HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING COLLABORATION AMONG VARIOUS STATE AGENCIES TO
IDENTIFY AND REMOVE BARRIERS RELATING TO WORKFORCE DATA
SHARING AND NURSING PRACTICE IN THE STATE.

1   WHEREAS, health care in the United States is experiencing a
2 period of unprecedented change; and
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4   WHEREAS, the national reconfiguration of health care
5 services will have major implications at the federal, state, and
6 local levels; and
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8   WHEREAS, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act
9 marks the undertaking of significant health care reform
10 throughout the country; and
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12   WHEREAS, reform efforts that increase access to care,
13 provide health care to the uninsured, and close gaps in health
14 inequalities will depend on a stable and enduring workforce that
15 can provide health care services across many settings; and
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17   WHEREAS, in 2010, a report from the Institute of Medicine
18 of the National Academies and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
19 proposed a series of recommendations to advance and strengthen
20 the United States health care system during this period of
21 change; and
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23   WHEREAS, according to the report, nurses' roles,
24 responsibilities, and education should change significantly to
25 meet the increased demand for care created by health care
26 reform; and
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28   WHEREAS, the Legislature supports the key messages in the
29 report including recommendations that: nurses should practice
30 to the full extent of their education and training; nurses
31 should achieve higher levels of education and training through
32 an improved education system that promotes seamless academic

1 progression; nurses should be full partners, with physicians and
2 other health care professionals, in redesigning the nation's
3 health care; and effective workforce planning and policymaking
4 require better data collection and an improved information
5 infrastructure; and
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7   WHEREAS, the fulfillment of these recommendations will
8 require collaboration and commitment from national and state
9 organizations and government agencies; and
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11   WHEREAS, the Legislature further supports the Institute of
12 Medicine's recommendation that states build an infrastructure
13 for the collection and analysis of interprofessional health care
14 workforce data and collaborate with government agencies to
15 ensure that the data are timely and publicly accessible; and
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17   WHEREAS, in recent years, the Legislature has passed
18 legislation relating to nurses and Advanced Practice Registered
19 Nurses that has addressed most of the Institute of Medicine's
20 recommendations; and
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22   WHEREAS, the Legislature established the Hawaii State
23 Center for Nursing in 2003 to ensure the quality of health care
24 for the people of Hawaii by proactively addressing nursing
25 workforce issues; and
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27   WHEREAS, section 304A-1407, Hawaii Revised Statutes
28 requires state agencies, educational institutions, hospitals,
29 and professional organizations to provide workforce data to the
30 Hawaii State Center for Nursing; and
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32   WHEREAS, the State Board of Nursing and the Professional
33 and Vocational Licensing Division of the Department of Commerce
34 and Consumer Affairs are responsible for the regulation of
35 nursing practices in the State; and
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37   WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that the State Board of
38 Nursing and the Professional and Vocational Licensing Division
39 have cited a lack of resources and expertise to address existing
40 nursing workforce issues and those that will be created through
41 implementation of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care
42 Act; and
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1   WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that increased collaboration
2 between the State Board of Nursing and the Hawaii State Center
3 for Nursing will ensure that the State has a stable and enduring
4 nurse workforce that can provide seamless, quality care in
5 response to federal health care reform; and
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7   WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that this collaboration will
8 also allow the State Board of Nursing and the Professional and
9 Vocational Licensing Division to have access to expert analyses
10 of Hawaii State Center for Nursing data, analyze and discuss
11 nursing workforce data, and receive valuable insight necessary
12 to understand complex nursing issues; and
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14   WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that the Hawaii State Center
15 for Nursing has encountered barriers, including the high cost of
16 mailing information to licensees and concerns from the
17 Professional and Vocational Licensing Division regarding
18 statutory authority to release information, that have kept it
19 from sharing workforce data and information on planned new
20 initiatives; and
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22   WHEREAS, in recent years, the Legislature has passed
23 legislation requiring insurers to recognize Advance Practice
24 Registered Nurses as primary care providers and permitting
25 Advanced Practice Registered Nurses to practice within the full
26 scope of their practice; and
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28   WHEREAS, the Legislature also finds that despite passage of
29 these barrier-breaking Acts, the provisions of these Acts have
30 not been fully implemented by the State Board of Nursing and the
31 Professional and Vocational Licensing Division; now, therefore,
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33   BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
34 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
35 of 2012, the Senate concurring, that the State Board of Nursing,
36 the Professional and Vocational Licensing Division, and the
37 Department of the Attorney General are requested to work with
38 the Hawaii State Center for Nursing to identify barriers that
39 have prevented the Hawaii State Center for Nursing from sharing
40 its data and information on planned new initiatives; and
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42   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State Board of Nursing, the
43 Professional and Vocational Licensing Division, and the
44 Department of the Attorney General are requested to work with

1 the Hawaii State Center for Nursing to identify barriers that
2 have prevented the State Board of Nursing and the Professional
3 and Vocational Licensing Division from fully implementing recent
4 legislation relating to nursing, such as legislation allowing
5 Advanced Practice Registered Nurses to practice to the full
6 extent of their education and training; and
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8   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State Board of Nursing, the
9 Professional and Vocational Licensing Division, the Department
10 of the Attorney General, and the Hawaii State Center for Nursing
11 are requested to collaborate to identify ways to remove these
12 barriers; and
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14   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State Board of Nursing, the
15 Professional and Vocational Licensing Division, the Department
16 of the Attorney General, and the Hawaii State Center for Nursing
17 are requested to report to the Legislative Reference Bureau
18 their efforts to:
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20   (1)   Identify and remove barriers that prevent the Hawaii
21   State Center for Nursing from sharing its data; and
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23   (2)   Identify and remove barriers that prevent the State
24   Board of Nursing and the Professional and Vocational
25   Licensing Division from fully implementing recent
26   legislation relating to nursing; and
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28   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference
29 Bureau is requested to compile the agencies' findings and
30 recommendations into a report, including any necessary proposed
31 legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior
32 to the convening of the Regular Session of 2013; and
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34   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
35 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the
36 Legislative Reference Bureau, Division Administrator of the
37 Professional and Vocational Licensing Division of the Department
38 of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Executive Director of the
39 Hawaii State Center for Nursing, and State Board of Nursing.
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