



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## ‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

### Legislative Testimony

#### Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

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Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce  
Tuesday, March 28, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.

by

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and

Michael Bruno, Provost  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

#### SB 162 SD2 HD1 – RELATING TO DENTISTRY LICENSES

Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Sayama, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB 162 SD2 HD1 with comments.

This measure aims to do several things, including allowing the Board of Dentistry to issue without examination, a community service license to practice dental hygiene in the employment of a community health center and allows eligible candidates to submit as documentation and credentials, diplomas and certificates of graduation from a dental hygiene college or dental college that is recognized by the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation, recognized and approved by the Board.

Currently, the State of Hawai'i law requires that to be licensed as a dentist or a dental hygienist you must graduate from an "accredited" Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) School versus someone who is "recognized" by CODA.

After reviewing the changes this measure proposes, the outcome would not change how the Dental Hygiene Program at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Nancy Atmospera-Walch School of Nursing (NAWSON) would operate regarding curriculum. The NAWSON Dental Hygiene program is accredited by CODA. Our graduates, if licensed here in the State of Hawai'i, would be able to apply for a license.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments related to this measure.