

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 11 2025

RE: S.B. No. 119  
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirty-Third State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2025  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Higher Education, to which was referred  
S.B. No. 119 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO NURSING,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to appropriate funds to establish the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program at the University of Hawaii Maui College.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Hawai'i Public Health Association, Hawai'i Primary Care Association, Hawai'i State Center for Nursing, Healthcare Association of Hawaii, and six individuals.

Your Committee finds that meeting the growing demand for skilled nursing professionals is critical to addressing health care shortages and ensuring the well-being of the State's communities. Your Committee further finds that expanding nursing education programs of the University of Hawaii System is essential to developing a robust workforce capable of meeting the needs of an aging population, addressing health care disparities in underserved areas, and responding to future public health challenges. This measure invests in the establishment of a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program at the University of Hawaii Maui College to help increase the supply of nurse



graduates, reduce the nursing workforce shortage, and allow Maui nursing students to remain on Maui during their entire course of study.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing each appropriation amount to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Inserting an effective date of July 31, 2050, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

Your Committee notes that this measure, as amended, contains unspecified appropriation amounts. Should your Committee on Ways and Means choose to deliberate on this measure, your Committee respectfully requests that it consider the following appropriation amounts for the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program:

- (1) \$100,000 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$60,000 for fiscal year 2026-2027 to meet the increased demand for prerequisite courses by students newly enrolled in the program;
- (2) \$90,000 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$60,000 for fiscal year 2026-2027 for additional personnel associated with the establishment of the program;
- (3) \$60,000 for fiscal years 2025-2026 and 2026-2027, respectively, for supplies, equipment, and simulation and laboratory upgrades associated with the establishment of the program; and
- (4) \$250,000 for fiscal year 2026-2027 for instructional costs associated with providing a third year of nursing courses following the establishment of the program.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 119, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second



Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 119, S.D. 1, and  
be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Higher Education,



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DONNA MERCADO KIM, Chair



The Senate  
 Thirty-Third Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

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

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:
<b>SB 119</b>	<b>HRE , WAM</b>	<b>2/4/2025</b>

The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.  
 If so, then the previous decision was to: \_\_\_\_\_

The Recommendation is:

Pass, unamended 2312     Pass, with amendments 2311     Hold 2310     Recommit 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
KIM, Donna Mercado (C)	X			
KIDANI, Michelle N. (VC)	X			
FUKUNAGA, Carol	X			
HASHIMOTO, Troy N.	X			
FEVELLA, Kurt				X
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>			<b>1</b>

Recommendation:     Adopted     Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature: 

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\*Only one measure per Record of Votes