

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 27 2019

RE: S.R. No. 54
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirtieth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2019
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Higher Education, to which was referred
S.R. No. 54 entitled:

"SENATE RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING THE LEGISLATURE TO FUND THE
HAWAII RURAL HEALTH CARE PROVIDER LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to encourage the
Legislature to fund the Hawaii rural health care provider loan
repayment program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the University of Hawai'i System and Office of the Mayor of
the County of Hawai'i.

Your Committee finds that many residents of Hawaii are
increasingly unable to obtain timely and appropriate health care
due to a shortage of primary health care providers in the State.
This may be the result of the increasingly high cost of health
care professional education, which often requires individuals to
seek out the higher incomes that allow them to repay their student
loans in specialty care in urban areas and not in the areas of
greatest need in Hawaii. Your Committee further finds that since
September 1, 2012, at least twenty-five health care providers have
received loan repayment to work in health professional shortage
areas in Hawaii and are still serving these communities through
the Hawaii rural health care provider loan repayment program.



Therefore, further funding is needed to continue the Hawaii rural health care provider loan repayment program to provide loan repayment for physicians, physician assistants, and nurse practitioners who agree to work in a federally designated health professional shortage area or an area of Hawaii found to be underserved.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.R. No. 54, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means, in the form attached hereto as S.R. No. 54, S.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Higher Education,



DONNA MERCADO KIM, Chair



The Senate
Thirtieth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Higher Education
HRE

Bill / Resolution No.:* SR 54	Committee Referral: HRE, WAM	Date: 3/21/19		
☐ The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: ☐ Pass, unamended 2312 ☒ Pass, with amendments 2311 ☐ Hold 2310 ☐ Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
KIM, Donna Mercado (C)	/			
KIDANI, Michelle N. (VC)	/			
KAHELE, Kaiali'i				/
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C.	/			
FEVELLA, Kurt	/			
TOTAL	4			1
Recommendation: ☒ Adopted ☐ Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: Michelle N. Kidani				
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*Only one measure per Record of Votes