SB 2490, SD2 RELATING TO NURSING

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Morikawa, and members of the House Committee on Health, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this bill, SB 2490, SD2.

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 includes 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,SD2. 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, SD2, unamended. We appreciate your continuing support of nursing in Hawai‘i. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.
Written Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Health
March 12, 2014  8:30 a.m.
by
Kathy Yokouchi, Policy Analyst
Hawaii State Center for Nursing
University of Hawai‘i at Manoa

SB 2490, SD2 RELATING TO NURSING

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Morikawa, and members of the House Committee on Health, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this bill, SB 2490, SD1.

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 includes 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, SD1 unamended. We appreciate your continuing support of nursing in Hawai‘i. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.
Wednesday, March 12, 2014; 8:30 am
Conference Room 329

The House Committee on Health

To: Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair
Representative Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

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

Re: SB 2490, SD2 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, SD2 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, 2017 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.
Wednesday, March 12, 2014; 8:30 am
Conference Room 329

The House Committee on Health

To: Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair
   Representative Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

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

Re: SB 2490, SD2 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, SD2 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, 2017 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.
DATE: Wednesday, March 12, 2014  
TIME:  8:30 AM  
PLACE: Conference Room 329  

TO:  
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair  
Rep. Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair  

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

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

Re: SB 2490  

Position: Strong Support.  

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, MD  
Secretary - Thomas Kosasa, MD  
Immediate Past President – Stephen Kemble, MD  
Treasurer – Brandon Lee, MD  
Executive Director – Christopher Flanders, DO
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, S.D. 2, 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.

The Board supports the bill with amendments. A proposed H.D. 1 is attached for the committee’s consideration. This draft represents the collaborative work of the Board and the continued discussions with the Center for Nursing Continuing Education Joint Advisory Committee ("Committee"). The Board is appreciative to the Committee for all the research and work they did on this project. The Board supports the concept of continuing competency for nurses and has amended the bill for clarification. Also, the Board seeks a delayed implementation date of July 1, 2017, which would allow the Board sufficient time to inform the nurses of the upcoming requirement and continue to work collaboratively with the Committee.
Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on Senate Bill No. 2490, S.D. 2.
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CONTINUING COMPETENCY FOR NURSES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that to ensure public health, candidates for initial nurse licensure are required to pass a national examination that measures the minimum competencies needed to perform safely and effectively as newly licensed, entry-level registered or practical nurses. In today's health care environment, because technology and practice are continually changing and new health care systems are emerging, the challenge of licensure boards is to assure consumers that nurses are competent throughout their practice careers. Research shows that continuing education alone is not enough to ensure competency in post-entry nurses. According to the Institute of Medicine, "[A]n emerging concept ... includes components of [continuing education] but has a broader focus, such as teaching how to identify problems and apply solutions, and allowing health professionals to tailor the learning process, setting, and curriculum to their needs."
The legislature further finds that continuing competency that ensures continued patient health and safety requires lifelong learning and ongoing redefinition based on the individual's experience, change in practice setting, and educational advancement. Each nurse must maintain and augment the necessary knowledge and skills to be current in practice. To do this, each nurse needs a self-assessment tool that enables the nurse to: assess and adapt to their learning needs; stretch learning from the classroom to the point of care; match the need for continuing education to the learning for competence; and support increased personal accountability for lifelong learning to ensure safe practice.

The legislature therefore finds that the Hawaii nurse continued competency program, which contains these elements and learning activity options, must be established for nurses licensed in Hawaii.

Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to require licensed registered nurses and licensed practical nurses to submit evidence of continuing competency at each renewal period, beginning with the [June 30, 2017] July 1, 2017 [licensing] biennium.
SECTION 2. Chapter 457, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding [five new sections] a new section to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

"§457— Continuing competence requirements; [qualifying] learning activities; exemptions; extensions; [documentation;] audit. (a) In addition to the requirements of section 457-9, beginning with the July 1, 2017 biennium, [upon application for license renewal or reinstatement,] each registered nurse and practical nurse licensee shall complete the following continuing competence requirements in the two years prior to the renewal of the license:

(1) Complete a board approved self-assessment of practice, including the dimensions of professional responsibility, knowledge based practice, legal/ethical practice, and collaborating with others;

(2) Develop a plan for continued learning; and

(3) Select and implement one of the following learning activity options:[a learning activity option pursuant to subsection (d).

