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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SCHOOL OF NURSING AND DENTAL  
HYGIENE TO CONVENE A WORKING TO CONDUCT AN ANALYSIS OF  
ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES AND PHYSICIAN  
ASSISTANTS.

1           WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes that there is a  
2 physician shortage in the State, which often leaves rural  
3 communities with challenges to health care access; and  
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5           WHEREAS, the Legislature is currently looking at different  
6 legislation to expand the scope of practice for advanced  
7 practice registered nurses and physician assistants; and  
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9           WHEREAS, according to the Hawaii State Center for Nursing,  
10 since 2009, the Legislature has passed twenty-two laws related  
11 to the scope of practice of advanced practice registered nurses;  
12 and  
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14           WHEREAS, the 2021 Legislature has or is considering five  
15 measures related to expanding the scope of practice for advanced  
16 practice registered nurses in a variety of ways in Hawaii; and  
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18           WHEREAS, it is challenging to expand the scope of practice  
19 for advanced practice registered nurses and physician assistants  
20 without a holistic view of what their scope of practice could  
21 and should be in Hawaii; and  
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23           WHEREAS, there is a need to make clear distinctions to  
24 understand the differences between physicians, advanced practice  
25 registered nurses, and physician assistants and what each  
26 profession's scope of practice in Hawaii should be; now,  
27 therefore,  
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29           BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
30 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session



1 of 2021, the Senate concurring, that the University of Hawaii  
2 School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene is requested to conduct an  
3 analysis of advanced practice registered nurses and physician  
4 assistants; and

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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in its analysis, the University  
7 of Hawaii School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene is requested to  
8 include the following:

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- 10 (1) The full scope of practice for advanced practice  
11 registered nurses and physician assistants based on  
12 national professional guidelines;
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14 (2) The distinctions between the educational training and  
15 scope of practice between physicians, advanced  
16 practice registered nurses, and physician assistants;
  - 17  
18 (3) An examination of potential scope of practice  
19 limitations for advanced practice registered nurses  
20 and physician assistants in the Hawaii Administrative  
21 Rules; and
  - 22  
23 (4) A comparative study of how Hawaii differs from other  
24 states regarding the scope of practice for advanced  
25 practice registered nurses and physician assistants;  
26 and
- 27

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii School  
29 of Nursing and Dental Hygiene is requested to submit a report of  
30 its findings to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior  
31 to the Regular Session of 2022; and

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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
34 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Lieutenant  
35 Governor, and Dean of the University of Hawaii School of Nursing  
36 and Dental Hygiene.

