

Honolulu, Hawaii

March 18, 2016

RE: S.B. No. 3017
S.D. 1

Honorable Joseph M. Souki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2016
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred S.B. No. 3017, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to address the shortage of physicians in Hawaii, starting with family medicine primary care physicians for rural Oahu and Neighbor Island communities in the State, by appropriating funds for medical resident positions in rural Oahu and Neighbor Island communities and associated costs.

The Queen's Health Systems, Healthcare Association of Hawaii, Hawaii Pacific Health, Hawaii Academy of Family Physicians Board of Directors, Hawaii Medical Service Association, Hawaii Primary Care Association, and numerous individuals testified in support of this measure. The University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine commented on this measure.

Should this measure proceed further in the legislative process, your Committee respectfully requests the Committee on Finance to consider appropriating \$2,000,000 to maintain the stability of the existing residency programs and support the expansion of the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine's Family Medicine Residency Program and provide the needed faculty, staff, and clinical learning environment infrastructure support to sustain the expansion. Your Committee notes that the current Family Medicine Residency Program has eighteen residents: six residents per year in a three-year



training program leading to board certification. The appropriation will allow immediate expansion of residency by two residents per year and, over three years, will lead to residency expansion from 18 to 24 residents, or eight graduates per year. Your Committee further notes that Phase 2 of the expansion will add four additional residents at Neighbor Island sites for a doubling of program size from the original 18 residents to 36 residents, or 12 graduates per year.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 3017, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Higher Education.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Health,



DELLA AU BELATTI, Chair



