

**PRESENTATION OF THE
BOARD OF NURSING**

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

AND

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE INTRASTATE COMMERCE

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2017

Tuesday, February 14, 2017
8:30 a.m.

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL NO. 912, RELATING TO NURSING.

TO THE HONORABLE DELLA AU BELATTI, CHAIR,
TO THE HONORABLE TAKASHI OHNO, CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEES:

My name is Lee Ann Teshima, Executive Officer for the Board of Nursing (“Board”). I appreciate the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 912, Relating to Nursing which would allow an advanced practice registered nurse (“APRN”) to offer care and services to minors and patients in assisted community treatment programs similar to care and services offered by physicians and other health care service providers.

The Board supports this bill which would recognize qualified APRNs to provide primary medical care services to adolescents. For licensure, APRNs must complete a graduate-level degree in nursing practice and maintain national certification in their practice specialty. Continuing education is required for both prescriptive authority and the maintenance of national certification.

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Removing “barriers” by recognizing that APRNs are qualified to provide health care services in addition to physicians and other health care providers is vital to ensuring that residents of this State are able to receive the health care they deserve.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill No. 912.

kobayashi1- Oshiro

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2017 8:35 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: dshaw@lanaicommunityhealthcenter.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB912 on Feb 14, 2017 08:30AM*

HB912

Submitted on: 2/10/2017

Testimony for HLT/IAC on Feb 14, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Diana Shaw	Lanai Community Health Center	Support	No

Comments:

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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TO: Chair Belatti, Committee on Health, and Chair Ohno, Committee on Intrastate Commerce, and members

FR: Marya Grambs, Co-Chair, Mental Health Task Force and Chair, Assisted Community Treatment (ACT) Working Group

RE: HB 912, Relating to Nursing; IN STRONG SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS

HEARING: 8:30 February 14 room 329

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in STRONG SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS of HB912. The purpose of Sections 1-8 of this bill is to expand the type of health professional that can prepare and submit an order for Assisted Community Treatment (ACT). The ACT law is designed to assist those members of our community have severe mental illness and/or substance use disorder, so much so that they are unable to live safely in the community. These are the individuals who cycle in and out of the Emergency Room, psychiatric hospital, and jail. However, the nature of their illness is such that they do not know they are ill, and therefore they refuse treatment. ACT requires a psychiatrist to make an assessment of the individual, ensure that they meet the criteria for an ACT order, and develop and oversee a treatment plan if the Order is granted.

There has been great difficulty getting ACT orders implemented, and one of the reasons is the severe lack of psychiatrists available to file and oversee ACT orders. This bill with the proposed amendments seeks to reduce that roadblock by enabling Advance Practice Nurse Practitioners with prescriptive authority and psychiatric specialization to file such an Order and oversee its implementation. This will significantly increase the pool of health professionals available to be involved in ACT orders, and make it more possible for community agencies and other interested parties to do so.

Dozens of advocates, community mental health agencies, mental health professionals, and family members have been participating in the Mental Health Task Force (formerly chaired by Sen. Chun Oakland and currently chaired by Rep. Belatti) as well as in the ACT Working Group, which I convene. We have been discussing needed changes in the ACT law so it could be properly implemented.

Our request is that the sections of this bill pertaining to HRS 334 specify that the APRN must hold a psychiatric specialization; further, to allow this bill to flex to the future and not require frequent legislative updates, the language pertaining to APRN specialization defers to the Hawai'i Board of Nursing to regulate which specializations meet the qualifications needed to be a licensed APRN in the state.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 11, 2017 9:30 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: wailua@aya.yale.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB912 on Feb 14, 2017 08:30AM

HB912

Submitted on: 2/11/2017

Testimony for HLT/IAC on Feb 14, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Wailua Brandman	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support the intent of this bill, however, I am concerned that the writers of this bill do not fully understand the licensure of Advance Practice Registered Nurses (APRN). Whether an APRN chooses to obtain prescriptive authority or not, they are nonetheless an APRN if so licensed. To limit certain provisions of this bill to APRNs "with Prescriptive Authority" and not limit them in other provisions does not make sense to me, and further, may eliminate those without the prescriptive authority from carrying out the same scope of their practice as other APRNs who do carry the authority to prescribe. The provisions calling for the APRN to be a prescriber can be carried out without having the authority to prescribe. I would request that the language be made consistent throughout this bill with the removal of the "with Prescriptive Authority" phrase which will continue to allow APRNs to practice to their full authority as allowed by the Legislature in 2011. Otherwise it would appear that this bill, as written, would discriminate against APRNs without Prescriptive Authority. Mahalo for your consideration of my position, and for your enduring concern and advocacy for the people of Hawai'i. Respectfully, Wailua Brandman APRN PMHCNS/NP FAANP, Ke`ena Mauliola Nele Paia, LLC Note: This is my personal testimony, and does not reflect the opinions of any professional organizations or Boards of Directors to which I belong.

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