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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO NURSING.

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

1           SECTION 1. Hawaii's nurses are the primary providers of  
2 hospital patient care and deliver much of the State's long term  
3 and community-based care. An investment in nursing is an  
4 investment in the health and well-being of the State.

5           Health statistics indicate that older adults consume the  
6 majority of health care services comprising fifty-seven to  
7 sixty-three per cent of the physician visits, fifty per cent of  
8 hospital expenditures, eighty per cent of home health care  
9 visits, and ninety per cent of long term care. Ironically, many  
10 of the aging baby boomers are nurses, and it is projected that  
11 by 2020, sixty-one per cent of Hawaii's nursing workforce will  
12 have retired.

13           To ensure that the nursing shortage and gaps in health care  
14 are addressed, this Act proposes to establish a geriatric  
15 nursing institute at the University of Hawaii at Manoa school of  
16 nursing and dental hygiene. The institute will offer courses at  
17 the undergraduate and graduate level as well as clinical



1 internships in geriatric nursing. It will also partner with  
2 national academies in this field.

3 To further address the nursing shortage and gaps in health  
4 care availability, this Act establishes a University of Hawaii  
5 statewide nursing consortium to implement and evaluate a program  
6 to support educational mobility between the community colleges  
7 and four-year degree university programs.

8 A third method for addressing the nursing shortage is  
9 provided by increasing the undergraduate faculty and academic  
10 support capacity at the University of Hawaii Manoa school of  
11 nursing and dental hygiene to increase the number of nursing  
12 graduates.

13 SECTION 2. Chapter 304A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
14 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
15 and to read as follows:

16 "304A- Geriatric nursing institute. (a) The school of  
17 nursing and dental hygiene may establish a geriatric nursing  
18 institute and include within its curriculum instructional  
19 programs in the field of geriatric practice nurses (APN). The  
20 institute may undertake the following activities:

21 (1) Strengthen nursing curriculum to focus on primary  
22 populations served such as Hawaii's older adults,



1 through revision of curriculum in the bachelor of  
2 science undergraduate program; enhance the geriatric  
3 nurse practitioner track in the master's and  
4 post-master's program; develop an undergraduate focus  
5 (capstone) course in geriatrics; and provide clinical  
6 internships that focus on older adults;

7 (2) Recruit faculty specializing in geriatric nursing and  
8 gerontology including a gerontology nursing  
9 professor/chair for research and scholarly activity to  
10 create and disseminate new knowledge in regard to best  
11 practices in Hawaii;

12 (3) Assure faculty competency and retention through  
13 academic credentialing and certification,  
14 participation in national training academies, and  
15 create awards and mechanisms for recognition, and  
16 support for interdisciplinary translational research;

17 (4) Utilize current best practices in the care for older  
18 adults such as competencies and curricula guidelines  
19 for geriatric nursing care, models for curriculum and  
20 faculty training, use of national and local academic  
21 resources including the center on family and center on  
22 aging at the University of Hawaii Manoa campus;



1       (5) Build partnerships with clinical and community experts  
2       to bridge the clinical faculty shortage by sharing  
3       expert practitioners and share physical resources and  
4       infrastructure; and

5       (6) Recruit students willing to commit to serving Hawaii's  
6       older adults through career ladder programs,  
7       mentoring, clinical internships, student clinical  
8       placements, and tuition forgiveness for an incentive  
9       to practice in Hawaii's long-term, home care, or other  
10       health care setting in which majority of care is  
11       provided to older adults.

12       (b) Establish a University of Hawaii statewide nursing  
13       consortium responsible for the planning, implementation, and  
14       evaluation of programs designed to support educational nursing  
15       mobility throughout the university system, thus contributing to  
16       an increase in graduates at every level of nursing education.  
17       Consortium membership would include representatives from the  
18       University of Hawaii nursing programs at Manoa, Hilo, Hawaii,  
19       Maui, Kauai, and Kapiolani community colleges and shall be  
20       administratively housed at the University of Hawaii at Manoa  
21       school of nursing and dental hygiene.



1        (c) Establish a nursing workforce development initiative  
2 within the school of nursing and dental hygiene to increase the  
3 number of graduates from both entry and graduate level programs  
4 using traditional and master's entry programs."

5        SECTION 3. Section 304A-1406 is amended to read as  
6 follows:

7        "§304A-1406 Center for nursing; functions. The center for  
8 nursing shall:

- 9        (1) Collect and analyze data and prepare and disseminate  
10 written reports and recommendations regarding the  
11 current and future status and trends of the nursing  
12 workforce;
- 13        (2) Conduct research on best practices and quality  
14 outcomes;
- 15        (3) Develop a plan for implementing strategies to recruit  
16 and retain nurses; [and]
- 17        (4) Research, analyze, and report data related to the  
18 retention of the nursing workforce[-];
- 19        (5) Collect and analyze data in the field of gerontology  
20 to develop public policies, programs, and  
21 instructional opportunities targeted at improving  
22 health care delivery to Hawaii's older adults; and



1       (6) Gather and make recommendations on best practices for  
 2       the establishment of a seamless, integrated nursing  
 3       education program that promotes and enhances the  
 4       educational mobility of those who enter the field of  
 5       nursing."

6       SECTION 4. Section 304A-1407 is amended to read as  
 7 follows:

8       "304A-1407 Collaboration with the center for nursing. The  
 9 University of Hawaii school of nursing and dental hygiene, the  
 10 state board of nursing, the geriatric nursing institute, the  
 11 University of Hawaii statewide nursing consortium, other schools  
 12 of nursing within the State, professional nursing organizations,  
 13 employers in the healthcare industry, and labor unions  
 14 representing nurses and healthcare workers shall collaborate  
 15 with the center for nursing and provide workforce data to the  
 16 center for nursing when requested."

17       SECTION 5. For the purposes of carrying out section  
 18 304A- (a), Hawaii Revised Statutes, there is appropriated  
 19 \$           in general funds for fiscal year 2007-2008, and  
 20 \$           in general funds for fiscal year 2008-2009.

21       For the purposes of carrying out section 304A- (b),  
 22 Hawaii Revised Statutes, there is appropriated \$           in



1 general funds for fiscal year 2007-2008, and \$ in  
2 general funds for fiscal year 2008-2009.

3 For the purposes of carrying out section 304A- (c),  
4 Hawaii Revised Statutes, nursing workforce there is appropriated  
5 \$ in general funds for fiscal year 2007-2008, to  
6 increase the number of nursing graduates by twenty-five, and  
7 \$ in general funds for fiscal year 2008-2009, to  
8 maintain this level of graduates.

9 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the University  
10 of Hawaii for purposes of this Act.

11 SECTION 6. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
12 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

13 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.



**Report Title:**

Nursing; Geriatrics; Appropriations

**Description:**

Establishes the University of Hawaii statewide nursing consortium that will be responsible for the planning, implementation, and evaluation of programs designed to support nursing educational mobility. Creates a specialized emphasis on geriatric nursing within the teaching spectrum. Appropriations for the geriatrics program, funding to operate the consortium, as well as additional funding for the school of nursing and dental hygiene to permit additional students to enroll and graduate are included. (SD1)

