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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE CONVENING OF A WORKING GROUP TO DETERMINE THE  
GAPS IN ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE AND THE POTENTIAL ROLE  
ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES MAY PLAY IN ADDRESSING  
THESE GAPS.

1           WHEREAS, Hawaii's health care system is in crisis due to  
2 the severe shortage of physicians in the State; and  
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4           WHEREAS, according to the Hawai'i Physician Workforce  
5 Assessment Project study conducted in 2020 by the Area Health  
6 Education Center of Hawaii at the University of Hawaii, the gap  
7 between supply and demand for doctors in Hawaii has grown by  
8 sixty-five percent since 2010; and  
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10           WHEREAS, the biennial Hawai'i Physician Workforce Assessment  
11 Project study also reported a current shortage of eight hundred  
12 twenty physicians statewide, with the neighbor islands hardest  
13 affected; and  
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15           WHEREAS, there is a physician shortfall of sixteen percent  
16 on Oahu, compared to a forty-four percent shortfall for the  
17 island of Hawaii, thirty-six percent for Maui County, and  
18 thirty-two percent for the island of Kauai; and  
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20           WHEREAS, advanced practice registered nurses may assist in  
21 increasing the supply of health care providers, especially for  
22 the neighbor islands and rural areas in the State; and  
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24           WHEREAS, studies show that advanced practice registered  
25 nurses are competent and able to perform many health care  
26 procedures that physicians perform; and



1 WHEREAS, it is appropriate and necessary for the State to  
2 determine the role of advanced practice registered nurses within  
3 the State's health care system; now, therefore,  
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5 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
6 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
7 of 2021, the Senate concurring, that the Board of Nursing and  
8 Hawaii Medical Board are requested to convene a working group to  
9 determine the gaps in access to health care and the potential  
10 role advanced practice registered nurses may play in addressing  
11 these gaps; and  
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the tasks of the working group  
14 are requested to include:  
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- 16 (1) Identifying the gaps and limitations that exist in  
17 providing access to health care, especially on the  
18 neighbor islands and in rural communities; and  
19  
20 (2) An evaluation of how advanced practice registered  
21 nurses would increase equitable access to health care  
22 on the neighbor islands and in rural areas in the  
23 State; and  
24

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested  
26 to comprise the following members, or their designees:  
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- 28 (1) The Chairperson of the Board of Nursing, who is  
29 requested to serve as a co-chairperson of the working  
30 group;  
31  
32 (2) The Chairperson of the Hawaii Medical Board, who is  
33 requested to serve as a co-chairperson of the working  
34 group;  
35  
36 (3) The Dean of the University of Hawaii at Manoa John A.  
37 Burns School of Medicine;  
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39 (4) The Dean of the University of Hawaii at Manoa School  
40 of Nursing and Dental Hygiene;  
41  
42 (5) The Director of Health;



- 1 (6) The Director of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing;
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- 3 (7) The President of the Hawai'i Psychological Association;
- 4
- 5 (8) The President of the Hawaii Association of
- 6 Professional Nurses;
- 7
- 8 (9) A representative from each major nonprofit health care
- 9 system;
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- 11 (10) One member to be designated by the Senate President;
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- 13 (11) One member to be designated by the Speaker of the
- 14 House of Representatives; and
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- 16 (12) Any other individuals invited by either
- 17 co-chairperson; and
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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested  
 20 to submit a report of its findings and recommendations,  
 21 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later  
 22 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session  
 23 of 2023; and

24  
 25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested  
 26 to dissolve on December 30, 2022; and

27  
 28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 29 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the  
 30 Board of Nursing, Chairperson of the Hawaii Medical Board, Dean  
 31 of the University of Hawaii at Manoa John A. Burns School of  
 32 Medicine, Dean of the University of Hawaii at Manoa School of  
 33 Nursing and Dental Hygiene, Director of Health, Director of the  
 34 Hawai'i State Center for Nursing, President of the Hawai'i  
 35 Psychological Association, President of the Hawaii Association  
 36 of Professional Nurses, President of The Queen's Health Systems,  
 37 President of Hawaii Pacific Health, President of Adventist  
 38 Health Castle, and President of Kaiser Permanente Hawaii Health  
 39 Plan and Hospitals.

