



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM

TESTIMONY

S.B. 2072 RELATING TO THE CENTER FOR NURSING

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Higher Education

March 16, 2004

By

Julie E. Johnson, PhD, RN, FAAN
Dean and Professor, School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene
University of Hawaii

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Chair K. Mark Takai, Vice Chair Tulsi Gabbard Tamayo and Members of the
Committee on Higher Education:

The purpose of this bill is to amend Section 304D-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, by deleting the requirement to establish the Center for Nursing Special fund in the State Treasury and clarifying that this fund shall be administered by the University, rather than the Board of Regents.

The University of Hawaii at Manoa School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene supports the intent of this bill which will facilitate the transfer and expenditure of funds to conduct the Center for Nursing's activities such as personnel and associated operational costs. The School asks that the bill be amended to reflect that the special fund remain in the state treasury. The School does agree with the language regarding the administering of this special fund. We are anxious to move ahead with the center's activities to address nursing workforce issues during this time of a critical national and local nursing shortage. Streamlining the funding processes will assist with responding to this important issue in an expedited manner.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.