

JAN 24 2019

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MEDICAL RESIDENCY PROGRAMS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that stemming the
2 critical and growing shortage of qualified physicians in Hawaii
3 is a matter of statewide public concern. The lack of residency
4 training opportunities for local medical graduates contributes
5 significantly to this shortage.

6 Residency is a supervised, hands-on training program that
7 must be completed prior to licensure, board certification, and
8 independent practice. This course of training lasts at least
9 three years and exposes new doctors to varied care settings,
10 diverse patients, and new research methods.

11 The legislature further finds that, according to a recent
12 study at Hawaii's John A. Burns school of medicine, while
13 medical school class sizes are increasing, available residency
14 positions in Hawaii are shrinking. In fact, the State ranks in
15 the bottom fifth for available residency positions per graduate.

16 The legislature finds that federal funds support only a
17 small portion of the costs associated with post-graduate medical



1 training. The amount falls far short of what is needed to
2 support and expand the State's critically important residency
3 programs. Federal funding has also failed to keep pace with the
4 growing costs of medical training, placing significant financial
5 burdens on teaching hospitals and forcing them to limit their
6 residency opportunities.

7 The purpose of this Act is to provide additional long-term
8 funding to Hawaii teaching hospitals, to support and expand
9 their residency training programs.

10 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
11 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
12 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 and the
13 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
14 2020-2021 to support the expansion of physician residency
15 training programs in Hawaii's teaching hospitals; provided that
16 no funds shall be released unless matched dollar-for-dollar by
17 private funding sources.

18 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the medical
19 education council in cooperation with the department of health
20 for the purposes of this Act.



1 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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S.B. NO. 1400

Report Title:

Medical Residency; Physician Shortage; Appropriation

Description:

Makes an appropriation to support and expand medical residency training programs in state teaching hospitals. Requires dollar-for-dollar matching funds from private funding sources.

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