



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health
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by

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and

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SB 540 – RELATING TO THE BOARD OF PHARMACY

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang, 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 University of Hawai'i at Hilo supports this bill that will allow the board of pharmacy to approve pilot and demonstration projects for innovative applications in the practice of pharmacy.

As the only accredited College of Pharmacy in the state and the Pacific Rim, the DKICP's mission is to provide cutting edge and progressive healthcare to our community through education, research and service. Our faculty are trained to the highest degree of expertise and the concepts of innovation and discovery are the keystones of our ability to advance the pharmacy profession. The most advanced teaching methods are employed with a progressive and dynamic curriculum.

Approximately 30% of the Doctor of Pharmacy curriculum is experiential based where our students, through their four years in the program will practice as student pharmacists under the mentorship of our Pharmacy Practice faculty. These faculty clinical pharmacists are placed into most health care hospitals and clinics on the four major islands of Hawai'i, O'ahu, Maui and Kaua'i with the primary responsibility to, via their practice site, teach our students in the clinical setting and to advance the professions level of pharmacy practice within the institution. As the academic arm of the pharmacy profession, we partner with our health care institutions and other health care professionals to study, assess and evaluate innovative pharmacy practice patient care delivery models, technological medication distribution models and safety. Continued study to gain knowledge and data from pilot projects help us to seek advances may help to address the rising demands of complex patient care. Many of the registered pharmacists that practice in hospitals, clinics and community retail pharmacy sites also mentor or precept our students.

This bill will allow projects to lawfully proceed and keep the Board of Pharmacy informed of projects. These projects may be important to address needed changes and support a more progressive and current set of administrative rules.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.