

MAR 8 - 2019

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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII JOHN A. BURNS SCHOOL OF  
MEDICINE TO STUDY THE IMPACT AND FEASIBILITY OF CREATING A  
TEACHING HOSPITAL IN WEST HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii faces a growing shortage of physicians to  
2 provide direct care to patients; and  
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4 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Physician Workforce Project reported in  
5 October 2018 that Hawaii had a shortage of five hundred thirteen  
6 full-time equivalent positions; and  
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8 WHEREAS, when adjusted for island geography and unmet  
9 specialty-specific needs by county, the estimated unmet need for  
10 physicians was seven hundred ninety-seven positions, an increase  
11 from seven hundred sixty-nine positions in the previous year;  
12 and  
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14 WHEREAS, the County of Hawaii has a large and medically  
15 underserved rural community; and  
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17 WHEREAS, the residential population of Hawaii island is one  
18 of the fastest growing populations in the State; and  
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20 WHEREAS, the County of Hawaii welcomes a large number of  
21 domestic and international visitors throughout the year; and  
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23 WHEREAS, a teaching hospital on Hawaii island may help to  
24 attract and retain a high-quality, diverse physician workforce  
25 to the State; and  
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27 WHEREAS, additionally, a teaching hospital will provide a  
28 broader and more complete network of care for individuals on  
29 Hawaii island; and  
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31 WHEREAS, in 2016, the Legislature recognized the potential  
32 benefits of a teaching hospital on Hawaii island by



1 appropriating \$500,000 for a feasibility study for a teaching  
2 hospital in Kona; and

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4 WHEREAS, however, the appropriated funds lapsed prior to  
5 the initiation of the study; now, therefore,

6  
7 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature  
8 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, the House of  
9 Representatives concurring, that the University of Hawaii  
10 John A. Burns School of Medicine is encouraged to study the  
11 impact and feasibility of creating a teaching hospital in west  
12 Hawaii; and

13  
14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the University of Hawaii John A.  
15 Burns School of Medicine is requested to submit a report of its  
16 findings and recommendations, including any proposed  
17 legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior  
18 to the convening of the Regular Session of 2020; and

19  
20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
21 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the  
22 University of Hawaii Board of Regents, President of the  
23 University of Hawaii, and Dean of the University of Hawaii  
24 John A. Burns School of Medicine.

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OFFERED BY:

  


