

JAN 21 2022

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MEDICAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that many Hawaii
2 residents are unable to obtain timely and appropriate health
3 care due to a shortage of health care providers in the State.
4 The ongoing shortage threatens individual health and may pose
5 adverse effects to the State's health care costs. The neighbor
6 islands, which have been designated by the federal government as
7 medically underserved areas, have been disproportionately
8 adversely affected by shortages of physicians in all areas of
9 practice. The John A. Burns school of medicine has engaged in
10 strategies to increase the numbers of physicians in Hawaii,
11 including, among other endeavors:

- 12 (1) Enrolling more students each year;
- 13 (2) Rotating medical students to the neighbor islands for
14 preclinical rotations for up to twelve weeks;
- 15 (3) Developing longitudinal third-year rotation sites
16 where a small number of students are in the same
17 location for five months;



- 1 (4) Developing a small number of sites for four-week
- 2 fourth-year clinical rotations;
- 3 (5) Developing residency or fellowship rotations on
- 4 neighbor islands; and
- 5 (6) Administering the state's loan repayment program that
- 6 places recipients in underserved communities,
- 7 especially the neighbor islands.

8 Current physician workforce data indicate that Hawaii has a
9 shortage of about seven hundred fifty doctors when compared to
10 the general United States physician-patient ratios of a similar
11 demographic population. Primary care, internal medicine, and
12 some specialty physician shortages represent Hawaii's greatest
13 area of need. Without these physicians, the people of Hawaii do
14 not have access to the health care they need.

15 Currently, there is strong collaboration between the John
16 A. Burns school of medicine and the Veterans Administration.
17 The Veterans Administration health system currently invests in
18 Hawaii-based residency positions using a separate federal pool
19 of resources for support. With additional faculty members, the
20 capacity to train additional Hawaii-based residents through the
21 Veterans Administration program will enable the John A. Burns



1 school of medicine to expand the number of residency rotations
2 and create new training opportunities.

3 In Hawaii, graduate medical costs are largely borne by the
4 University of Hawaii and its affiliated health systems.
5 Although some federal funding has been used by the health
6 systems to cover a portion of the costs, there are areas where
7 the State can invest and expand medical education training using
8 the newly available American Rescue Plan Act funding.

9 The legislature further finds that beneficial public
10 outcomes may be achieved by expanding capacity for training
11 medical students and residents through the Veterans
12 Administration, including the recruitment of additional
13 practicing faculty to Hawaii's Veterans Administration
14 facilities, leveraged care delivery capacity, and the retention
15 of Hawaii students as practitioners in the State.

16 Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds
17 to create further medical residency and training opportunities
18 through a partnership between the John A. Burns school of
19 medicine and the Veterans Administration.

20 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
21 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$6,700,000 or so much



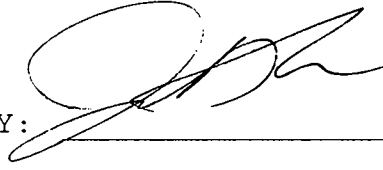
1 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 for the
2 expansion of medical residency and training opportunities in
3 partnership with the Veterans Administration.

4 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of
5 Hawaii at Manoa John A. Burns school of medicine for the
6 purposes of this Act.

7 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2022.

8

INTRODUCED BY: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. A. Burns', is written over a horizontal line that extends to the right of the text 'INTRODUCED BY:'. The signature is stylized and cursive.

S.B. NO. 2656

Report Title:

Veterans Administration; John A. Burns School of Medicine;
University of Hawaii; Medical Residencies and Training;
Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds to support additional opportunities for medical residencies and training programs in a partnership between the John A. Burns School of Medicine and the Veterans Administration.

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