

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1098

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 08 2011

RE: H.B. No. 902  
H.D. 2  
S.D. 1

Honorable Shan S. Tsutsui  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Sixth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2011  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred H.B. No. 902, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to help Hawaii residents obtain adequate and timely health care by addressing some of the factors that lead to shortages of primary health care providers in the State.

Specifically, this measure:

- (1) Establishes the Hawaii Health Corps program, under the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine, to encourage physicians, physician assistants, and nurse practitioners to work in a county having a shortage of physicians, physician assistants, and nurse practitioners, with priority given to a rural area;
- (2) Creates the Hawaii rural health care provider loan repayment program, to repay educational loans of Hawaii Health Corps program participants, and which shall be administered by the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine and the University of Hawaii at Manoa School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene;



- (3) Creates the Hawaii Health Corps revolving fund to be expended for the operational expenses of the Hawaii Health Corps program;
- (4) Appropriates funds to, among other things, implement and administer the Hawaii Health Corps program; and
- (5) Appropriates funds to support the University of Hawaii's John A. Burns School of Medicine and the School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene accreditation efforts and support and expand residency programs, particularly in family medicine.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from Virginia S. Hinshaw, Chancellor, and Jerris Hedges, Dean, John A. Burns School of Medicine, University of Hawaii at Manoa; Eldon L. Wegner, Ph.D., Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs; Dr. Morris Mitsunaga, President, Hawaii Medical Association; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Jackie Berry, Executive Director, Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies; Hardy Spoehr, Executive Director, Papa Ola Lokahi; and one individual.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from Kalbert K. Young, Director, Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that many Hawaii residents, particularly those that live in rural communities, are medically underserved. Physician and nurse practitioner salaries in rural areas are often lower than in other urban areas, which contributes to a shortage of health care providers willing to locate in these areas.

Shortages of primary health care providers in the State, including physicians, physician assistants, and nurse practitioners, threaten the health of Hawaii's residents and ultimately lead to increased health care costs. This measure provides incentives for physicians, physician assistants, and nurse practitioners to serve in medically underserved populations, ensuring that Hawaii residents are able to receive adequate and timely health care.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 902, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.



1098

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Ways and Means,

*David Y. Ige*

DAVID Y. IGE Chair



The Senate  
Twenty-Sixth Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Ways and Means**  
**WAM**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
HB 902, HD2, SD1	HTH/EDU, WAM	4-1-11		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312	<input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311	<input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310	<input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313	
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
IGE, David Y. (C)	/			
KIDANI, Michelle N. (VC)	/			
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne	/			
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M.				/
ENGLISH, J. Kalani				/
ESPERO, Will	/			
FUKUNAGA, Carol	/			
KIM, Donna Mercado	/			
KAHELE, Gilbert	/			
KOUCHI, Ronald D.				/
RYAN, Pohai	/			
TOKUDA, Jill N.	/			
WAKAI, Glenn	/			
SLOM, Sam			/	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <i>Michelle N. Kidani</i>				
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\*Only one measure per Record of Votes