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# SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HAWAII STATE CENTER FOR NURSING TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP COMPOSED OF VARIOUS STATE AGENCIES TO IDENTIFY BARRIERS RELATING TO THE PRACTICE OF ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES TO THE FULL EXTENT OF THE NURSES' EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN THE STATE.

1 WHEREAS, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act  
2 marks the undertaking of significant health care reform  
3 throughout the country; and  
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5 WHEREAS, reform efforts that increase access to care,  
6 provide health care to the uninsured, and close gaps in health  
7 inequalities will depend on a stable and enduring workforce that  
8 can provide health care services across many settings; and  
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10 WHEREAS, in 2010, a report from the Institute of Medicine  
11 of the National Academies and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation  
12 proposed a series of recommendations to advance and strengthen  
13 the United States health care system during this period of  
14 change; and  
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16 WHEREAS, according to the report, Advanced Practice  
17 Registered Nurses should practice to the full extent of their  
18 education and training, and scope of practice barriers to  
19 Advanced Practice Registered Nurses should be removed; and  
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21 WHEREAS, this body is dedicated to addressing the needs and  
22 interests of the people of Hawaii, including ensuring that  
23 quality health care is easily accessible to consumers throughout  
24 the State; and  
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26 WHEREAS, this body recognizes that Hawaii's physician-  
27 primary care provider shortage has increased the need for  
28 Advanced Practice Registered Nurses who can provide primary  
29 health care; and  
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31 WHEREAS, this body also recognizes that national data  
32 supports the fact that Advanced Practice Registered Nurses can



1 immediately increase access to quality, cost effective care if  
2 restrictions to their ability to practice are removed; and  
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4 WHEREAS, in recent years, the Legislature has passed  
5 legislation requiring insurers to recognize Advanced Practice  
6 Registered Nurses as primary care providers and permitting  
7 Advanced Practice Registered Nurses to practice within the full  
8 scope of their practice; and  
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10 WHEREAS, this body finds that despite passage of these  
11 barrier-breaking Acts, the provisions of these Acts have not  
12 been fully implemented by the responsible executive departments  
13 of the State; and  
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15 WHEREAS, simultaneous collaboration among state agencies is  
16 needed to align and modernize their applicable state statutes  
17 and administrative rules with recent legislation; and  
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19 WHEREAS, these obsolete statutes will continue to  
20 negatively impact Hawaii consumers until state agencies align  
21 and modernize their statutes and rules for the benefit of the  
22 people of Hawaii; and  
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24 WHEREAS, the assistance and recommendations of the  
25 Department of the Attorney General and the Legislative Reference  
26 Bureau will be needed due to the scope of the required  
27 revisions; and  
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29 WHEREAS, there is an immediate need to ensure that the  
30 State has a stable and enduring Advanced Practice Registered  
31 Nurse workforce that can provide seamless, quality care in  
32 response to federal health care reform, including in medically  
33 underserved rural areas; now, therefore,  
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35 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh  
36 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2013,  
37 that the Hawaii State Center for Nursing is requested to convene  
38 a working group composed of various state agencies to identify  
39 barriers relating to the practice of Advanced Practice  
40 Registered Nurses to the full extent of the nurses' education  
41 and training in the statutes and administrative rules specific  
42 to their respective departments; and  
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group include  
2 representatives from the following state agencies:

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- 4 (1) Department of Health;
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- 6 (2) Department of Human Services;
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- 8 (3) Department of Public Safety;
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- 10 (4) Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs;
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- 12 (5) State Board of Nursing; and
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- 14 (6) Disability and Communication Access Board; and
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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is further  
17 requested to enlist the assistance of the Department of the  
18 Attorney General in identifying barriers and proposing  
19 amendments to remove barriers in their respective statutes and  
20 administrative rules; and

21  
22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group may enlist  
23 the assistance of the Department of the Attorney General, other  
24 state agencies, or professional groups as needed to complete its  
25 task; and

26  
27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested  
28 to transmit a draft report of the working group's findings and  
29 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the  
30 Legislative Reference Bureau no later than November 1, 2013; and

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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference  
33 Bureau is requested to submit a final report of the agencies'  
34 findings and recommendations, including any proposed  
35 legislation, to the Governor and the Legislature no later than  
36 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of  
37 2014; and

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39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
40 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Attorney General,  
41 Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau, Director of  
42 Health, Director of Human Services, Director of Public Safety,  
43 Division Administrator of the Professional and Vocational  
44 Licensing Division of the Department of Commerce and Consumer



- 1 Affairs, Executive Director of the Disability and Communication
- 2 Access Board, Executive Director of the Hawaii State Center for
- 3 Nursing, State Board of Nursing, and Hawaii Association of
- 4 Professional Nurses.