(d) Completion of one of the following learning activities shall meet the requirements for continuing competence under subsection (a):
(1) National certification or recertification related to the nurse's practice role;

[(2)] (A) Thirty contact hours of continuing education from an approved provider if you are a registered nurse or 20 hours if you are a licensed practical nurse;

[(3)] (B) Completion of a board approved refresher course;

[(4)] (C) Completion of a minimum of two semester hours of post-licensure academic education from an accredited nursing program related to nursing practice;

[(5)] (D) Fifteen contact hours of board approved a continuing education activity and completion of one of the following:

i. A nursing research or evidence-based practice project as principal or co-principal investigator;

[(6)] ii. [Fifteen contact hours of a continuing education activity and authoring] Authoring or coauthoring a peer reviewed published nursing or health-related article, paper, book, or book chapter;

[(7)] iii. [Fifteen contact hours of a continuing education activity and developing and conducting] Develop and
conduct a nursing education presentation or
presentations totaling a minimum of five contact
hours;

(iv) [Fifteen contact hours of a continuing education
activity and six] Six hundred forty hours of active
practice within the previous two years; or

(E) Completion of a recognized nurse residency program.

(b) The following nurses are exempt from the continuing
competence requirements:

(1) Registered nurses licensed in this State who also
maintain active advanced practice registered nurse licenses in
accordance with this chapter and have a current national
certification; [shall not be required to fulfill additional
continuing competency requirements for registered nurses under
subsection (a).]

(2) Registered nurses licensed in this State who also
maintain current national certification from a recognized
national certifying body, in their practice role; or

(3) For first-time license renewals, if the initial
license was issued twelve months or less prior to the renewal
date[, no continuing competence units will be required for the
first renewal period]. If the initial license was issued more
than twelve months prior to the renewal date, the registered
nurse licensee shall be required to obtain fifteen units of
approved continuing education from an approved provider or a
licensed practical nurse licensee shall obtain 10 units of
continuing education [competence units] for the first renewal
period.

(c) The board may extend the deadline for compliance with
the continuing competency requirements. Prior to the expiration
of the license, a nurse licensee may submit a written request to
the board for approval for an extension of the continuing
competence requirements of this section based on any of the
following:

(1) Illness, as certified by a physician or osteopathic
physician licensed under chapter 453 or advanced
practice registered nurse licensed under this chapter
or in the jurisdiction in which the licensee was
treated;

(2) Military service under extended active duty with the
armed forces of the United States;

(3) Lack of access to continuing education courses due to
the practice of nursing in geographically isolated
areas; and
(4) Inability to undertake the continuing competence requirement due to incapacity, undue hardship or other extenuating circumstances.

The board will consider requests for extensions on a case-by-case basis. Extensions shall not be granted unless proof, deemed appropriate and sufficient by the board that the applicant can practice safely, is submitted. In the event a licensee cannot complete the continuing competence requirements during the two-year period after receiving an extension, the licensee may only renew the license on inactive status.

(d) Upon application for license renewal, each licensee shall attest under oath that the licensee has completed the continuing competence requirements of this section and is prepared to submit evidence of completion, as determined by the board, if requested.

(e) The following activities do not meet the requirements for continuing competency:

(1) Offerings designed for lay persons;
(2) Offerings less than thirty minutes in duration;

(3) On-the-job orientation;

(4) On-the-job training related to new policies, procedures, or equipment; or

(5) Other educational activities not sufficiently professional in character to reasonably qualify as continuing education.

(f) Acceptable documentation for completion of the learning activities under subsection (d) includes the following evidence:

(1) For national certification or recertification: a copy of a certificate that includes the name of the licensee, name of the certifying body, date of certification, and date of certification expiration. Certification shall be initially attained during the licensure period, have been in effect during the entire licensure period, or have been recertified during the licensure period;

(2) For contact hours of continuing education: the name of the licensee, title of educational activity, name of the provider, number of contact hours, and date of activity.
(3) For a board approved refresher course: written correspondence from the provider with the name of the licensee, name of the provider, and verification of successful completion of the refresher course.

