

Testimony of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

**Before the
House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce
Tuesday, March 19, 2019
2:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 329**

**On the following measure:
S.B. 385, S.D. 1, H. D. 1, RELATING TO PROFESSIONAL
AND VOCATIONAL LICENSING**

Chair Takumi and Members of the Committee:

My name is Charlene Tamanaha, and I am the Licensing Administrator of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs' (Department) Professional and Vocational Licensing Division (PVL). The Department takes no position on sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, and 8 of this bill and offers comments on sections 6, 9, and 10.

The purpose of this bill is to repeal defaults on student loans, student loan repayment contracts, and scholarship contracts as grounds for sanctioning professional and vocational licensees. H.D. 1 amends the effective date from "upon approval" to July 1, 3000.

This bill repeals Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) section 457-9(c) in section 6, HRS section 436B-19.6 in its entirety in section 9, and HRS chapter 436C in its entirety in section 10. To date, there have been no initial or renewal license denials, suspensions, or revocations pursuant to these sections because PVL has not received any certification from an administering entity that a licensee or applicant is in default or breach, or past due under a repayment plan as required under HRS chapter 436C.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



HAWAII VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 61309, Honolulu, Hawaii 96839-1309

March 18, 2019

Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce
Representative Roy M. Takumi, Chair
Representative Linda Ichiyama, Vice Chair

RE: SB385 Relating to Professional and Vocational Licensing

Dear Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce,

On behalf of the Hawaii Veterinary Medical Association, I would like to express our support of SB385 to repeal student loan defaults as grounds for sanctioning professional and vocational licensees.

Increasing levels of student debt for veterinary graduates is a serious issue that is being addressed by the American Veterinary Medical Association. We do not believe that debt repayment issues should prevent practice by properly trained and licensed veterinarians. Furthermore, preventing practice and income generation would naturally compound the difficulties in resolving student loan repayment issues.

Please SUPPORT SB385. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. Please contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jill Yoshicedo".

Jill Yoshicedo, DVM
Executive Vice-President
Hawaii Veterinary Medical Association