

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.:* <b>SB 119</b>	Committee Referral: <b>HRE , WAM</b>	Date: <b>2/4/2025</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312         </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311         </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310         </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313         </div> </div>				
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: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 5px;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted         <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted         </div>				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="text-align: center; font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.2em;">Michelle N. Kidani</div>				
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> <div>Distribution:</div> <div>Original</div> <div>Yellow</div> <div>Pink</div> <div>Goldenrod</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em; margin-top: 2px;"> <div>File with Committee Report</div> <div>Clerk's Office</div> <div>Drafting Agency</div> <div>Committee File Copy</div> </div>				

**\*Only one measure per Record of Votes**