

**Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Education
and
Senate Committee on Health and Human Services
Wednesday, March 25, 2026 at 1:10 P.M.
Conference Room 225 and Videoconference
By
_____[Name], [Credentials/Title]_____
_____[Organization, if applicable]_____**

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT on HB 1574, HD2

Chairs Kim and San Buenaventura, Vice Chairs Kidani and McKelvey, and members of the Committees:

Thank you for hearing this measure. This measure amends the HELP program by adding a new requirement for participants in the Healthcare Education Loan Repayment Program to remain and work in the State for a certain number of years based on the amount of financial assistance received.

This program supports loan repayment for a wide array of healthcare professionals, including nursing of all license levels. Through this work, UH JABSOM AHEC has not only provided significant loan repayment to nurses, but further, identified other opportunities for loan repayment and professional support for which they may be eligible. Programs like this positively impact the livelihood of healthcare professionals by reducing monthly economic burden associated with loan repayments at a time when cost-of-living is named as a significant consideration when deciding to stay in or leave the state. Creating a work requirement will strengthen the well-coordinated efforts to improve support for and retention of the healthcare workforce in our state.

[INDIVIDUAL OR ORGANIZATION] commends the Legislature for addressing the retention of the healthcare workforce by innovative strategies such as the Healthcare Education Loan Repayment Program.