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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the cancer research  
2 center of Hawaii reduces the burden of cancer through research,  
3 education, patient care, and community outreach. The cancer  
4 research center of Hawaii is the only National Cancer Institute  
5 (NCI)-designated cancer center in Hawaii and the Pacific region.  
6 Furthermore, it is a member of the Hawaii Cancer Consortium  
7 along with five hospital groups and the university of Hawaii's  
8 John A. Burns school of medicine (JABSOM).

9           JABSOM educates and trains health care professionals,  
10 including physicians, biomedical scientists, and allied health  
11 workers. JABSOM also conducts fundamental medical research and  
12 translates discoveries into delivery practices. Because JABSOM  
13 is a community-based medical school without its own university  
14 hospital, it partners with private hospitals in the community to  
15 achieve its educational mission.

16           The public funds and other resources the State has made  
17 available to JABSOM and the cancer research center of Hawaii



1 have been substantial. The magnitude of state funds and other  
2 resources provided to the university of Hawaii, the distinction  
3 of the university being the sole public institution of higher  
4 education in the State, and the cancer research center of Hawaii  
5 being the only NCI-designated cancer center in Hawaii underscore  
6 the importance of establishing complementary strategic  
7 priorities and coordinating the management and deployment of  
8 state resources appropriated to JABSOM and the cancer research  
9 center of Hawaii.

10 It is in the public's interest that state resources be  
11 efficiently and effectively managed to optimize the public  
12 benefits. Just as co-locating the physical facilities for  
13 JABSOM and the cancer research center of Hawaii on adjoining  
14 sites in Kakaako promotes synergistic efforts, the legislature  
15 determines that it is a statewide concern pursuant to article X,  
16 section 6, of the Hawaii State Constitution, to ensure that the  
17 management of public resources provided to JABSOM and the cancer  
18 research center of Hawaii be integrated, coordinated, and  
19 focused on common priorities to avoid unnecessary duplication of  
20 administrative expenses or conflicting priorities.



1           The legislature further finds that as a matter of statewide  
2 concern pursuant to article X, section 6, of the Hawaii State  
3 Constitution, the cancer research center of Hawaii should be an  
4 organized research unit under the administrative and management  
5 purview of JABSOM. The legislature notes that the cancer  
6 research center of Hawaii and JABSOM share many resources,  
7 including the health science library, fitness facility,  
8 telecommunications system, and on-site security personnel.  
9 Merging the cancer research center of Hawaii and JABSOM will  
10 eliminate redundancies in building construction, equipment  
11 expenses, facilities operating expenses, and common staff  
12 positions, which will reduce costs. Furthermore, a merger would  
13 streamline future strategic collaborations, foster enhanced  
14 cooperation, and create new opportunities for joint initiatives  
15 in medical research, education, and patient care.

16           Placing resources devoted to training and educating  
17 physicians and conducting cancer research in an integrated  
18 university organizational structure as opposed to stand-alone  
19 and duplicative organizations will foster a uniform strategic  
20 vision. Unified leadership will also allow better coordination



1 with the university of Hawaii's private partners in the hospital  
2 community and with other state agencies.

3 The legislature also notes that from 2014 to 2016, the  
4 university of Hawaii developed business plans, hired  
5 consultants, and made presentations to its board of regents on  
6 the university's plans to integrate the university of Hawaii  
7 Kakaako health science campus and eliminate operational  
8 redundancies between JABSOM and the cancer research center of  
9 Hawaii. Further, the university of Hawaii frequently groups  
10 different organized research units within a larger  
11 administrative structure. For example, the school of ocean and  
12 earth science and technology encompasses several outstanding  
13 research units, including the center for microbial oceanography:  
14 research and education and Hawaii institute of marine biology.

15 To maintain the NCI designation as a cancer center  
16 consistent with NCI guidelines, the director of the cancer  
17 research center of Hawaii shall continue to have a direct line  
18 of reporting and accountability to the chancellor of the  
19 university of Hawaii at Manoa and the provost of the university  
20 of Hawaii at Manoa shall also have a reporting line to the dean  
21 of JABSOM.



1           Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to require:

2           (1) The cancer research center of Hawaii to be  
3                 reestablished in statute as an organized research unit  
4                 within JABSOM;

5           (2) The director of the cancer research center of Hawaii  
6                 to be appointed by the university of Hawaii's board of  
7                 regents upon recommendation from the chancellor of the  
8                 university of Hawaii at Manoa and the provost of the  
9                 University of Hawaii at Manoa instead of the dean of  
10                JABSOM;

11          (3) The director of the cancer research center of Hawaii  
12                 to report to the chancellor of the university of  
13                 Hawaii at Manoa, the provost of the university of  
14                 Hawaii at Manoa, and the dean of the school of  
15                 medicine and coordinate with the president of the  
16                 university; and

17          (4) Funds expended from or originating from the research  
18                 and training revolving fund established by section  
19                 304A-2253, Hawaii Revised Statutes, for JABSOM or the  
20                 cancer research center of Hawaii to be used for  
21                 research and research-related purposes only.



