



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

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

by

Mary G. Boland, DrPH, RN, FAAN
Dean and Professor
School of Nursing & Dental Hygiene
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

SB 2490 – RELATING TO CONTINUING COMPETENCY FOR 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 2490.

Addressing the needs and interests of the people of Hawai'i includes ensuring that quality health care is easily accessible to consumers throughout the State. Nurses are critical to the successful implementation of health care reform. Continuing education plays a significant role in nursing professionals' ongoing development and for the betterment of the patients they serve. The individual nurse must embrace lifelong learning as an essential key to delivering safe high quality patient care.

However, continuing education must be reframed to focus on the desired outcome – a nurse competent to deliver quality health care. Continuing education must include a personal self-assessment tool to guide the continuing competency activity to ensure that nurses engage in lifelong learning as recommended by Institute of Medicine which is included in SB 2490.

The UH Mānoa Nursing supports the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing's Continuing Education Joint Advisory Committee determination that a Continuing Competency Program (self-assessment + CE) is preferable to a simple CE program. Continuing competence is the ongoing application of knowledge and the decision-making, psychomotor, and interpersonal skills expected of the licensed nurse within a specific practice setting resulting in nursing care that contributes to the health and welfare of clients served.

This program would not change the nurse license renewal process and will allow nurses to renew their licenses as usual. An attestation statement would be added to the license renewal form that the individual licensee has completed the self-assessment/CE process. The proposed process does not apply to RNs who are APRNs who meet continuing competency requirements to maintain their national

certification. Further, after the renewal deadline (after July 1) a small percentage of the licensees would be audited.

Therefore, the UH Mānoa Nursing respectfully requests that this Committee pass SB 2490, unamended. We appreciate your continuing support of nursing in Hawai'i. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

From: [Lauren Suzanne Zirbel](#)
To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Cc: [Christopher Flanders](#)
Subject: HEARING_HTH_02-05-14 HMA TESTIMONY
Date: Saturday, February 01, 2014 2:28:59 PM
Attachments: [SB3091 RELATING TO HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORP PRIMARY CARE TRAINING PROGRAM.doc](#)
[SB 2237 HHSC MAUI MMC.doc](#)
[SB 2490 RELATING TO CONTINUING COMPETENCY FOR NURSES.doc](#)

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

HMA TESTIMONY ATTACHED

DATE: Wednesday, February 5, 2014
TIME: 1:30PM
PLACE: Conference Room 229
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street



HAWAII MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

1360 S. Beretania Street, Suite 200, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814
Phone (808) 536-7702 Fax (808) 528-2376 www.hmaonline.net

DATE: Wednesday, February 5, 2014
TIME: 1:30PM
PLACE: Conference Room 229
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

TO:
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

FROM: Hawaii Medical Association
Dr. Walton Shim, MD, President
Dr. Linda Rasmussen, MD, Legislative Co-Chair
Dr. Ron Keinitz, MD, Legislative Co-Chair
Dr. Christopher Flanders, DO, Executive Director
Lauren Zirbel, Community and Government Relations

Re: SB 2490

Position: Strong Support.

The HMA commends the introducers of this bill.

The HMA is in strong support of continuing education for all healthcare providers. The practice of medicine changes dramatically year to year and it is of the utmost importance that providers develop life-long learning as a demonstration to the public of professional responsibility in maintaining competence, performance and improving outcomes.

The HMA would also like to offer our assistance, should it be needed, in the development of CE. The HMA accredits most of the state's CME for physicians and would be happy to assist the development of CE for nurses.

Thank you for hearing this bill and for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Officers

*President - Walton Shim, MD President-Elect – Robert Sloan
Secretary - Thomas Kosasa, MD Immediate Past President – Stephen Kemble, MD
Treasurer – Brandon Lee, MD Executive Director – Christopher Flanders, DO*



55 Merchant Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813-4333

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Wednesday, February 5, 2014; 1:30 pm
Conference Room 229

The Senate Committee on Health

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

From: Art Gladstone RN MBA
Chief Nurse Executive – Hawai'i Pacific Health
Chief Operating Office – Straub Clinic & Hospital

Re: **SB 2490, Relating To Continuing Competency For Nurses**
Testimony in Support

My name is Art Gladstone, Chief Nurse Executive at Hawai'i Pacific Health (HPH) and Chief Operating Officer at Straub Clinic & Hospital. Hawai'i Pacific Health is a nonprofit health care system and the state's largest health care provider, committed to providing the highest quality medical care and service to the people of Hawai'i and the Pacific Region through its four affiliated hospitals, 44 outpatient clinics and more than 2,200 physicians and clinicians. The network is anchored by its four nonprofit hospitals: Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children, Kapi'olani Medical Center at Pali Momi, Straub Clinic & Hospital and Wilcox Memorial Hospital. Collectively, they lead the state in the areas of women's health, pediatric care, cardiovascular services, bone and joint services and cancer care. Hawai'i Pacific Health ranks among the top 3.8 percent of hospitals nationwide in electronic medical record adoption, with system-wide implementation that allows its hospitals to offer integrated, coordinated care throughout the state.

