

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1132

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 18 2025

RE: H.B. No. 442  
H.D. 1  
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirty-Third State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2025  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Higher Education, to which was referred  
H.B. No. 442, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to appropriate  
funds for various nursing programs of the University of Hawaii  
System.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure  
from the University of Hawai'i System, Hawaii Primary Care  
Association, Healthcare Association of Hawaii, Hawaii Association  
of Health Plans, Hawai'i State Center for Nursing, AlohaCare,  
Hawai'i - American Nurses Association, Hilo Benioff Medical Center,  
and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that the State is experiencing a  
significant shortfall in its health care workforce. Your  
Committee further finds that the nursing programs currently  
offered by the University of Hawaii lack the funding and capacity  
to address the shortage of skilled nursing professionals in the  
State. Your Committee also finds that expanding the nursing  
education programs at the University of Hawaii will develop a  
robust workforce capable of meeting the needs of the State's aging  
population and support economic growth. This measure will invest



in various nursing programs at the University of Hawaii to strengthen the State's health care system and improve health outcomes for residents of the State.

Your Committee notes that the companion to this measure, S.B. No. 637, S.D. 1 (Regular Session of 2025), which was previously passed by the Senate is a substantially similar measure that also appropriates funds for various nursing programs of the University of Hawaii System. Your Committee finds that the language of S.B. No. 637, S.D. 1, is preferable.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting its contents and inserting the contents of S.B. No. 637, S.D. 1, a substantially similar measure that appropriates funds for nursing programs of the University of Hawaii System and has an effective date of July 31, 2050; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 442, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 442, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Higher Education,



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DONNA MERCADO KIM, Chair



**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Higher Education**  
**HRE**

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes