
HOUSE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING THE 2018 HAWAII HEALTHCARE HEROES FOR THE
OUTSTANDING AND EXEMPLARY CARE THEY HAVE DELIVERED TO
PATIENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES ACROSS THE STATE.

1 WHEREAS, many of Hawaii's healthcare professionals toil in
2 anonymity, aiding those in need and providing comfort to
3 families without recognition and doing so without any other
4 intent but to improve the quality of life for patients and their
5 loved ones; and

6
7 WHEREAS, the Healthcare Association of Hawaii (HAH) has
8 been a leading voice of healthcare providers in the state since
9 1939, representing one hundred sixty member organizations across
10 Hawaii, and advocating for state and federal policies to achieve
11 a sustainable healthcare system that provides accessible,
12 quality care for the people of Hawaii; and

13
14 WHEREAS, in 2013, the Healthcare Association of Hawaii
15 established the Hawaii Healthcare Heroes award program to
16 provide patients and their families the opportunity to recognize
17 and honor extraordinary healthcare workers who have had profound
18 impacts on their lives; and

19
20 WHEREAS, CHRISTIE IZUTSU, MD, a 2018 Hawaii Healthcare
21 Hero, is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Medicine at
22 the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine where
23 she works with third year medical students as the Internal
24 Medicine Clerkship Director, faculty advisor of Internal
25 Medicine Interest Group, and as a clinical skills preceptor in
26 Nephrology; she graduated from the University of Hawaii John A.
27 Burns School of Medicine and completed her nephrology fellowship
28 at the University of California in San Diego; and



1 WHEREAS, DEE ONO, RN, CWS, CRNI, a 2018 Hawaii Healthcare
2 Hero, has been a registered nurse since the 1960's and continues
3 to work on an as-needed basis with West Hawaii Home Health; and
4

5 WHEREAS, LESLEY YOSHIMORI, RN, MPH, a 2018 Hawaii
6 Healthcare Hero, is a case manager at Tripler Army Medical
7 Center, where she began her career as a public health nurse in
8 May 2009; in 2014, she moved on to work in the Family Medicine
9 Department and has earned recognition as a highly respected
10 staff member among her supervisors and peers; and
11

12 WHEREAS, REBECCA SAWAI, MD, a 2018 Hawaii Healthcare Hero,
13 was born and raised in St. Paul, Minnesota, and grew up in
14 Portland, Oregon; she attended the University of Rochester
15 School of Medicine and Dentistry; completed her residency at
16 Oregon Health and Science University; and completed her
17 fellowship in Colon and Rectal Surgery at the Mayo Clinic,
18 becoming board certified by the American Board of Colon and
19 Rectal Surgery and by the American Board of Surgery; she
20 eventually joined Kaiser Permanente in 2008; and
21

22 WHEREAS, VALERIE JANIKOWSKI, RN, a 2018 Hawaii Healthcare
23 Hero, formerly of Kwajalein in the Marshall Islands, moved to
24 Lanai ten years ago and started volunteering and working with
25 the Native Hawaii nonprofit organization called Ke Ola Hou 'O
26 Lāna'i Na Pu'uwai, which offers a wide range of free health
27 services to the community; she also volunteers for a multitude
28 of community causes and events and, on her own time, accompanies
29 patients to neighbor islands when they require healthcare; and
30

31 WHEREAS, these five outstanding healthcare professionals
32 have been selected as the 2018 Hawaii Healthcare Heroes from a
33 large field of nominees who, by their actions, achievements, and
34 example, routinely provide a quality of care that goes above and
35 beyond, thereby strengthening our families and communities; now,
36 therefore,
37

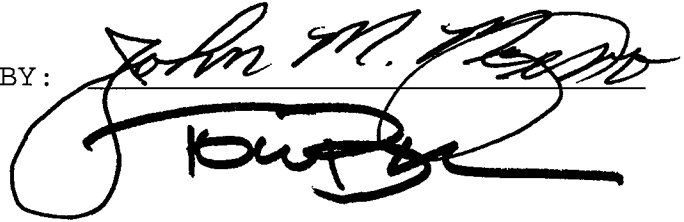
38 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
39 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of
40 2019, that this body hereby recognizes and congratulates these
41 five outstanding individuals who treat their patients with a



H.R. NO. 24

1 level of compassion and care that far exceeds expectations and
2 extends its warmest aloha and best wishes for continued success
3 in all future endeavors.
4
5
6

OFFERED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John M. Burns", written over a horizontal line. The signature is highly stylized and cursive.

FEB 13 2019

