

**PRESENTATION OF THE  
BOARD OF NURSING**

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR

TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE  
Regular Session of 2015

Friday, February 27, 2015  
9:05 a.m.

**WRITTEN COMMENTS ONLY**

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

TO THE HONORABLE GILBERT S.C. KEITH-AGARAN, 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 written comments 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 written comments on Senate Bill No. 729.

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** |  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB729 on Feb 27, 2015 09:05AM  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 25, 2015 10:35:26 AM

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**SB729**

Submitted on: 2/25/2015

Testimony for JDL on Feb 27, 2015 09:05AM in Conference Room 016

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

Comments: I support this bill as a practicing APRN, Nurse Practitioner (NP). As the Region 9 Director of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners, I also speak in support of this bill on behalf of our NP members in Hawai'i . APRNs are trained and recognized as primary care providers. This bill would allow decreased health care costs, increased access and improved patient outcomes.

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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