
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TUITION WAIVERS FOR PHYSICIANS IN RURAL AREAS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that many of the
2 residents of Hawaii are increasingly unable to obtain timely and
3 appropriate health care because of physician shortages.

4 Specifically, rural areas of Hawaii suffer from chronic shortage
5 of medical professionals. Therefore, the State must provide
6 incentives for medical professionals to serve in rural areas.

7 The purpose of this Act is to require and appropriate funds
8 for the University of Hawaii John A. Burns school of medicine to
9 establish a loan forgiveness program to cover a student's
10 tuition balance after any grants and scholarships received to
11 study at the University of Hawaii John A. Burns school of
12 medicine.

13 SECTION 2. (a) The University of Hawaii John A. Burns
14 school of medicine shall establish a loan forgiveness program to
15 cover a student's tuition balance after any grants and
16 scholarships received to study at the University of Hawaii John
17 A. Burns school of medicine.



1 (b) The loan forgiveness recipient shall sign a contract
2 committing to practice medicine in rural areas of the State for
3 at least five consecutive years after completing the recipient's
4 residency; provided that the contract shall be subject to state
5 parental leave provisions.

6 For the purposes of this subsection, "rural areas" means an
7 area, as defined by zip code, with fewer than thirty thousand
8 residents.

9 (c) By June 30 of each year until the loan forgiveness
10 recipient has discharged their obligations pursuant to
11 subsection (b), the recipient shall submit evidence that the
12 recipient is fulfilling their obligations per the signed
13 contract to the University of Hawaii John A. Burns school of
14 medicine and department of health. Such evidence shall include
15 a signed affidavit from the loan forgiveness recipient; provided
16 that the affidavit shall include the number of rural residents
17 served by the recipient during the past year; provided further
18 that if the recipient is employed, the recipient shall submit
19 signed affidavits from the recipient's employers and copies of
20 time sheets; provided further that if the recipient is self-



1 employed, the recipient shall submit summaries and
2 representative copies of insurance payments.

3 (d) If a loan forgiveness recipient breaches their
4 contract pursuant to subsection (b), the University of Hawaii
5 John A. Burns school of medicine and department of health shall
6 file a lien against the recipient in breach for the amount of
7 the tuition waived prorated for the period of the breach.

8 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
9 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
10 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for
11 the University of Hawaii John A. Burns school of medicine to
12 establish a loan forgiveness program to cover a student's
13 tuition balance after any grants and scholarships received to
14 study at the University of Hawaii John A. Burns school of
15 medicine; provided that no funds shall be released unless
16 matched on a dollar-for-dollar basis by funds from a private or
17 another public source.

18 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of
19 Hawaii John A. Burns school of medicine for the purposes of this
20 Act.

21 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:

University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine; Rural Areas; Appropriation

Description:

Requires and appropriates funds for the University of Hawaii John A. Burns school of medicine to establish a loan forgiveness program. (SD1)

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