H.C.R. NO. 161

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DIRECTOR OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO PROPOSE REGULATIONS AND LICENSING REQUIREMENTS FOR HEALTH EDUCATORS.

WHEREAS, health educators often work with hospital 1 patients, elementary and secondary school-aged children, and 2 community residents receiving primary, secondary, and tertiary 3 prevention levels of health care; and 4 5 WHEREAS, credentialing of health educators first began in 6 1989 with the establishment of the National Commission for 7 Health Education Credentialing, Inc., an international 8 9 organization that awards entry- and advanced-level credentials; and 10 11 WHEREAS, credentialing is voluntary, and often persons who 12 do not have any credentials and who do not meet the minimal 13 level of competency hold themselves out to be health educators; 14 15 and 16 WHEREAS, there are over 63,000 health educator jobs in the 17 United States, and this occupational field is expected to grow 18 by thirty-seven percent by the year 2020; and 19 20 WHEREAS, rapid occupational growth requires proactive 21 government regulation to assure the standard of care in Hawaii 22 is maintained by professionally trained, competent, and ethical 23 professionals; and 24 25 WHEREAS, regulation of health educators will help ensure 26 that: 27 28 Recipients of their specialized work receive quality (1) 29 services at the primary, secondary, and tertiary 30 levels of health care, including program assessments, 31 evaluations, planning and implementation of health 32



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education services, and professional consultation and 1 2 management services; 3 4 (2) Health educators meet minimum competency requirements 5 in the profession, similar to requirements existing for other health care and educational professionals; 6 7 and 8 Members of the public, other members of the 9 (3) profession, and the National Commission for Health 10 Education Credentialing, Inc., will be able to assist 11 in maintaining quality standards in the health 12 educator profession by means of reporting ethics 13 violations or disciplinary action to the applicable 14 state regulatory agency; now, therefore, 15 16 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 17 18 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular 19 Session of 2013, the Senate concurring, that the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs is requested to convene a working 20 group to propose regulations and licensing requirements for 21 health educators; and 22 23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of Commerce and 24 25 Consumer Affairs is encouraged to include representatives from 26 the following entities as members of the working group: 27 (1)Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; 28 29 (2) Department of Health; 30 31 (3) University of Hawaii System; 32 33 (4) 34 Hawaii Pacific University; 35 (5) The Queen's Medical Center; 36 37 38 (6) Hawaii Pacific Health; and 39 40 (7) Any other organization the Director deems appropriate to contribute to the working group; and 41 42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested 43 to report its findings and recommendations, including any 44



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proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty 1 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2014; and 2 3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this 4 5 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Director of Health, Chair of the Board of 6 Regents of the University of Hawaii, President of Hawaii Pacific 7 University, President of The Queen's Medical Center, and 8 9 President and Chief Executive Officer of Hawaii Pacific Health. 10 11 12 OFFERED BY:

MAR 1 3 2013

