University, the Chancellors of the University of Hawaii at Hilo,
41 Kapiolani Community College, Maui Community College, Kauai
42 Community College, and Hawaii Community College, the President
43 of the University of Phoenix; the Executive Director of the
44 National Council of State Boards of Nursing; the Executive



1 Directors of Hawaii Association of Professional Nurses, Hawaii
 2 Nurses Association, Philippine Nurses Association, Hawaii
 3 Association of Nurse Anesthetists, Hawaii Association of Nurse
 4 Executives, Healthcare Association of Hawaii, and Hawaii Long
 5 Term Care Association; the Directors of Health, Human Services,
 6 and Commerce and Consumer Affairs, and the State Auditor.

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OFFERED BY:

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