



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health
Friday, February 24, 2017 at 9:30 a.m.

by
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DEAN
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SB 513 – RELATING TO CONTRACEPTIVE SUPPLIES

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Nishihara, and members of the committee:

My name is Carolyn Ma, and I am the Dean for the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (DKICP). The college fully supports this bill that will authorize pharmacists to prescribe and dispense self-administered hormonal contraceptive supplies to patients.

In relation to this bill, all U.S. accredited colleges of pharmacy more than adequately prepare student pharmacists in courses related to this area of pharmacology and therapeutic practice. Courses in contraceptive and hormonal pharmacology, reproductive physiology, and women's health are taught in the 3rd professional year. Education is provided throughout the four-year professional curriculum on medication assessment and therapeutic recommendations via related laboratory tests and subjective/objective findings related to disease and drug therapy. Experiential clinical rotations in ambulatory care clinics and in community pharmacies also provide practical experience for student pharmacists so they are well prepared for this component of reproductive health practice in their careers.

The DKICP has held discussions with the Oregon State University School of Pharmacy who provide a certification course in order for pharmacists to provide this service. Both schools are willing to partner in order to provide this certification course for Hawai'i licensed pharmacists. Two approved providers in Hawai'i, the DKICP and Hawai'i Pacific Health may offer ACPE accredited programs and fulfill the required continuing education units outlined in the proposed bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB 513.