



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

Legislative Testimony

Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Health & Human Services
Friday, February 10, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.

by

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And

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SB 162 – RELATING TO DENTISTRY LICENSES

Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chair Aquino, and members of the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services, thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB 162 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.