I am writing in support of SB 2490 which would require licensed registered nurses and licensed practical nurses to submit evidence of continuing competency at each renewal period, beginning with the June 30, 2015 licensing biennium.

Addressing the needs and interests of the people of Hawai'i includes ensuring that quality health care is easily accessible to consumers throughout the State. Nurses are critical to the successful implementation of health care reform. Continuing education plays a significant role in nursing professionals' ongoing development and for the betterment of the patients they serve. The individual nurse must embrace lifelong learning as an essential key to delivering safe high quality patient care.

However, continuing education must be reframed to focus on the desired outcome of a nurse competent to deliver quality health care. Continuing education must include a personal self-assessment tool to guide the continuing competency activity to ensure that nurses engage in lifelong learning as recommended by Institute of Medicine (IOM). The IOM determined that a Continuing Competency Program (self-assessment + CE) is preferable to a simple CE program.



Continuing competence is the ongoing application of knowledge and the decision-making, psychomotor, and interpersonal skills expected of the licensed nurse within a specific practice setting resulting in nursing care that contributes to the health and welfare of clients served.

This program would not change the nurse license renewal process and will allow nurses to renew their licenses as usual. An attestation statement would be added to the license renewal form that the individual licensee has completed the self- assessment/CE process.

After the renewal deadline (after July 1) a small percentage of the licensees would be audited which is accepted standard practice of state boards of nursing, nationally.

Further, this measure does not apply to nurses who are APRNs who already meet continuing competency requirements by maintaining their national certification.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

**PRESENTATION OF THE
BOARD OF NURSING**

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
HEALTH

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2014

Wednesday, February 5, 2014
1:30 p.m.

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL NO. 2490, RELATING TO CONTINUING
COMPETENCY FOR NURSES.**

TO THE HONORABLE JOSH GREEN, CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Lee Ann Teshima, Executive Officer of the Board of Nursing ("Board"). I appreciate the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 2490, Relating to Continuing Competency for Nurses, that would require licensed registered and licensed practical nurses to complete a self-assessment of practice to determine a level of competency, develop a plan for continued learning, and select and implement a learning activity option. Each nurse will be required to submit evidence of continuing competency at each renewal period, beginning with the June 30, 2015 licensing biennium.

Although the Board has not taken a formal position on Senate Bill No. 2490, it did express support for the intent of the proposal from the Hawaii Center for Nursing ("Center"). Specifically, at its December 5, 2013 meeting, the Board commended the task force on the work that was done, and at the same time expressed its concern that the bill contained many "details" that appeared to make the bill confusing.

Testimony on Senate Bill No. 2490
Wednesday, February 5, 2014
Page 2

The Board is scheduled to meet on February 6, 2014, to more effectively review and clarify the details outlined in Senate Bill No. 2490, along with other proposed legislation regarding amendments to Chapter 457, Hawaii Revised Statutes. Therefore, we request additional time to work with the Center and develop where possible, amendments to Senate Bill No. 2490.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 2490.

**Written Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Health
February 5, 2013 1:30 p.m.**

**by
Kathy Yokouchi, Policy Analyst
Hawaii State Center for Nursing
University of Hawai'i at Manoa**

SB 2490 RELATING TO NURSING

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 2490.

Addressing the needs and interests of the people of Hawai'i includes ensuring that quality health care is easily accessible to consumers throughout the State. Nurses are critical to the successful implementation of health care reform. Continuing education plays a significant role in nursing professionals' ongoing development and for the betterment of the patients they serve. The individual nurse must embrace lifelong learning as an essential key to delivering safe high quality patient care.

However, continuing education must be reframed to focus on the desired outcome – a nurse competent to deliver quality health care. Continuing education must include a personal self-assessment tool to guide the continuing competency activity to ensure that nurses engage in lifelong learning as recommended by Institute of Medicine which is included in SB 2490. The Hawaii State Center for Nursing supports the Hawaii State Center for Nursing's Continuing Education Joint Advisory Committee determination that a Continuing Competency Program (self-assessment + CE) is preferable to simple CE program. Continuing Competence is the ongoing application of knowledge and the decision-making, psychomotor, and interpersonal skills expected of the licensed nurse within a specific practice setting resulting in nursing care that contributes to the health and welfare of clients served.

This program would not change the nurse license renewal process and will allow nurses to renew their licenses as usual. An attestation statement would be added to the license renewal form that the individual licensee has completed the self-assessment/CE process.

