

MAR 13 2013

SENATE RESOLUTION

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

1 WHEREAS, health educators often work with hospital
2 patients, elementary and secondary school-aged children, and
3 community residents receiving primary, secondary, and tertiary
4 prevention levels of health care; and
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6 WHEREAS, credentialing of health educators first began in
7 1989 with the establishment of the National Commission for
8 Health Education Credentialing, Inc., an international
9 organization that awards entry- and advanced-level credentials;
10 and
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12 WHEREAS, credentialing is voluntary, and often persons who
13 do not have any credentials and who do not meet the minimal
14 level of competency hold themselves out to be health educators;
15 and
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17 WHEREAS, there are over 63,000 health educator jobs in the
18 United States, and this occupational field is expected to grow
19 by thirty-seven percent by the year 2020; and
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21 WHEREAS, rapid occupational growth requires proactive
22 government regulation to assure the standard of care in Hawaii
23 is maintained by professionally trained, competent, and ethical
24 professionals; and
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26 WHEREAS, regulation of health educators will help ensure
27 that:
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- 29 (1) Recipients of their specialized work receive quality
30 services at the primary, secondary, and tertiary
31 levels of health care, including program assessments,
32 evaluations, planning and implementation of health
33 education services, and professional consultation and
34 management services;
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1 (2) Health educators meet minimum competency requirements
2 in the profession, similar to requirements existing
3 for other health care and educational professionals;
4 and
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6 (3) Members of the public, other members of the
7 profession, and the National Commission for Health
8 Education Credentialing, Inc., will be able to assist
9 in maintaining quality standards in the health
10 educator profession by means of reporting ethics
11 violations or disciplinary action to the applicable
12 state regulatory agency; now, therefore,
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14 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh
15 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2013,
16 that the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs is requested
17 to convene a working group to propose regulations and licensing
18 requirements for health educators; and
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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of Commerce and
21 Consumer Affairs is encouraged to include representatives from
22 the following entities as members of the working group:
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- 24 (1) Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs;
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26 (2) Department of Health;
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28 (3) University of Hawaii System;
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30 (4) Hawaii Pacific University;
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32 (5) The Queen's Medical Center;
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34 (6) Hawaii Pacific Health; and
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36 (7) Any other organization the Director deems appropriate
37 to contribute to the working group; and
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39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
40 to report its findings and recommendations, including any
41 proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty
42 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2014; and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
2 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Commerce and
3 Consumer Affairs, Director of Health, Chair of the Board of
4 Regents of the University of Hawaii, President of Hawaii Pacific
5 University, President of The Queen's Medical Center, and
6 President and Chief Executive Officer of Hawaii Pacific Health.

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OFFERED BY: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the initials "Jim", is written over a horizontal line.