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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that there has long been  
2 difficulty with providing adequate medical services to the rural  
3 areas of the State. The legislature further finds that there  
4 are currently not enough United States medical school graduates  
5 to fill all open residency positions, and that there has been an  
6 influx of foreign medical graduates to take the remaining  
7 positions.

8           The federal government contributes \$9.5 billion in medicare  
9 funds, and approximately \$2 billion in medicaid funds to assist  
10 with graduate medical education. With the current strain on  
11 federal resources and the influx of foreign graduates for United  
12 States residencies, the legislature further finds that there is  
13 need for a program and additional sources of funding to address  
14 the shortage of physicians in rural areas by establishing a  
15 residency program that will provide opportunity and enticement  
16 to out-of-state physicians.



1           Accordingly, there is established a three-year  
2 demonstration project to be known as the "rural health care  
3 residency project".

4           SECTION 2. (a) There is established a three-year  
5 demonstration project to be known as the "rural health care  
6 residency project". The demonstration project shall be  
7 developed and administered by the University of Hawaii John A.  
8 Burns school of medicine's department of family medicine and  
9 community health and supported by federal, state, and private  
10 funds.

11           (b) The purpose of the demonstration project is to attract  
12 out-of-state physicians to receive a residency position in  
13 exchange for their services in rural areas of the State;  
14 provided that these residency positions will be in addition to  
15 the number of residency positions the University of Hawaii John  
16 A. Burns school of medicine currently offers.

17           (c) Applicants shall meet the following minimum  
18 requirements to qualify for the demonstration project:

19           (1) Pass steps 1 and 2 of the United States Medical  
20 Licensing Examination (USMLE) with competitive scores;

21           (2) Meet requirements to work in the United States without  
22 sponsorship from the residency program;



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1 (3) Be willing to enter residency programs for specialties  
2 experiencing shortages; and

3 (4) Practice medicine in rural areas of the State for a  
4 minimum of three years.

5 (d) The University of Hawaii John A. Burns school of  
6 medicine's department of family medicine and community health  
7 shall submit a report to the legislature no later than twenty  
8 days prior to the convening of the regular sessions of 2014,  
9 2015, and 2016, on the status and effectiveness of the  
10 demonstration project.

11 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2013; and  
12 shall be repealed on July 1, 2016.

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INTRODUCED BY:

*Joseph Hanohu*

*John M. ...*  
*Mele Camell*

JAN 24 2013



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**Report Title:**

Physician Shortage; Rural Areas; Demonstration Project

**Description:**

Establishes a three-year demonstration project to be administered by the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine's Department of Family Medicine and Community Health to attract out-of-state physicians to residency programs that provide services to rural areas of the State. Effective July 1, 2013, and repealed on July 1, 2016.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

