



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Written Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce
March 24, 2014 at 2:10 p.m.

by

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SB 2491 – RELATING TO NURSING

Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Kawakami, and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this bill, SB 2491.

As long as regulatory requirements differ from state to state, each state border represents an obstacle to portability—potentially preventing access to professionals and access to care. The National Council State Board of Nursing Advanced Practice of Registered Nurses (APRN) Consensus Model (Consensus Model) provides guidance for states to adopt uniformity in the regulation of APRN roles. The target date to complete that work is 2015.

In 2010, the Hawai'i Legislature, in its wisdom, passed SB 1263 SD2, HD1 (Act 57) and Hawai'i became one of the Nation's early leaders to adopt the Consensus Model. However, there remains a final titling change from APRN "Recognition" (Hawai'i's title) to APRN "License" (national). Although it is a simple change which does not affect the APRN licensure or re-licensure requirements, it is an obstacle to portability for Hawai'i APRNs who choose to practice in another state or multiple states. Unfortunately, some boards have questioned whether an APRN recognized in Hawai'i is equivalent to APRN licensure. It is clear to other regulatory nursing boards when it is notated that an APRN is *licensed* in Hawai'i.

UH Mānoa Nursing respectfully requests that this Committee pass SB 2491 unamended. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.