Further, after the renewal deadline (after July 1) a small percentage of the licensees would be audited. Does not apply to RNs who are APRNs who meet continuing competency requirements to maintain their national certification.

Therefore, the Hawaii State Center for Nursing respectfully requests that this Committee pass SB 2490, unamended. We appreciate your continuing support of nursing in Hawai'i. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Cc: fconde@queens.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2490 on Feb 5, 2014 13:30PM
Date: Monday, February 03, 2014 10:18:59 AM

SB2490

Submitted on: 2/3/2014

Testimony for HTH on Feb 5, 2014 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Francisco Conde	Hawaii State Center for Nursing	Support	No

Comments: Would you like a nurse, who graduated from a nursing program over 20 years ago and have never updated his/her nursing knowledge, take care of you or your family? Continuing education is vital in providing quality, evidence-based nursing care.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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[Type text]

**Written Testimony Presented Before the
Committee on Health
February 3, 2013 1:30 pm
by
Emilie Smith, Past President, AONE-Hawaii**

SB 2490 RELATING TO CONTINUING COMPETENCY FOR NURSES

Chair Josh Green, Vice Chair Rosalyn Baker, and members of the Committee on Health, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of this bill, SB 2490.

The American Organization of Nurse Executives - Hawaii believe that nurses are critical to the successful implementation of the changing health care system. Continuing education plays a significant role in nursing professionals' ongoing development which in turn has a positive impact on the healthcare provided to patients served.

The Institute of Medicine(IOM) determined that a Continuing Competency Program (self-assessment + CE) is preferable to simple CE program. Continuing competence is the ongoing application of knowledge and the decision-making, psychomotor, and interpersonal skills expected of the licensed nurse within a specific practice setting resulting in nursing care that contributes to the health and welfare of clients served.

This program would not change the nurse license renewal process and will allow nurses to renew their licenses as usual. An attestation statement would be added to the license renewal form that the individual licensee has completed the self- assessment/CE process.

Therefore, AONE-Hawaii respectfully requests that this Committee pass SB 2490, unamended. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Emilie Smith
Past President, AONE-Hawaii

[Type text]

Wednesday, February 5, 2014 – 1:30 pm
Conference Room 229

The Senate Committee on Health

To: Senator Josh Green, M.D. Chair
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

From: Brigitte McKale
Vice President of Patient Services and Chief Nurse Executive

Re: **SB 2490 RELATING TO CONTINUING COMPETENCY FOR NURSES**
Testimony in Support

My name is Brigitte McKale, Vice President of Patient Services & Chief Nurse Executive for Pali Momi Medical Center. Pali Momi Medical Center is a nonprofit hospital located in West O'ahu. It is dedicated to the health and well-being of all Hawai'i residents. With 126 beds and more than 370 physicians on its medical staff, Pali Momi offers a full range of services. It has delivered many medical firsts for the community, including West O'ahu's only interventional cardiac catheterization unit to detect and treat heart disease, a fully integrated minimally invasive surgical suite, CT scan and MRI services, emergency services, a Women's Center, and the state's first Retina Center. Pali Momi is the only medical facility in Hawai'i that utilizes a team triage approach in its Emergency Room, where patients are promptly evaluated by an emergency physician. The American Heart Association has recognized the hospital for excellence in the treatment of coronary artery disease and heart failure, one of only a few hospitals in the nation. Pali Momi was founded in 1989 and is an affiliate of Hawai'i Pacific Health, the state's largest health care provider.

I am writing in support of SB 2490 which would require licensed registered nurses and licensed practical nurses to submit evidence of continuing competency at each renewal period, beginning with the June 30, 2015 licensing biennium.

Addressing the needs and interests of the people of Hawai'i includes ensuring that quality health care is easily accessible to consumers throughout the State. Nurses are critical to the successful implementation of health care reform. Continuing education plays a significant role in nursing professionals' ongoing development and for the betterment of the patients they serve. The individual nurse must embrace lifelong learning as an essential key to delivering safe high quality patient care.

However, continuing education must be reframed to focus on the desired outcome of a nurse competent to deliver quality health care. Continuing education must include a personal self-assessment tool to guide the continuing competency activity to ensure that nurses engage in lifelong learning as recommended by Institute of Medicine (IOM). The IOM determined that a Continuing Competency Program (self-assessment + CE) is preferable to a simple CE program. Continuing competence is the ongoing application of knowledge and the decision-making, psychomotor, and interpersonal skills expected of the licensed nurse within a specific practice setting resulting in nursing care that contributes to the health and welfare of clients served.

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After the renewal deadline (after July 1) a small percentage of the licensees would be audited which is accepted standard practice of state boards of nursing, nationally.

