HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE, 2010 STATE OF HAWAII H.R. NO. 86

HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE INCREASED HIRING OF NURSES RESIDENT IN HAWAII AND THE DECREASED HIRING OF FOREIGN NURSES.

WHEREAS, during the last four years, the University of 1 Hawaii and the Community Colleges in the State have prioritized 2 the creation and funding of nursing schools in Honolulu, Maui, 3 Kauai, Leeward Oahu, and Windward Oahu; and 4 5 6 WHEREAS, this effort has materialized and yielded an 7 abundance of nursing school graduates and registered nurses, 8 creating an abundance of nurses to the extent that some of them, 9 especially the new graduates, are unemployed; and 10 WHEREAS, as a result, in global financial meltdown, the 11 12 State is experiencing higher levels of unemployment and consequently, decreased access to medical care; and 13 14 WHEREAS, the policy of the State should be to employ its 15 own residents and decrease government assistance to those who 16 17 are unemployed; and 18 19 WHEREAS, specifically, the State should employ its own residents first and decrease reliance on imported professionals; 20 now, therefore, 21 22 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 23 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session 24 25 of 2010, that the Department of Homeland Security is requested to close visa applications for registered nurses and terminate 26 renewals of visa applications for working visas nurses; and 27 28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Healthcare Association of 29 Hawaii and the Hawaii Nurses' Association are urged to have the 30 hiring of nurses resident in Hawaii and the training of recent 31 32 nursing school graduates in specialty nursing areas prioritized 33 among employers of nurses; and 34



8

H.R. NO. 86

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Secretary of Homeland Security, the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Healthcare Association of Hawaii, and the Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Nurses' Association. 7

OFFERED BY: fiche atoulh Arakana

MAR 0 4 2010