1 SECTION 2. Chapter 304A, part IV, Hawaii Revised Statutes,  
2 is amended by adding a new subpart to be appropriately  
3 designated and to read as follows:

4 " . **Cancer Research Center of Hawaii**

5 **§304A- Cancer research unit.** (a) There is established  
6 within the medical school of the university of Hawaii an  
7 organized research unit, hereinafter known as the "cancer  
8 research center of Hawaii", to conduct cancer research. The  
9 cancer research center of Hawaii shall be administered by a  
10 director to be appointed by the board of regents upon  
11 recommendation by the chancellor of the university of Hawaii at  
12 Manoa, and the provost of the university of Hawaii at Manoa,  
13 with the concurrence of the president of the university. The  
14 director of the cancer research center of Hawaii shall report to  
15 the chancellor of the university of Hawaii at Manoa, provost of  
16 the university of Hawaii at Manoa, and the dean of the school of  
17 medicine and coordinate with the president of the university.

18 (b) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, funds  
19 expended from, or originating from the research and training  
20 revolving fund, established under section 304A-2253, for the  
21 school of medicine or the cancer research center of Hawaii shall



1 be used by the school of medicine or the cancer research center  
2 of Hawaii for research and research-related purposes only.

3 (c) The cancer research center of Hawaii's agenda shall  
4 focus on research, education, patient care, and community  
5 outreach and should reflect an understanding of the ethnic,  
6 cultural, and environmental characteristics of the State and the  
7 Pacific region. The cancer research center of Hawaii may:

- 8 (1) Engage in international research collaborations;
- 9 (2) Underate research studies and clinical trials; and
- 10 (3) Participate in projects and programs of the National  
11 Cancer Institute."

12 SECTION 3. Section 304A-2253, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
13 amended to read as follows:

14 "**§304A-2253 Research and training revolving fund.** (a)

15 There is established a [~~University~~] university of Hawaii  
16 research and training revolving fund into which shall be  
17 deposited one hundred per cent of the total amount of indirect  
18 overhead revenues generated by the university from research and  
19 training programs. The board of regents is authorized to expend  
20 one hundred per cent of the revenues deposited in the fund for:



1 (1) Research and training purposes that may result in  
2 additional research and training grants and contracts;

3 (2) Facilitating research and training at the university;  
4 and

5 (3) Further deposit into the discoveries and inventions  
6 special fund.

7 (b) The annual report required to be made for this  
8 revolving fund shall include but not be limited to a breakdown  
9 of travel expenses.

10 (c) Notwithstanding section 304A-107 to the contrary, the  
11 board of regents, or its designee, may establish a separate  
12 account within the research and training revolving fund for the  
13 purpose of providing advance funding to meet reimbursable costs  
14 incurred in connection with federally financed research and  
15 training projects. Any reimbursement received as a result of  
16 providing advance funding shall be deposited into the research  
17 and training revolving fund to be used for the purpose of  
18 meeting reimbursable costs incurred in connection with federally  
19 financed projects.

20 (d) Revenues deposited into the fund shall not be used as  
21 a basis for reducing any current or future budget request or



1 allotment to the university unless the university requests such  
2 a reduction.

3 (e) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, funds  
4 expended from or originating from the fund for the university of  
5 Hawaii school of medicine or the cancer research center of  
6 Hawaii shall be used by the school of medicine or the cancer  
7 research center of Hawaii for research and research-related  
8 purposes only."

9 SECTION 4. Chapter 304A, part IV, subpart R, Hawaii  
10 Revised Statutes, is repealed.

11 SECTION 5. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
12 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

13 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2025.

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INTRODUCED BY:

*Anna Mercado K.*



**Report Title:**

UH; JABSOM; Cancer Research Center of Hawaii; Research and Training Revolving Fund

**Description:**

Reestablishes the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii as an organized research unit within the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) that is administered by a director appointed by the University of Hawaii's board of regents with direct lines of reporting to the chancellor of the University of Hawaii at Manoa, provost of the University of Hawaii at Manoa, and dean of JABSOM. Requires funds expended from the Research and Training Revolving Fund for JABSOM and the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii to be used for research and research-related purposes only. Repeals provisions that required the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii to be administratively affiliated with JABSOM.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

