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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII JOHN A. BURNS SCHOOL OF  
MEDICINE, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS  
CORPORATION, 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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1           WHEREAS, in 2016, the Legislature recognized the potential  
2 benefits of a teaching hospital on Hawaii island by  
3 appropriating \$500,000 for a feasibility study for a teaching  
4 hospital in Kona; and  
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6           WHEREAS, however, the appropriated funds lapsed prior to  
7 the initiation of the study; now, therefore,  
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9           BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature  
10 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, the House of  
11 Representatives concurring, that the University of Hawaii John  
12 A. Burns School of Medicine, in collaboration with the Hawaii  
13 Health Systems Corporation, is encouraged to study the impact  
14 and feasibility of creating a teaching hospital in west Hawaii;  
15 and  
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17           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii John  
18 A. Burns School of Medicine, in collaboration with the Hawaii  
19 Health Systems Corporation, is requested to submit a report of  
20 its findings and recommendations, including any proposed  
21 legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior  
22 to the convening of the Regular Session of 2020; and  
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24           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
25 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the  
26 University of Hawaii Board of Regents, President of the  
27 University of Hawaii, Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii  
28 Health Systems Corporation, and Dean of the University of Hawaii  
29 John A. Burns School of Medicine.  
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