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# 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;  
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- 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) Review the studies done by the National Council of  
11 State Boards of Nursing;

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13 (5) Identify a professional program suitable for analyzing  
14 the training and educational needs of nurses and for  
15 evaluating competence on the basis of current practice  
16 criteria; and

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18 (6) Identify the fiscal impacts on the State, the public,  
19 the nurse, the employer, and the educational system of  
20 establishing and maintaining a mandatory continuing  
21 education system; and

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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Center for Nursing is  
24 requested to establish a joint advisory committee that includes  
25 the following persons as members:

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27 (1) A representative from each of the following Hawaii  
28 schools of nursing:

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30 (A) University of Hawaii at Manoa;

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32 (B) Hawaii Pacific University;

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34 (C) University of Hawaii at Hilo;

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36 (D) Kapiolani Community College;

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38 (E) Maui Community College;

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40 (F) Kauai Community College;



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(G) Hawaii Community College; and

(H) University of Phoenix; and

(2) A representative from each of the following organizations or associations:

(A) Hawaii Association of Nurse Anesthetists;

(B) Hawaii Association of Nurse Executives;

(C) Hawaii Association of Professional Nurses;

(D) Hawaii Long Term Care Association;

(E) Hawaii Nurses Association;

(F) Healthcare Association of Hawaii; and

(G) Philippine Nurses Association; and

(3) A representative from each of the following governmental agencies:

(A) Department of Health;

(B) Department of Human Services;

(C) Department of Commerce & Consumer Affairs;

(D) Office of the State Auditor; and

(E) Board of Nursing; and

(4) Representatives of employers, including but not limited to, Hawaii Pacific Health; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the joint advisory committee are requested to serve without compensation and without reimbursement for expenses; and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Center for Nursing is  
2 requested to take the recommendations of the joint advisory  
3 committee under advisement; and  
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Center for Nursing is  
6 further requested to review all reports and studies prepared by  
7 the State Auditor and the National Council of State Boards of  
8 Nursing relating to continuing education; and  
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Center for Nursing is  
11 requested to submit an interim report highlighting their  
12 progress to the Legislature twenty days prior to the convening  
13 of the Regular Session of 2012; and  
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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Center for Nursing is  
16 requested to report its findings and recommendations (based on  
17 research and statistical analyses), including any proposed  
18 legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior  
19 to the convening of the Regular Session of 2013; and  
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the joint advisory committee is  
22 requested to dissolve on June 30, 2013, unless otherwise provided  
23 by the Legislature; and  
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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
26 Resolution be transmitted to the Speaker of the House of  
27 Representatives, the President of the Senate, the Dean of the  
28 University of Hawaii at Manoa School of Nursing, the Director of  
29 the Center for Nursing, the President of Hawaii Pacific  
30 University, the Chancellors of the University of Hawaii at Hilo,  
31 Kapiolani Community College, Maui Community College, Kauai  
32 Community College, and Hawaii Community College, the President  
33 of the University of Phoenix; the Executive Director of the  
34 National Council of State Boards of Nursing; the Executive  
35 Directors of Hawaii Association of Professional Nurses, Hawaii  
36 Nurses Association, Philippine Nurses Association, Hawaii  
37 Association of Nurse Anesthetists, Hawaii Association of Nurse  
38 Executives, Healthcare Association of Hawaii, and Hawaii Long  
39 Term Care Association; the Directors of Health, Human Services,  
40 and Commerce and Consumer Affairs, and the State Auditor.  
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