

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 17 2022RE: S.B. No. 2597
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-First State Legislature
Regular Session of 2022
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Health and Higher Education, to which was referred S.B. No. 2597 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO LOAN REPAYMENT FOR HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to appropriate funds for the Hawaii state loan repayment program administered through the John A. Burns School of Medicine, subject to a matching funds requirement.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, University of Hawai'i System, East Hawaii Region of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation, Healthcare Association of Hawaii, Kaiser Permanente Hawaii, The Queen's Health Systems, Hawaii Medical Association, Hawai'i Pacific Health, Hawai'i Primary Care Association, Hawaii Psychiatric Medical Association, Hawai'i State Rural Health Association, and three individuals. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committees find that the State faces a shortage of health care professionals. The shortage is particularly acute in rural communities in the State. The high cost of education for health care professionals often lead them to train in highly



specialized fields of care and practice in urban areas, rather than maintain a general practice on neighbor islands or in underserved areas. Your Committees also find that the Hawaii State Loan Repayment Program administered by the John A. Burns School of Medicine successfully provided loan repayments to sixty-two individuals, with eighty-three percent remaining in Hawaii and seventy percent remaining at the site they performed their service. This measure appropriates funds to the Department of Health to fund the Hawaii State Loan Repayment Program to continue to provide a financial incentive to health care professionals working in health care shortage areas.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting a blank appropriation amount; and
- (2) Inserting an effective date of January 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Health and Higher Education that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2597, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2597, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Health and Higher
Education



DONNA MERCADO KIM, Chair

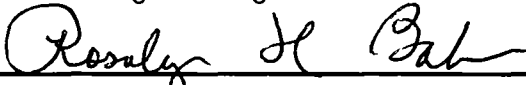


JARRETT KEOHOKALO, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-First Legislature
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes
Committee on Health
HTH**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SB 2997	HTH/HRE, NAM	2-9-2022		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is:				
<input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311	<input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310		
<input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
KEOHOKALOOLE, Jarrett (C)	✓			
BAKER, Rosalyn H. (VC)	✓			
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y.	✓			
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A.	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt	✓			
TOTAL	5	—	—	—
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
				
Distribution:				
Original File with Committee Report	Yellow Clerk's Office	Pink Drafting Agency	Goldenrod Committee File Copy	

*Only one measure per Record of Votes

The Senate
Thirty-First Legislature
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes
Committee on Higher Education
HRE**

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 2597	Committee Referral: HTH/HRE, WAM	Date: 2/9/22		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
KIM, Donna Mercado (C)	✓			✓
KIDANI, Michelle N. (VC)				✓
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C.	✓			
WAKAI, Glenn	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt	✓			
TOTAL	4	Ø	Ø	1
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;">Original File with Committee Report</div> <div style="text-align: center;">Yellow Clerk's Office</div> <div style="text-align: center;">Pink Drafting Agency</div> <div style="text-align: center;">Goldenrod Committee File Copy</div> </div>				

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