



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM

TESTIMONY

S.B. 2072 RELATING TO THE CENTER FOR NURSING

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Education

February 13, 2004

By

Julie E. Johnson, PhD, RN, FAAN
Dean and Professor, School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene
University of Hawaii

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Chair Norman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Gary L. Hooser, and Members of the
Committee on Education:

The purpose of this bill is to amend Section 304D-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, by deleting the requirement to establish the Center for Nursing Special fund in the State Treasury and clarifying that this fund shall be administered by the University, rather than the Board of Regents. Currently, none of the University's special funds are established in the State Treasury or administered directly by the Board of Regents. Therefore, this measure will allow the Center for Nursing Special Fund to be established and administered in a manner that is consistent with other University Special Funds.

The University of Hawaii at Manoa School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene supports this bill which will facilitate the transfer and expenditure of funds to conduct the Center for Nursing's activities such as personnel and associated operational costs. The School is anxious to move ahead with the center's activities to address nursing workforce issues during this time of a critical national and local nursing shortage. Streamlining the funding processes will assist with responding to this important issue in an expedited manner.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.