



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Written Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committee on Health  
February 5, 2014, 1:30 p.m.

by

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### SB 2492 – RELATING TO ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES

Chair Green, Vice Chair Baker, and members of the Senate Committee on Health, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this bill, SB 2492.

The UH Mānoa Nursing greatly appreciates this Committee's review of the existing state laws and strongly supports SB 2492. This measure specifically identifies obsolete laws that have anticompetitive effects which create barriers to consumer access to high quality health care provided by APRNs. These barriers include, but are not limited to, laws which require supervision by or collaboration with another health care provider, lacks provider neutral language (recognizes physician as the only provider), and prohibit or limit institutional privileges.

In 2011, the Hawai'i State Legislature, in its wisdom, adopted the National Council of State Boards of Nursing's APRN Consensus Model. Together with the changes proposed in SB 2492, APRNs in Hawai'i will be better able to provide quality health care to patients in all circumstances to the full extent of their education and training<sup>1</sup>. SB 2492 will help to align these obsolete laws with the barrier-breaking Hawai'i legislation passed between 2009-2011<sup>2</sup>.

Therefore, the UH Mānoa respectfully requests that this Committee pass SB 2492, unamended. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

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<sup>1</sup> "The United States has the opportunity to transform the health care system, and nurses can and should play a fundamental role in this transformation". In order to achieve this transformation, "Nurses should practice to the full extent of their education and training" (Institute of Medicine, 2010).

<sup>2</sup> **Act 169, SLH 2009** required insurers/HMOs/benefit societies to recognize APRNs as PCPs; authorized APRNs to sign, certify, or endorse all documents relating to health care within their scope of practice provided for their patients including workers' compensation, verification documents, verification and evaluation forms the DHS and DOE, verification and authorization forms of the DOH and physical examination forms.

**Act 57, SLH 2010** the adoption of the National Council of State Boards of Nursing's Model Nurse Practice Act and Model Nursing Administrative Rules.

**Act 110, SLH 2011** required each hospital in the State licensed under Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS), § 321-14.5 is required to allow<sup>2</sup> APRNs<sup>2</sup> and qualified APRNs granted prescriptive