
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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

1 WHEREAS, under section 457-9(b), Hawaii Revised Statutes, a
2 nurse who has not actively practiced for more than five years in
3 this State or any other state, territory, or possession under
4 the jurisdiction of the United States may be required to submit
5 proof of continued competency by retaking and passing the
6 licensing examination or successfully completing a refresher
7 course approved by the Hawaii Board of Nursing to restore a
8 license; and

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10 WHEREAS, title 16, chapter 89C, Hawaii Administrative
11 Rules, requires advanced practice registered nurses with
12 prescriptive authority to submit proof of successfully
13 completing thirty contact hours of continuing education,
14 including eight hours of pharmacology, to renew prescriptive
15 authority; and

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17 WHEREAS, advanced practice registered nurses without
18 prescriptive authority, registered nurses, and practical nurses
19 are not now required to submit proof of having completed
20 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, nursing practice inherently evolves from entry
28 level generalist to an experienced, focused practice; and

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30 WHEREAS, according to the American Nurses Association, a
31 provider of continuing nursing education accredited by the
32 American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on



1 Accreditation, nursing professional development is a career-long
2 process of active participation in learning activities that
3 assist in developing and maintaining nurses' continuing
4 competence, enhancing their professional practice, and
5 supporting achievement of their career goals; and
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7 WHEREAS, the American Nurses Association also found that
8 nursing professional development builds on nurses' basic
9 education and experience and significantly contributes towards
10 the goal of ensuring the delivery of quality health care to the
11 public; and
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13 WHEREAS, continuing education plays a significant role in
14 nursing professionals' ongoing development for the betterment of
15 the profession and the patients they serve; and
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17 WHEREAS, continuing education requirements must be
18 administratively feasible, cost-effective, and equitably applied
19 and enforced; and
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21 WHEREAS, a continuing education program should include the
22 descriptions of proposed offerings, program and course
23 objectives, faculty credentials, administrative structure,
24 sources of financial support, recordkeeping mechanisms, and a
25 valid method of evaluation, and consider the intended audience;
26 and
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28 WHEREAS, any continuing education requirement applicable to
29 all nursing license renewals needs an adequate phase-in period
30 to allow educational institutions, employers, and professionals
31 sufficient time to meet the mandatory continuing education
32 requirements; and
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34 WHEREAS, the Hawaii State Center for Nursing is in a
35 position to play a pivotal role in the development and
36 administration of a continuing education program for nurses that
37 will more fully engage its constituents; now, therefore,
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39 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth
40 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010, the
41 House of Representatives concurring, that the Hawaii State
42 Center for Nursing is requested to examine the feasibility,
43 benefits, costs, obstacles, and a potential timeframe of
44 establishing a continuing education requirement for all nursing



1 license renewals and a Hawaii Nursing Continuing Education
2 Program; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii State Center for
5 Nursing is requested to identify:

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- 7 (1) The resources required to ensure proper delivery,
8 monitoring, and compliance of a Hawaii Nursing
9 Continuing Education Program, including but not
10 limited to funds needed for qualified staff, space,
11 materials, and equipment, and the fiscal impact on
12 nurses, employers, the State, and educational
13 institutions providing the continuing education
14 credits;
- 15
- 16 (2) The availability of resources needed to establish a
17 continuing education program for the 24,000 nurses
18 licensed in Hawaii;
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- 20 (3) The chronologic evolution of nursing practice; how
21 factors specific to individual nurses such as age,
22 gender, type of basic nursing education, propensity
23 for self-study, specialty area, and work setting
24 influence the evolution of the practice; and types of
25 continuing education courses that would best respond
26 to these factors;
- 27
- 28 (4) The determinants of safe post-entry practice and what
29 characterizes safe versus unsafe nursing practice; and
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- 31 (5) A professional program or programs suitable for
32 analyzing the training and educational needs of nurses
33 and for providing continuing education; and
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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii State Center for
36 Nursing is requested to establish a joint advisory committee to
37 conduct the study, plan the establishment of a continuing
38 education program for nurses, and report its findings and
39 recommendations to the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing; and
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41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the joint advisory committee
42 consist of the following members:
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- 1 (1) One representative from the School of Nursing
2 established within each of the following institutions:
3 the University of Hawaii at Manoa, Hawaii Pacific
4 University, the University of Hawaii at Hilo,
5 Kapiolani Community College, Maui Community College,
6 Kauai Community College, Hawaii Community College, and
7 the University of Phoenix;
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- 9 (2) One representative from the National Council of State
10 Boards of Nursing;
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- 12 (3) One representative from each of the following: the
13 Hawaii Association of Professional Nurses, the Hawaii
14 Nurses Association, the Philippine Nurses Association,
15 the Hawaii Association of Nurse Anesthetists, the
16 Hawaii Association of Nurse Executives, the Healthcare
17 Association of Hawaii, and the Hawaii Long Term Care
18 Association;
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- 20 (4) One representative from Hawaii Pacific Health, The
21 Queen's Medical Center, and any other Hawaii hospital
22 specified by the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing;
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- 24 (5) The Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs or the
25 Director's designee; and
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- 27 (6) One representative from the state Board of Nursing;
28 and
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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the joint advisory committee
31 select a chairperson from among themselves, and the chairperson
32 is requested to convene meetings of the joint advisory
33 committee; and
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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the joint
36 advisory committee shall serve without compensation and without
37 reimbursement for expenses; and
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39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii State Center for
40 Nursing take the recommendations of the joint advisory committee
41 under advisement; and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii State Center for
2 Nursing is requested to review all reports prepared by the
3 Office of the Auditor and the National Council of State Boards
4 of Nursing relating to continuing education; and

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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii State Center for
7 Nursing is requested to submit to the Legislature:

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9 (1) A status report that includes but is not limited to:

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11 (A) A timeline for the convening of the joint
12 advisory committee, the study, and submission of
13 the reports requested under this measure;

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15 (B) Identification of other parties that should be
16 involved in the study;

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18 (C) Challenges encountered or anticipated to be
19 encountered by the joint advisory committee in
20 conducting the study,

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22 no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
23 the Regular Session of 2011;

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25 (2) An interim report on the status of the study and the
26 committee's work, no later than twenty days prior to
27 the convening of the Regular Session of 2012; and

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29 (3) A final report of the Center's findings and
30 recommendations, including any proposed legislation,
31 pertaining to the establishment of a Hawaii Nursing
32 Continuing Education Program, no later than twenty
33 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of
34 2013; and

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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the joint advisory committee is
37 to dissolve no later than six months after the committee submits
38 its final report to the Legislature; and

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40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
41 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the
42 University of Hawaii System; Dean of the School of Nursing and
43 Dental Hygiene of the University of Hawaii at Manoa; Presidents
44 of Hawaii Pacific University and the University of Phoenix;



1 Chancellors of the University of Hawaii at Hilo, Kapiolani
2 Community College, Maui Community College, Kauai Community
3 College, and Hawaii Community College; Executive Directors of
4 the Hawaii State Center for Nursing, National Council of State
5 Boards of Nursing, Hawaii Association of Professional Nurses,
6 Hawaii Nurses Association, Philippine Nurses Association, Hawaii
7 Association of Nurse Anesthetists, Hawaii Association of Nurse
8 Executives, Healthcare Association of Hawaii, and Hawaii Long
9 Term Care Association; President and Chief Executive Officer of
10 Hawaii Pacific Health; Directors of Health, Human Services, and
11 Commerce and Consumer Affairs; State Auditor; and state Board of
12 Nursing.