(4) For post-licensure academic education: a copy of the licensee’s transcript with the name of the licensee, name of the educational institution, dates of attendance, name of course with grade, and number of credit hours received. Coursework shall demonstrate relevance to nursing, health, or both.

(5) For a nursing project: an abstract or summary of the project, the name of the licensee, role of the licensee as principal or co-principal investigator, date of project completion, statement of the problem, project objectives, methods used, and summary of findings.

(6) For authoring or co-authoring a peer reviewed published nursing-related article, paper, book, or book chapter: a copy of the publication, including the name of the licensee and the publication date.

(7) For developing and conducting a nursing education presentation or presentations totaling at least five
contact hours: a copy of the program brochure or
course syllabi, objectives, content, and teaching
methods, and date and location of presentation; and

(8) For six hundred forty hours of active practice in
nursing: name of the licensee, number of hours worked
in a calendar or fiscal year, name and address of the
employer, and signature of supervisor. If self-
employed, hours worked may be validated through other
methods, such as tax records or other business
records. If active practice is of a volunteer or
gratuitous nature, hours worked may be validated by
the recipient agency.

[(9)](e) At the time of license [renewal or] reactivation,
restoration or reinstatement, licensees [may be subject to audit
for] must submit proof of compliance with the board's
requirements for continuing competence.

(h) The board may randomly audit a licensee's continuing
competence units and may establish guidelines for random audits.
The board shall inform licensees of the licensees' selection for
audit. Within sixty days of notification, the licensee shall
provide the board with documentation verifying compliance with
the continuing competence requirements.
renewal or reinstatement. Documentation of acceptable evidence shall be consistent with subsection (f) and shall be submitted to the board no later than the last day of the renewal month.

(i) Unless exempted, failure of a licensee to meet continuing competency requirements shall result in disciplinary action in accordance with this chapter. Failure to present evidence of compliance to the board upon request shall constitute a forfeiture of the license.

§457 Authorized providers of continuing competence units. (a) Continuing education may be taken in a conventional classroom setting, via online courses, professional journals, correspondence, or other emerging venues.

(b) Continuing competence units shall be obtained from the following authorized providers:

(1) Any provider, recognized by a national credentialing body, offering certification in the licensed nurse's specialty area of practice, including but not limited to: American Nurses Credentialing Center Commission on Certification; Oncology Nursing Certification Corporation; Board of Certification for Emergency Nursing; National Association for Practical Nurse
Education and Service, Inc.; and National Commission
for Health Education Credentialing, Inc.;

(2) Any provider, recognized by a national credentialing
body, offering certification to nurse practitioners,
nurse midwives, nurse anesthetists, or clinical nurse
specialists, including but not limited to: American
Nurses Credentialing Center Commission on
Certification; American Academy of Nurse
Practitioners; National Certification Corporation;
Pediatric Nursing Certification Board; and Council on
Certification of Nurse Anesthetists;

(3) American Nurses Association, or any state professional
nurses association with standards equal to or greater
than the State's standards;

(4) Area Health Education Centers in the State or any
state Area Health Education Center that is a member of
the National Area Health Education Center
Organization;

(5) National League for Nursing;

(6) National Association for Practical Nurse Education and
Service, Inc.;

(7) National Federation of Licensed Practical Nurses;
(8) Any state board of nursing with standards equal to or greater than the State's standards;

(9) National Council of State Boards of Nursing;

(10) Employer-sponsored continuing education programs having a minimum of one course objective; provided that employer-sponsored continuing education may only be used for up to fifty per cent of total contact hours unless the program is accredited through one of the authorized providers in this subsection;

(11) Any provider of professional continuing education for health care professionals recognized by the board, with offerings related to specialty areas of nursing practice such as research, case management, health policy, forensics, mental health, or complementary alternative therapies offered by entities including but not limited to the Commission for Case Manager Certification, National Association for Healthcare Quality, or American Legal Nurse Consultant Certification Board;

offering continuing education approved by authorized providers including but not limited to: American Nurses Credentialing Center; American Association of Critical-Care Nurses; and National Association for Practical Nurse Education and Service, Inc.

