# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TUITION WAIVERS FOR PHYSICIANS IN RURAL AREAS.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1     SECTION 1. The legislature finds that many of the

2 residents of Hawaii are increasingly unable to obtain timely and

3 appropriate health care because of physician shortages.

4 Specifically, rural areas of Hawaii suffer from chronic shortage

5 of medical professionals. Therefore, the State must provide

6 incentives for medical professionals to serve in rural areas.

7     The purpose of this Act is to require and appropriate funds

8 for the University of Hawaii John A. Burns school of medicine to

9 establish a program that awards tuition waivers and other

10 subsidies to up to ten students per year to cover their entire

11 term of study at the University of Hawaii John A. Burns school

12 of medicine.

13     SECTION 2. (a) The University of Hawaii John A. Burns

14 school of medicine shall establish a program that awards tuition

15 waivers and other subsidies to up to ten students per year to

16 cover their entire term of study at the University of Hawaii

17 John A. Burns school of medicine.

1    (b)  The tuition waiver recipient shall sign a contract

2  committing to practice medicine in rural areas of the State for

3  at least ten consecutive years after completing the recipient's

4  residency; provided that the contract shall be subject to state

5  parental leave provisions.

6    For the purposes of this subsection, "rural areas" means an

7  area, as defined by zip code, with fewer than ten thousand

8  residents.

9    (c)  By June 30 of each year until the tuition waiver

10  recipient has discharged their obligations pursuant to

11  subsection (b), the recipient shall submit evidence that the

12  recipient is fulfilling their obligations per the signed

13  contract to the University of Hawaii John A. Burns school of

14  medicine and department of health.  Such evidence shall include

15  a signed affidavit from the tuition waiver recipient; provided

16  that the affidavit shall include the number of rural residents

17  served by the recipient during the past year; provided further

18  that if the recipient is employed, the recipient shall submit

19  signed affidavits from the recipient's employers and copies of

20  time sheets; provided further that if the recipient is self-

1    employed, the recipient shall submit summaries and

2    representative copies of insurance payments.

3         (d)  If a tuition waiver recipient breaches their contract

4    pursuant to subsection (b), the University of Hawaii John A.

5    Burns school of medicine and department of health shall file a

6    lien against the recipient in breach for the amount of the

7    tuition waived prorated for the period of the breach.

8         SECTION 3.  There is appropriated out of the general

9    revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of $          or so

10   much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for

11   the University of Hawaii John A. Burns school of medicine to

12   establish a program that awards tuition waivers and other

13   subsidies to up to ten students per year to cover their entire

14   term of study at the University of Hawaii John A. Burns school

15   of medicine.

16        The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of

17   Hawaii John A. Burns school of medicine for the purposes of this

18   Act.

19        SECTION 4.  This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY: _____

# S.B. NO. 2472

**Report Title:**
University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine; Tuition Waivers; Rural Areas; Appropriation

**Description:**
Requires and appropriates funds for the University of Hawaii John A. Burns school of medicine to establish a program that awards tuition waivers and other subsidies to up to ten students per year to cover their entire term of study at the University of Hawaii John A. Burns school of medicine.

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