
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HAWAII STATE CENTER FOR NURSING TO EVALUATE THE
NEED FOR AND RESOURCES REQUIRED TO ESTABLISH A CONTINUING
EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR NURSES.

1 WHEREAS, under section 457-9(b), Hawaii Revised Statutes, a
2 nurse who has not actively practiced for more than five years in
3 this State or any other state, territory, or possession under
4 the jurisdiction of the United States may be required to submit
5 proof of continued competency by retaking and passing the
6 licensing examination or successfully completing a refresher
7 course approved by the Hawaii Board of Nursing to restore a
8 license; and
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10 WHEREAS, title 16, chapter 89C, Hawaii Administrative
11 Rules, requires advanced practice registered nurses with
12 prescriptive authority to submit proof of successfully
13 completing thirty contact hours of continuing education,
14 including eight hours of pharmacology, to renew prescriptive
15 authority; and
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17 WHEREAS, advanced practice registered nurses without
18 prescriptive authority, registered nurses, and practical nurses
19 are not now required to submit proof of having completed
20 continuing education to renew their licenses; and
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22 WHEREAS, nursing careers take widely divergent paths,
23 varying by professional role, setting, clients, disease
24 conditions, and therapeutic modalities as well as level of
25 health care delivery; and
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27 WHEREAS, nursing practice inherently evolves from entry
28 level generalist to an experienced, focused practice; and
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30 WHEREAS, according to the American Nurses Association, a
31 provider of continuing nursing education accredited by the
32 American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on



1 Accreditation, nursing professional development is a career-long
2 process of active participation in learning activities that
3 assist in developing and maintaining nurses' continuing
4 competence, enhancing their professional practice, and
5 supporting achievement of their career goals; and
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7 WHEREAS, the American Nurses Association also found that
8 nursing professional development builds on nurses' basic
9 education and experience and significantly contributes towards
10 the goal of ensuring the delivery of quality health care to the
11 public; and
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13 WHEREAS, continuing education plays a significant role in
14 nursing professionals' ongoing development for the betterment of
15 the profession and the patients they serve; and
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17 WHEREAS, continuing education requirements must be
18 administratively feasible, cost-effective, and equitably applied
19 and enforced; and
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21 WHEREAS, a continuing education program should include the
22 descriptions of proposed offerings, program and course
23 objectives, faculty credentials, administrative structure,
24 sources of financial support, recordkeeping mechanisms, and a
25 valid method of evaluation, and consider the intended audience;
26 and
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28 WHEREAS, any continuing education requirement applicable to
29 all nursing license renewals needs an adequate phase-in period
30 to allow educational institutions, employers, and professionals
31 sufficient time to meet the mandatory continuing education
32 requirements; and
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34 WHEREAS, the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing is in a
35 position to play a pivotal role in the development and
36 administration of a continuing education program for nurses that
37 will more fully engage its constituents; now, therefore,
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39 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth
40 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010, the
41 House of Representatives concurring, that the Hawai'i State
42 Center for Nursing is requested to examine the establishment of
43 a continuing education requirement for all nursing license