§457—Exemption from continuing competence requirements.

(a) Prior to the expiration of a renewal period, a licensee may submit a written request to the board for an exemption from the continuing competence requirements in this chapter.

(b) The request for an exemption shall include evidence that, during the two-year period prior to the expiration of the license:

(1) The licensee was residing in another country for one year or longer, reasonably preventing completion of the continuing competence requirements;

(2) The licensee was ill or disabled for one year or longer as documented by a licensed physician, surgeon, clinical psychologist, or advanced practice registered nurse, preventing completion of the continuing competence requirements; or

(3) A dependent family member of the licensee was ill or disabled for one year or longer as documented by a
licensed physician, surgeon, clinical psychologist, or
advanced practice registered nurse, preventing
completion of the continuing competence requirements.

(c) Exemptions shall be considered by the board on a case
by case basis. Exemptions shall not be granted unless proof,
deemed appropriate and sufficient by the board that the
applicant can practice safely, is submitted to the board.

Exemptions shall not be granted for more than one renewal
period. In the event a licensee cannot complete the continuing
competence requirements during the two-year period after
receiving an exemption, the licensee may only renew the license
on an inactive status.

(d) When a licensee is absent from the State because of
military service for a period of one year or longer during the
two-year renewal period, preventing completion of the continuing
competence requirement, the board may provide an exemption from
the continuing competence requirement for more than one renewal
period.

§457—Record keeping for continuing competence. (a)
Each licensee shall keep and maintain records showing that each
course or activity for which credit is claimed has been
completed.
(b) These records shall reflect the title of the course or activity, the date taken or completed, and the record of participation.

(c) Each licensee shall retain records required pursuant to this section for a period of four years after the course or activity concludes. Each licensee shall provide copies of the records to the board or its designee within fourteen calendar days after being requested to provide such documentation.

§457—Continuing competence; acceptable contact hours or continuing education units. (a) The following are acceptable contact hours or continuing education units that fulfill the continuing competence requirements of this chapter:

(1) One contact hour shall be equivalent to sixty minutes of instruction;

(2) One contact hour shall be equivalent to sixty minutes of clinical or laboratory practice in an informal offering or a minimum of fifty minutes of actual organized instruction;

(3) One continuing medical education unit shall be equivalent to one contact hour of instruction; and

(4) One continuing education unit shall be equivalent to ten contact hours of instruction.
(b) Academic credit shall be converted to contact hours as follows:

(1) One quarter academic credit shall be equivalent to twelve and one-half contact hours; and

(2) One semester academic credit shall be equivalent to fifteen contact hours.

(c) Contact hour equivalencies shall be as follows:

(1) One continuing education unit shall be equivalent to ten contact hours;

(2) One continuing medical education credit shall be equivalent to sixty minutes; and

(3) One American Medical Association credit shall be equivalent to sixty minutes."

SECTION 3. Section 457-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding three new definitions to be appropriately inserted and to read as follows:

"'Competence' means the ability of the nurse to integrate knowledge, skills, judgment, and personal attributes to practice safely and ethically in a designated role and setting in accordance with the scope of nursing practice. [application of knowledge, skills, and behaviors required to function]
effectively, safely, ethically, and legally within the context of the individual's role and environment].

"Continuing competence" means the lifelong process of maintaining and documenting competence through ongoing self-assessment, development, and implementation of a personal learning plan, and subsequent reassessment.

"Unit" means a relative value assigned to continuing competence activities in which one continuing competence unit is equivalent to at least fifty minutes of classroom or hands on instruction."

SECTION 4. Section 457-12, Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows:

§457-12 Discipline; grounds, proceedings, hearing. (a) In addition to any other actions authorized by law, the board shall have the power to deny, revoke, limit, or suspend any license to practice nursing as a registered nurse or as a licensed practical nurse applied for or issued by the board in accordance with this chapter, and to fine or to otherwise discipline a license for any cause authorized by law, including but not limited to the following:

(1) Submitting to or filing with the board any notice, statement, or other document required under this chapter, which
is false or untrue or contains any material misstatement of fact, including a false attestation of compliance with the continuing competence requirements."

