

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

402

Honolulu, Hawaii

, 2025

FEB 11

RE: H.B. No. 617

H.D. 1

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2025
State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Higher Education, to which was referred
H.B. No. 617 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO NURSING,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the
establishment of a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program
at the University of Hawaii Maui College.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Hawai'i State Center for
Nursing; Hawai'i-American Nurses Association; Hawai'i Primary Care
Association; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; and nine
individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure
from University of Hawai'i System and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the State faces a growing nursing
workforce shortage. Your Committee further finds that Maui County
is the largest county in the State without a college or university
Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program. Your Committee
believes that offering a Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program at
the University of Hawaii Maui College will increase the supply of
nursing graduates, reduce the nursing workforce shortage, and
allow Maui nursing students to remain on Maui during their entire
course of study.

2025-1508 HB617 HD1 HSCR HMSO



Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider the following appropriation amounts:

- (1) \$100,000 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$60,000 for fiscal year 2026-2027 for prerequisite courses by students newly enrolled in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program at the University of Hawaii Maui College;
- (2) \$90,000 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$60,000 for fiscal year 2026-2027 for additional personnel associated with establishment of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program at the University of Hawaii Maui College;
- (3) \$60,000 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and fiscal year 2026-2027 for supplies, equipment, and simulation and laboratory upgrades associated with establishment of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program at the University of Hawaii Maui College; and
- (4) \$250,000 for fiscal year 2026-2027 for instructional costs associated with providing a third year of nursing courses following the establishment of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program at the University of Hawaii Maui College.

Your Committee further requests your Committee on Finance to consider including the appropriations contained in this measure in the base budget of the University of Hawaii through the state budget.

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. 617, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 617, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

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



ANDREW TAKUYA GARRETT, Chair