1 renewals and a Hawaii nursing continuing education program in
2 terms of feasibility, benefits, costs, obstacles, and a
3 potential timeframe; and
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawai'i State Center for
6 Nursing is requested to identify:
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- 8 (1) The resources required to ensure proper delivery,
9 monitoring, and compliance of a Hawaii nursing
10 continuing education program, including funds needed
11 for qualified staff, space, materials, and equipment,
12 and the fiscal impact on nurses, employers, the State,
13 and educational institutions providing the continuing
14 education credits;
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- 16 (2) The availability of resources needed to establish a
17 continuing education program for the twenty-four
18 thousand nurses licensed in Hawaii;
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- 20 (3) The chronologic evolution of nursing practice; how
21 factors specific to individual nurses such as age,
22 gender, type of basic nursing education, propensity
23 for self-study, specialty area, and work setting
24 influence the evolution of the practice; and types of
25 continuing education courses that would best respond
26 to these factors;
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- 28 (4) The determinants of safe post-entry practice and what
29 characterizes safe versus unsafe nursing practice; and
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- 31 (5) A professional program or programs suitable for
32 analyzing the training and educational needs of nurses
33 and for providing continuing education; and
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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawai'i State Center for
36 Nursing is requested to establish a joint advisory committee to
37 conduct the study, plan the establishment of a continuing
38 education program for nurses, and report its findings and
39 recommendations to the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing; and
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41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the joint advisory committee
42 consist of the following members:
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- 1 (1) One representative from the School of Nursing
2 established within each of the following institutions:
3 the University of Hawaii at Manoa, Hawaii Pacific
4 University, the University of Hawaii at Hilo,
5 Kapiolani Community College, Maui Community College,
6 Kauai Community College, Hawaii Community College, and
7 the University of Phoenix;
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- 9 (2) One representative from each of the following: the
10 Hawaii Association of Professional Nurses, the Hawaii
11 Nurses Association, the Philippine Nurses Association,
12 the Hawaii Association of Nurse Anesthetists, the
13 Hawaii Association of Nurse Executives, the Healthcare
14 Association of Hawaii, and the Hawaii Long Term Care
15 Association;
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- 17 (3) One representative from Hawaii Pacific Health, The
18 Queen's Medical Center, and any other Hawaii hospital
19 specified by the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing;
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- 21 (4) The Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs or the
22 Director's designee; and
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- 24 (5) One representative from the state Board of Nursing;
25 and
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the joint advisory committee
28 select a chairperson from among themselves, and the chairperson
29 is requested to convene meetings of the joint advisory
30 committee; and
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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the joint
33 advisory committee serve without compensation and without
34 reimbursement for expenses; and
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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawai'i State Center for
37 Nursing take the recommendations of the joint advisory committee
38 under advisement; and
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40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawai'i State Center for
41 Nursing is requested to review all reports prepared by the
42 Office of the Auditor and the National Council of State Boards
43 of Nursing relating to continuing education; and



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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing is requested to submit to the Legislature:

- (1) A status report that includes:
 - (A) A timeline for the convening of the joint advisory committee, the study, and submission of the reports requested under this measure;
 - (B) Identification of other parties that should be involved in the study;
 - (C) Challenges encountered or anticipated to be encountered by the joint advisory committee in conducting the study,

no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2011;

- (2) An interim report on the status of the study and the joint advisory committee's work, including any additional time that may be required to complete the study and submit the final report, no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2012; and

- (3) A final report of the Center's findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, pertaining to the establishment of a Hawaii Nursing Continuing Education Program, no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2013, unless the deadline for submittal of the final report is revised by concurrent resolution adopted in the Regular Session of 2012; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the joint advisory committee is to dissolve no later than six months after the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing submits its final report to the Legislature; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the

1 University of Hawaii System; Dean of the School of Nursing and
2 Dental Hygiene of the University of Hawaii at Manoa; Presidents
3 of Hawaii Pacific University and the University of Phoenix;
4 Chancellors of the University of Hawaii at Hilo, Kapiolani
5 Community College, Maui Community College, Kauai Community
6 College, and Hawaii Community College; Executive Directors of
7 the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing, National Council of State
8 Boards of Nursing, Hawaii Association of Professional Nurses,
9 Hawaii Nurses Association, Philippine Nurses Association, Hawaii
10 Association of Nurse Anesthetists, Hawaii Association of Nurse
11 Executives, Healthcare Association of Hawaii, and Hawaii Long
12 Term Care Association; Presidents and Chief Executive Officers
13 of Hawaii Pacific Health and The Queen's Medical Center;
14 Directors of Health, Human Services, and Commerce and Consumer
15 Affairs; State Auditor; and state Board of Nursing.

