

**PRESENTATION OF THE  
BOARD OF NURSING**

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE  
Regular Session of 2015

Wednesday, March 18, 2015  
8:45 a.m.

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL NO. 729, RELATING TO ADVANCED PRACTICE  
REGISTERED NURSES.**

TO THE HONORABLE DELLA AU BELATTI, 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 submit testimony on Senate Bill No. 729, Relating to Advanced Practice Registered Nurses, that clarifies the role of advanced practice registered nurses in sections of the Hawaii Revised Statutes relating to emergency hospital admission and involuntary hospitalization.

The Board supports this bill that would allow a qualified advanced practice registered nurse ("APRN") to:

- Perform an emergency examination;
- Direct that a patient be hospitalized on an emergency basis or cause the patient to be transferred to another psychiatric facility for emergency hospitalization; and
- Certify the signs and symptoms of a patient for a petition for commitment to a psychiatric facility.

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These roles are consistent with an APRN's current scope of practice and will allow APRNs to participate to a greater extent in emergency hospital admission and involuntary hospitalization processes.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on Senate Bill No. 729.



## THE QUEEN'S HEALTH SYSTEMS

To: Chair Della Au Belatti  
Vice Chair Richard P. Creagan  
House Committee on Health

From: Paula Yoshioka  
Senior Vice President  
The Queen's Health Systems

Re: SB 729, Relating to Advanced Practice Registered Nurses  
Hearing—March 18, 2015 at 8:45 AM

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The Queen's Health Systems would like to offer support for SB 729, which would ensure that advanced practice registered nurses are fully recognized as mental health professionals qualified to diagnose mental illness under section 334-59, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS).

The Queen's Medical Center-Punchbowl receives a large portion of Oahu's emergency and involuntary hospitalizations. It is important that all qualified providers, like APRNs, are able to assist in these situations. This law will clarify that APRNs are fully qualified to perform mental health status and safety risk assessments.

In order to ensure that all qualified providers are available to assist in situations that fall under section 334-59, HRS, we ask for your support of SB 729. Thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter.

*The mission of The Queen's Health Systems is to fulfill the intent of Queen Emma and King Kamehameha IV to provide in perpetuity quality health care services to improve the well-being of Native Hawaiians and all of the people of Hawai'i.*

creagan1 - Dannah

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 8:55 PM  
To: HLTtestimony  
Cc: wailua@aya.yale.edu  
Subject: \*Submitted testimony for SB729 on Mar 18, 2015 08:45AM\*

**SB729**

Submitted on: 3/15/2015

Testimony for HLT on Mar 18, 2015 08:45AM in Conference Room 329

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b>                  | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Wailua Brandman     | Hawaii Assoc. of Professional Nurses | 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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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 7:56 AM  
To: HLTtestimony  
Cc: lenora@hawaii.edu  
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB729 on Mar 18, 2015 08:45AM

**SB729**

Submitted on: 3/14/2015

Testimony for HLT on Mar 18, 2015 08:45AM in Conference Room 329

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Dr. Lenora Lorenzo  | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: Mahalo for introducing this very important bill that clarifies the role of advanced practice registered nurses as primary care providers in sections of the Hawaii Revised Statutes relating to emergency hospital admission and involuntary hospitalization. Th is bill will increase access to needed mental health care by patients cared for by an APRN.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 11:44 PM  
To: HLTtestimony  
Cc: teresa.parsons@hawaii.edu  
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB729 on Mar 18, 2015 08:45AM

**SB729**

Submitted on: 3/15/2015

Testimony for HLT on Mar 18, 2015 08:45AM in Conference Room 329

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Teresa Parsons      | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: Advanced Practice Registered Nurses are recognized as primary care providers and should be permitted to practice to the full extent of their education and training. I urge you to support this important legislation. Mahalo for this opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

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