Further, this measure does not apply to nurses who are APRNs who already meet continuing competency requirements by maintaining their national certification.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

**Written Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Health
February 5, 2013 1:30 p.m.**

**by
Dale Allison, PhD, WHNP-BC, FNP, APRN-Rx, FAAN
Hawaii State Center for Nursing
University of Hawai'i at Manoa**

SB 2490 RELATING TO NURSING

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 2490.

Addressing the needs and interests of the people of Hawai'i includes ensuring that quality health care is easily accessible to consumers throughout the State. Nurses are critical to the successful implementation of health care reform. Continuing education plays a significant role in nursing professionals' ongoing development and for the betterment of the patients they serve. The individual nurse must embrace lifelong learning as an essential key to delivering safe high quality patient care.

However, continuing education must be reframed to focus on the desired outcome – a nurse competent to deliver quality health care. Continuing education must include a personal self-assessment tool to guide the continuing competency activity to ensure that nurses engage in lifelong learning as recommended by Institute of Medicine which is included in SB 2490. The Hawaii State Center for Nursing supports the Hawaii State Center for Nursing's Continuing Education Joint Advisory Committee determination that a Continuing Competency Program (self-assessment + CE) is preferable to simple CE program. Continuing Competence is the ongoing application of knowledge and the decision-making, psychomotor, and interpersonal skills expected of the licensed nurse within a specific practice setting resulting in nursing care that contributes to the health and welfare of clients served.

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Therefore, the Hawaii State Center for Nursing respectfully requests that this Committee pass SB 2490, unamended. We appreciate your continuing support of nursing in Hawai'i. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Cc: geesey@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2490 on Feb 5, 2014 13:30PM
Date: Sunday, February 02, 2014 8:02:50 PM

SB2490

Submitted on: 2/2/2014

Testimony for HTH on Feb 5, 2014 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Yvonne Geesey	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha Health Committee; This bill will force nurses to pay for continuing education and will not ensure competency. Nurse competency is an activity of the nurse and employer specific to the role the nurse is in and is a standard of the Joint Commission. This bill will force the state to create a means of monitoring to ensure compliance. Mahalo, Yvonne Geesey JD, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2490 on Feb 5, 2014 13:30PM*
Date: Tuesday, February 04, 2014 9:54:28 AM

SB2490

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for HTH on Feb 5, 2014 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Cc: dnaahielua@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2490 on Feb 5, 2014 13:30PM
Date: Friday, January 31, 2014 7:13:59 PM

SB2490

Submitted on: 1/31/2014

Testimony for HTH on Feb 5, 2014 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Danielle Na'ahielua	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair, and members of the Senate Committee on Health. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 2490, which would require continuing competencies for licensed professional nurses and registered nurses. As a registered nurse, I find it imperative to seek opportunities to keep abreast with current evidence based practices, technology, and medications. While some argue that is the prerogative of the individual nurse to maintain competency and not the place of government to require proof, I disagree. Our profession is dedicated to life-long learning and as such, there should be a standard we are all accountable to. This bill would not put extra strain on nurses as it gives 15 hours of credit towards the total 30 hours required in two years for nurses who meet certain criteria. Many hospitals and facilities already require continuing competencies. This bill would bridge the gap between the outliers and the mainstream ensuring all licensed nurses in Hawai'i are uniform in continuing competency standards. Mahalo nui loa for all that you do to serve the residents of Hawai'i. Sincerely, Danielle Na'ahielua

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Cc: bishopmattj@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2490 on Feb 5, 2014 13:30PM
Date: Monday, February 03, 2014 5:32:07 PM

SB2490

Submitted on: 2/3/2014

Testimony for HTH on Feb 5, 2014 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Matt Bishop	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: While I appreciate the work the committee did regarding the continuing education request by the legislature, I do not support this measure. The bill is lacking substance that has been shown to make continuing education more effective. With just the chance of possibly being audited, the RN/LPN is less likely to fulfill all the requirements as outlined and more likely to come up with necessary documents to satisfy licensure. I also disagree that on the job training regarding new procedures is not accepted. When technology changes and nurses must learn new techniques for point of care requirements, that should be given as credit for continuing education. Lastly, the Board of Nursing is not staffed sufficiently to carry out this request. Having recently served as the chair of the board I know first hand how minimal the staff are to carry out this arduous task. What needs to happen is for all of this to be set up electronically like many advanced practice registered nurse organizations have done, then all the information is easily accessible and up to date for the license division to obtain. This will require money that must be set aside for this task. I support continuing education but it must be done right in order to be effective. I urge you all not to pass this bill as is but make it a proper, effective tool that is properly financed prior to making this a law!

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Cc: lrnr@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2490 on Feb 5, 2014 13:30PM*
Date: Tuesday, February 04, 2014 12:41:13 PM

SB2490

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for HTH on Feb 5, 2014 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laura Reichhardt	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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