

HB3106

Measure Title:

RELATING TO GRADUATES OF FOREIGN ACUPUNCTURE PROGRAMS.

Report Title:

Acupuncturists; examination and licensure

Description:

Requires applicants for acupuncture licensure who graduated from foreign institutes to have their educational information evaluated by a professional crediting evaluator as a prerequisite for taking an exam and getting a license in Hawaii.

Package:

Governor

Companion:

SB3028

Introducer(s):

SAY (BR)

Current Referral:

HTH, CPH

**PRESENTATION OF THE
BOARD OF ACUPUNCTURE**

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2008

Monday, March 17, 2008
1:00 p.m.

**TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL NO. 3106, RELATING TO GRADUATES OF
FOREIGN ACUPUNCTURE PROGRAMS.**

TO THE HONORABLE DAVID Y. IGE, CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Dr. Gary Saito, Chiropractor, and I am a public member of the Board of Acupuncture ("Board"). The Board has authorized me to speak on its behalf. The Board appreciates the opportunity to testify in strong support of House Bill No. 3106, which is an Administration bill.

Your Committee had heard the companion measure, S.B. No. 3028 on February 21, 2008, and passed it out unamended.

This bill proposes to authorize the Board to require foreign-educated acupuncture applicants, at the applicant's own expense, to have their educational information evaluated by a Board-approved professional credentialing evaluator as a prerequisite for examination and licensure. Doing so will assist the Board in understanding the foreign academic credentials, as well as provide it the opportunity to conduct a well-informed and objective review of the applicant's educational qualifications.

Further, the Board believes that amending section 436E-5(d), H.R.S.,

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to authorize the Board to require graduates of foreign acupuncture programs to submit their educational information to a credential evaluator, will assist the Board in ensuring that all applicants for acupuncture examination and licensure, regardless of whether they attained their education in the U.S. or at a foreign program, meet the same high standards of acupuncture education that the legislature intended.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of this bill.