

MAR 10 2010

S.R. NO. 79

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## SENATE RESOLUTION

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URGING HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION HOSPITALS AND CLINICS  
TO ACCEPT MEDICAL STUDENT ROTATIONS FROM A.T. STILL  
UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE BASED OUT OF THE  
WAIANAE COAST COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CENTER, THE UNIVERSITY  
OF HAWAII JOHN A. BURNS SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, AND OTHER  
HAWAII-BASED MEDICAL SCHOOLS.

1 WHEREAS, a severe shortage of health care providers  
2 currently exists, particularly in the rural and medically  
3 underserved areas of the state; and  
4

5 WHEREAS, aside from Oahu, most of the state is federally  
6 designated as Medically Underserved Areas, Medically Underserved  
7 Populations, or Health Professional Shortage Areas; and  
8

9 WHEREAS, there is an urgent need to provide high quality  
10 primary care services to already underserved populations with  
11 disparate health indicators; and  
12

13 WHEREAS, maternal and child health risk, cardiovascular  
14 risk, and socio-economic risk are greatest in rural Hawaii; and  
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16 WHEREAS, according to the Department of Health's 1999  
17 statistics, the top ten highest risk areas are all located in  
18 rural communities; and  
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20 WHEREAS, the need for physicians in rural areas will only  
21 increase with the aging population and projected population  
22 growth on the neighbor islands; and  
23

24 WHEREAS, national studies have demonstrated that  
25 substantial residency training in rural areas increases  
26 placement and retention of physicians in rural practices; and



1 WHEREAS, providing Hawaii's medical students with hospital  
2 rotations in the state's rural areas is also of critical  
3 importance to promoting the development of "roots" in the  
4 communities they may one day serve; and  
5

6 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC)  
7 comprises Hilo Medical Center, Hale Ho'ola Hamakua, and Ka'u  
8 Hospital (East Hawaii Region); Kona Community Hospital and  
9 Kohala Hospital (West Hawaii Region); Maui Memorial Medical  
10 Center, Lanai Community Hospital, and Kula Hospital (Maui  
11 Region); Leahi Hospital and Maluhia (Oahu Region); Kauai  
12 Veterans Memorial Hospital and Samuel Mahelona Memorial Hospital  
13 (Kauai Region); Yukio Okutsu State Veterans Home - Hilo;  
14 Roselani Place - Maui; Ali'i Health Center - West Hawaii; and  
15 affiliate HHSC facility Kahuku Medical Center - Oahu; and  
16

17 WHEREAS, HHSC is heavily state subsidized to continue  
18 providing medical services throughout the state and in most  
19 cases HHSC facilities are the only healthcare facilities in the  
20 rural areas of the state; and  
21

22 WHEREAS, HHSC's objective to provide health care services  
23 to the people of Hawaii is in line with the goals of students in  
24 Hawaii-based medical schools; and  
25

26 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds HHSC is obligated as a  
27 state-funded hospital system to provide Hawaii-based medical  
28 students with the medical rotations they need in any of the HHSC  
29 facilities; now, therefore,  
30

31 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth  
32 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010,  
33 that HHSC is urged to accept medical student rotations from A.T.  
34 Still University School of Osteopathic Medicine based out of the  
35 Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center (WCCHC), the  
36 University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM),  
37 and other Hawaii-based medical schools; and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
2 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director of Health,  
3 Chief Executive Officer of Hawaii Health Systems Corporation,  
4 Dean of John A. Burns School of Medicine, Chief Executive  
5 Officer of Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center, and the  
6 Executive Director of the Hawaii Medical Association.  
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OFFERED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

*John H.*

*Will Zygo*

*Clarence K. Dushikau*

