
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HAWAII HEALTH CORPS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that many residents of
2 Hawaii are increasingly unable to obtain timely and appropriate
3 health care due to shortages of primary health care providers in
4 the State, including physicians, physician assistants, and nurse
5 practitioners. These shortages threaten the health of Hawaii's
6 residents and affect state health care costs. These shortages
7 have pushed the federal government to designate a number of
8 areas in the State, particularly rural areas, as medically
9 underserved areas, health professional shortage areas, or as
10 having medically underserved populations.

11 The University of Hawaii John A. Burns school of medicine,
12 in association with Wahiawa general hospital, conducts a fully
13 accredited three-year family medicine residency program. This
14 program has contributed over sixty family physicians who
15 currently work throughout the State of Hawaii.

16 Since 2006, a second rural residency program model has been
17 under development with the John A. Burns school of medicine and
18 the Hilo medical center. This will be the first residency



1 program established on a neighbor island. In addition to
2 training for medical students and resident physicians, this
3 model rural interdisciplinary training site will include
4 advanced practice nursing, pharmacy, psychiatry, and other areas
5 of practice. It is anticipated that this rural primary care
6 training model can be replicated on other islands.

7 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to increase
8 access by medically underserved resident populations to
9 culturally appropriate primary health care services by
10 supporting the development of the rural health workforce for the
11 Hilo medical center, by implementing and sustaining the rural
12 interdisciplinary residency program.

13 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
14 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
15 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2011-2012 and
16 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
17 year 2012-2013 to implement and sustain the Hilo medical
18 center's rural interdisciplinary residency program.

19 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the University
20 of Hawaii John A. Burns school of medicine and the University of
21 Hawaii at Manoa school of nursing and dental hygiene for the
22 purposes of this Act.



1 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

Hawaii Health Corps; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds to increase access by medically underserved resident populations to culturally appropriate primary health care services by supporting the development of the rural health workforce for the Hilo medical center, by implementing and sustaining the rural interdisciplinary residency program. Effective July 1, 2050. (SB596 HD1)

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