
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH CARE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that there is a growing
2 shortage of health care professionals in Hawaii, especially on
3 the neighbor islands and in rural areas. The State's rapidly
4 aging population will significantly increase the demand for
5 health care services and long-term care. As the general
6 population ages, so does the health care workforce, exacerbating
7 the growing shortage of providers. In addition, low
8 reimbursement rates, issues related to living and working in
9 remote communities, challenging working conditions, and the cost
10 of medical malpractice insurance continue to create barriers to
11 recruitment and retention of health care providers, especially
12 in certain specialty areas. Even if people have health
13 insurance, they are often unable to access appropriate care. A
14 fully-staffed, well-trained health care workforce is a key
15 component in providing quality health care to all Hawaii
16 residents; therefore, the purpose of this Act is to appropriate
17 funds to develop and maintain a statewide comprehensive health
18 care workforce map and database to:



- 1 (1) Compile and analyze existing data on the supply and
- 2 distribution of all health care practitioners,
- 3 technicians, and other health care workers by
- 4 specialty and practice location;
- 5 (2) Develop a plan to collect and systematically update
- 6 data; and
- 7 (3) Project and develop a plan to meet future health
- 8 workforce needs.

9 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
 10 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1, or so much
 11 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and the
 12 same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
 13 2008-2009, for the state health planning and development agency
 14 to develop and maintain a statewide comprehensive health care
 15 workforce map and database.

16 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
 17 of health for the purposes of this Act.

18 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.

19

[Handwritten signature]

IAN 18 2007

HB LRB 07-0248.doc



INTRODUCED BY:

Josh Green MD

[Handwritten signature]
John M. Higgins
Della C. Bilotti
ML

K. Zell
[Handwritten signature]
024.21

Report Title:

Health Care Workforce Map; SHPDA; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds to the state health planning and development agency to develop and maintain a statewide health care workforce map and database.

