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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that numerous studies  
2 have recognized a national shortage of qualified nurses that  
3 will reach a twenty per cent staffing shortfall by the year  
4 2020. In 2006, Hawaii experienced a shortage of 960 registered  
5 nurses that is estimated to grow to 2,220 by 2016 and 2,670 by  
6 2020. A nursing shortage jeopardizes the quality of health care  
7 provided in hospitals, nursing homes, hospices, clinics, and  
8 other health care settings. Without enough registered nurses,  
9 patient safety is at risk with rural and underserved communities  
10 being most affected.

11           The nursing shortage is exacerbated by the aging population  
12 that is steadily increasing. Hawaii's population is aging  
13 faster than the rest of the country. Between 2000 and 2020, the  
14 number of people aged sixty and older will increase by almost  
15 seventy-five per cent. Hawaii's registered nurse workforce is  
16 also aging, with an increasing number of registered nurses soon  
17 to retire. Estimates indicate that by 2015, thirty-one per cent  
18 of Hawaii's current registered nurse workforce will retire. By



1 2020, sixty-one per cent of Hawaii's current workforce will  
2 retire. The already significant shortage of registered nurses  
3 will worsen.

4 The legislature finds that the key to promoting health in  
5 Hawaii lies in efforts to increase the educational capacity of  
6 the State's nursing programs, which are hampered by the number  
7 of faculty and support positions that limit the admission of  
8 additional students and by inadequate facilities. Increasing  
9 faculty training and nursing graduates requires a minimum of two  
10 to five years. Adding teaching staff would allow additional  
11 students to be admitted and expand learning resource  
12 opportunities to satisfy growing student demands. The  
13 legislature finds that an ongoing and strategic public sector  
14 approach is necessary to sustain a robust, qualified nursing  
15 workforce to meet Hawaii's health care needs into the future.

16 The legislature agrees with the University of Hawaii's  
17 statewide nursing consortium commitment to maximize the State's  
18 investment in nursing education, without unnecessary duplication  
19 among the various campuses. The legislature recognizes that the  
20 University of Hawaii plays a vital role in nursing workforce  
21 development in Hawaii.



1           The purpose of this Act is to make appropriations to the  
 2 University of Hawaii to hire more nursing faculty and support  
 3 positions, provide nursing scholarships and loans, and increase  
 4 facilities.

5           SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
 6 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$4,260,508, or so  
 7 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and  
 8 the same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
 9 year 2008-2009, for the University of Hawaii to hire additional  
 10 nursing personnel for the various campuses, as follows:

11           (1) School of nursing and dental hygiene, University of  
 12 Hawaii at Manoa: faculty, program, and student  
 13 services program support to expand Manoa nursing  
 14 courses to the leeward-side (at Leeward community  
 15 college) and to develop an innovative course of study  
 16 providing a second career master's program:

17	18 positions (2007-2008)	\$2,000,000
18	18 positions (2008-2009)	\$2,000,000

19           (2) Kapiolani community college: faculty and student  
 20 services program support to expand enrollment:

21	4 positions (2007-2008)	\$263,888
22	10 positions (2008-2009)	\$749,272



1           (3) Hawaii community college: faculty and student  
2           services program support to expand enrollment:  
3                       5 positions (2007-2008)                       \$342,750  
4                       2 positions (2008-2009)                       \$186,308  
5           (4) Maui community college: Faculty and student services  
6           program support to expand enrollment:  
7                       8.5 positions (2007-2008)                       \$606,625  
8                       8.5 positions (2008-2009)                       \$606,625  
9           (5) Kauai community college: Faculty and student services  
10           program support to expand enrollment:  
11                       5 positions (2007-2008)                       \$365,875  
12                       10 positions (2008-2009)                       \$749,272  
13           (6) University of Hawaii at Hilo: Faculty and student  
14           services program support to expand enrollment:  
15                       6 positions (2007-2008)                       \$436,400  
16                       2.5 positions (2008-2009)                       \$214,000

17           SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
18 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$100,000, or so much  
19 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and the  
20 same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
21 2008-2009, for the University of Hawaii to create a graduate  
22 nursing faculty loan program with loan forgiveness for those who



1 work as faculty in the State of Hawaii after graduation;  
2 provided that to be eligible for the graduate nursing faculty  
3 loan:

4 (1) The individual shall be a Hawaii resident and enrolled  
5 at a University of Hawaii nursing program as a full or  
6 part-time student in a master of science in nursing  
7 program;

8 (2) The program shall allow loan forgiveness of \$5,000 a  
9 year for up to five years; and

10 (3) For every year of loan forgiveness, the recipient  
11 shall work for one year as a nurse educator at the  
12 University of Hawaii.

13 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general  
14 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$500,000, or so much  
15 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and the  
16 same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
17 2008-2009, for the University of Hawaii to create a nursing  
18 student scholarship program; provided that to be eligible for  
19 the nursing student scholarship program:

20 (1) The individual shall be enrolled as a full or part-  
21 time student in a University of Hawaii associate,



1           bachelor's, master's, or doctoral degree nursing  
2           program; and

3           (2) Need and merit, such as class rank, grade point  
4           average, and service activities, shall be considered  
5           in selecting recipients.

6           SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general  
7 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$750,000, or so much  
8 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and the  
9 same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
10 2008-2009, for the University of Hawaii at Manoa school of  
11 nursing and dental hygiene to:

12           (1) Conduct facility planning and development and tasks  
13           necessary to expand the school's physical facility to  
14           provide optimal educational experiences;

15           (2) Enable students to participate in cross disciplinary  
16           education with other students in the health sciences;  
17           and

18           (3) Provide temporary classrooms for all nursing programs.

19           SECTION 6. The sums appropriated in this Act shall be  
20 expended by the University of Hawaii for the purposes of this  
21 Act.





**Report Title:**

Nursing Education Workforce Development

**Description:**

Makes appropriations to University of Hawaii campuses to implement nursing education workforce development.

