



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Written Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Health

February 9, 2011, 2:45 p.m.

by

Virginia S. Hinshaw, Chancellor
and

Mary G. Boland, DrPH, RN, FAAN
Dean and Professor

School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

AMENDED TESTIMONY

SB 37 RELATING TO NURSES

Chair Green, Vice Chair Nishihara, and members of the Senate Committee on Health, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in opposition to this bill, SB 37, granting advanced public health nurses (“APHN”) recognition as a fifth advanced practice registered nurses (“APRN”) role as of October 1, 2011.

UH Mānoa Nursing thanks you for your commitment to ensuring access to competent professional nursing in Hawai'i. Nationally, all state boards of nursing recognize four main APRN roles; the Nurse Practitioner, Clinical Nurse Specialist (“CNS”), Certified Nurse Midwife, and Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist. Public and community health nurses who have a graduate degree in public health, health science or community health and are board-certified are recognized by the Hawai'i Board of Nursing as community health specialists under the role of CNS.

UH Mānoa Nursing respectfully request that to maintain congruence with national standards and the profession, you maintain the current licensing model. As the National Council of State Boards of Nursing will be further discussing this issue, we defer to the Hawai'i State Board of Nursing in making the final decision whether APHN (ANC Option A only) meets its requirements as an APRN specialty.

We appreciate your continuing support of nursing and healthcare in Hawai'i. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.