



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

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by

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HB 484 RELATING TO ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES

Chair Green, Vice Chair Nishihara, and members of the Senate Committee on Health, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of this bill, HB 484, requiring each hospital within the State to allow advanced practice registered nurses ("APRN") to practice within the full scope of the practice.

Two decades ago, the Legislature in its wisdom recognized that APRNs are educationally prepared to assume responsibility and accountability for health promotion and maintenance as well as the assessment, diagnosis, and management of patient problems, which includes the use and prescription of pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic interventions. APRNs have proven themselves to have clinical experience of sufficient depth and breadth to have safely practiced within their specialties. They have safely prescribed drugs appropriate to their specialties for 15 years.

UH Mānoa Nursing supports this bill to require each hospital in the State licensed under section 321-14.5 to allow an APRN recognized as such under section 457-8.5 or a qualified APRN granted prescriptive authority under section 457-8.6 to practice within the full scope of the practice authorized under chapter 457, including the function of a primary care provider.

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