SECTION 5. The department of commerce and consumer affairs, in collaboration with the center for nursing, shall convene a stakeholder group to address any outstanding issues associated with the implementation of the continuing competence requirements pursuant to this Act and shall report to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2015 and 2016.

SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2014; provided that the continuing competence requirements for registered nurses and practical nurses shall take effect with the licensing biennium beginning on July 1, 2017.
Report Title:
Nurses; Registered Nurses; Practical Nurses; Continuing Competency; Licensing; Registration

Description:
Requires 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. (SD1)

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.
Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing
--- | --- | --- | ---
Francisco Conde | Hawaii State Center for Nursing | 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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov
Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Morikawa, and members of the House Committee on Health, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of this bill, SB 2490, SD2.

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.

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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 RNs who are APRNs who already meet continuing competency requirements by maintaining their national certification.

Therefore, HAPN respectfully requests that this Committee pass SB 2490, SD2, unamended. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Amy Vasconcellos, Vice Chair
Legislative Committee
Hawaii Association of Professional Nurses
Written Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Health
March 12, 2014 8:30 a.m.
By
Lenora Lorenzo DNP, APRN, FAANP

SB 2490, SD2 RELATING TO NURSING

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Morikawa, and members of the House Committee on Health, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this bill, SB 2490, SD2.

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 reformed 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 (IOM) which is included in SB 2490, SD2. The 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. 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 RNs who are APRNs who already meet continuing competency requirements by maintaining their national certification.

Therefore, Lenora Lorenzo respectfully requests that this Committee pass SB 2490, SD2, unamended. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

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1Recommendation #6 of the recently released Institute of Medicine (IOM) Future of Nursing Report is to “ensure that nurses engage in lifelong learning”. The recommendation further suggests that, “accrediting bodies, schools of nursing, health care organizations and continuing competency educators from all health professions should collaborate to ensure that nurses and nursing students and faculty continue their education and engage in lifelong learning to gain competencies needed to provide care for diverse populations across lifespan.” Learning takes place in many forms.
Comments: Senators, As a Registered Nurse in the State of Hawai‘i, I stand in STRONG SUPPORT of this important measure to ensure the highest quality care is provided to the people. SB 2490 SD2 is not burdensome, nor costly to the RN, but it is priceless for the patient who presents for critical health care, knowing the nurse caring for them is up to date with today's rapidly changing health care technology and practices. I urge you to continue to push this measure forward to the full Legislature for a vote. Mahalo for allowing me to testify in STRONG SUPPORT of this important bill.

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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Comments: Committee members, I am opposed to this bill as it currently stands because I do not believe that a proper tool yet exists for nurses to develop their own personal plan for continuing competency that is based on evidence for improved practice. I believe in the power and need for continued competency and continuing, lifelong education but there is not a proper way that the process can yet be measured and proven to be an effective tool for better care. I believe this is a process that should be looked into further before making this a legislative action at this time.

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SB2490
Submitted on: 3/10/2014
Testimony for HLT on Mar 12, 2014 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

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<th>Organization</th>
<th>Testifier Position</th>
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<tr>
<td>Debra Mark</td>
<td>Individual</td>
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Comments: There is little to no evidence indicating that continuing education improves competency. The benefits of this bill are questionable when compared to the resources required for this program’s implementation.

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SB 2490, SD2 RELATING TO NURSING

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Morikawa, and members of the House Committee on Health, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this bill, SB 2490, SD2.

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 (IOM)\(^1\) which is included in SB 2490, SD2. The 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. 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 RNs who are APRNs who already meet continuing competency requirements by maintaining their national certification.

Therefore, I respectfully requests that this Committee pass SB 2490, SD2, unamended. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Lynda A Hirakami APRN FNP
12-4265 Pahoa Kalapana Rd
Pahoa HI 96778

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1 Recommendation #6 of the recently released Institute of Medicine (IOM) *Future of Nursing Report* is to “ensure that nurses engage in lifelong learning”. The recommendation further suggests that, “accrediting bodies, schools of nursing, health care organizations and continuing competency educators from multiple health professions should collaborate to ensure that nurses and nursing students and faculty continue their education and engage in lifelong learning to gain competencies needed to provide care for diverse populations across lifespan.” Learning takes place in many forms.