

SB2146

Measure Title:

RELATING TO THE CENTER FOR NURSING.

Report Title:

Nursing; UH

Description:

Makes permanent the deposit and disbursement of certain nursing fees into the compliance resolution fund for the credit of the center for nursing special fund.

Introducer(s):

CHUN OAKLAND

Current Referral:

HTH/CPH, WAM

**PRESENTATION OF THE
BOARD OF NURSING**

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

AND

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND
AFFORDABLE HOUSING

TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2008

Wednesday, February 13, 2008
1:15 p.m.

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL NO. 2146, RELATING TO THE CENTER FOR NURSING.

TO THE HONORABLE DAVID Y. IGE, CHAIR,
TO THE HONORABLE RUSSELL S. KOKUBUN, CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEES:

My name is Kathleen Yokouchi and I am the Executive Officer for the Board of Nursing ("Board"). I appreciate the opportunity to present testimony on behalf of the Board in support of Senate Bill No. 2146.

The purpose of this bill is to delete the requirement in Section 9 of Act 198, Session Laws of Hawaii 2003, which would repeal the fee assessment for the Hawaii State Center for Nursing ("HSCN") on July 1, 2009.

The Board is in support of Senate Bill No. 2146 because:

- It believes the data produced by the HSCN is crucial to the State policymakers, the Board, and other stakeholders involved with nursing in developing workforce programs and policies for the future;
- Besides producing a uniform source of nursing related information, the HSCN provides a positive opportunity for various sectors of the community to come together with a common interest in staffing which supports quality of care, patient safety and a positive working environment;

- It will allow the HSCN to continue focus on the complex issues which underlie the nurse shortage including nursing workforce data, recruitment and retention of nurses and faculty, and research on best practices and quality outcomes;
- It will allow continual collaboration as the HSCN has done with its annual Summit on Education and Practice (held in March, 2006 and December, 2007). The Summit brought together nurses from all islands to focus on integration, collaboration, innovation and community partnerships. A total of ninety and 100+ individuals, respectively, represented all sectors of the healthcare community and all islands. Many recommendations have resulted in new initiatives. A residency/internship model is being developed to assist in the transition of new graduate nurses into practice and to increase retention, satisfaction and success. A formalized plan to integrate nursing education with the practice sector is being finalized; and
- It will support the 5-year longitudinal study of new graduate RNs where this study will identify issues in new graduate turnover and best practices in retention.

Therefore, the Board respectfully requests the Committee's approval and passage of this measure and we thank you for this opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 2146.

**Testimony Presented Before
Senate Committees on Health
and
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Affordable Housing**

**February 13, 2008
1:15 p.m.**

**By
Dr. Jane K Kadohiro, DrPH, APRN, CDE
Nursing Faculty and Community Health Nurse**

SB 2146, Relating to the Center for Nursing

Chair Ige, Chair Kokubun, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and members of the Committees:

Aloha and thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 2146, Relating to the Center for Nursing. I am Dr. Jane Kadohiro, a nursing faculty member, an active volunteer in health issues in the community, and a member of the Hawaii State Center for Nursing Board. I am also a member of the Hawaii... and the American Nurses Association.

I heartily support this bill which extends the sunset clause for the Center for Nursing until 2014.

The Legislature first established Hawai'i State Center for Nursing in 2003 to address issues related to the nursing shortage we face and particularly those issues surrounding recruitment and retention of registered nurses and nursing faculty.

Specifically, the charges were to:

- Collect and analyze data regarding the current and future status and trends of the nursing workforce
- Conduct research on best practices and quality outcomes
- Develop a plan for implementing strategies to recruit and retain nurses, and
- Research analyze and report data related to the retention of the nursing workforce

Our Board became actively engaged in establishing an infrastructure and in developing a strategic plan from the beginning of our existence. The Center

became incredibly productive once we were able to hire an executive director and a small, yet outstanding staff, shortly thereafter. The work of the Center for Nursing has benefited nurses at all levels of nursing and all settings, policy makers, and the wider healthcare community with its facilitation of many stakeholders throughout the state ((nurses, many other disciplines, business, etc) who have become active participants in the work groups and committees staffed by the Center.

It is very clear that every aspect of the mandate has been addressed. The Center has established several systems to obtain ongoing data and has worked very diligently in engaging others in community-based and issue-based planning to address those areas of need that are identified from analysis of the data obtained. A listing of but some of the many other significant accomplishments of the Center is found attached.

We will continue to need ongoing reliable and valid data as an essential means of trending and projecting as we plan for both the near and distant future. The nursing shortage is not going to go away; we must rigorously engage in continued evidence-based projecting and planning.

We have a serious and ongoing nursing shortage in the Hawaii and throughout the country. It is critical that the Hawaii State Center for Nursing continue its valuable work... work that is not being performed by any other agency or entity in Hawaii. In my many years in this profession, I have witnessed at least three very serious nursing shortages, all addressed by well intended individuals on well intended committees, but none used data and trending as they attempted to plan solutions for the present. This has resulted in over-projection as well as under-projections, both of which have created temporary fixes, yet serious short as well as long term problems. With the creation of the Center, at last we have been able to plan, based on Hawaii data to generate Hawaii's specific solutions that will include a serious look at long term issues and likely impacts of plans proposed.

While I would prefer to simply see the sunset clause deleted, a five year extension of the sunset clause to 2014 will allow continued long range strategic planning backed with ongoing evidence and the ongoing active participation of the many stakeholders throughout the state. These individuals, from staff nurses to nurse leaders, to nurse executives, to hospital administrators, to business-persons and many others, have been tremendously supportive and engaged in the work of the Center and its significant contributions to the health and well being of the people of our state by addressing the critical need for registered nurses in Hawaii.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify in support of SB 2146.

I am available for further discussion at:

Dr. Jane K Kadohiro
808-271-1282
kadohiro@hawaii.edu

Hawaii State Center for Nursing

MEETING THE LEGISLATIVE MANDATE

Collect and analyze data regarding the current and future status and trends of the nursing workforce

- Conduct annual surveys of 100% of Hawai'i nursing programs to determine data and trends in educational capacity
- Conducted a survey in collaboration with the Board of Nursing on supply and characteristics of Hawai'i registered nurses
- Survey being conducted of licensed professional nurses (LPNs) to determine supply and characteristics
- A fact sheet provided annually on the nursing workforce to inform policy makers and stakeholders
- Nursing Workforce Summit held to inform strategic planning

Conduct research on best practice and quality outcomes

- Hawaii Partners in Nursing: Recruitment and Retention in Long Term Care funded by Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (\$275,000) and matching funds of \$125,000. (HMSA Foundation, \$105,000; Hale Makua, \$5,000; Queen Emma Nursing Institute, \$5,000; and the Center for Nursing, \$10,000)
- Small grants provided to support research and program development

Develop a plan for implementing strategies to recruit and retain nurses

- Leadership Development Program implemented; 102 registered nurses have participated from acute care facilities throughout the state
- Strategic plan developed to integrate education and practice
- New graduate internship/preceptor model being developed with community partners to increase new graduate RN employment opportunities and retention

Research, analyze and report data related to the retention of the nursing workforce

- Conducted a survey of 100% of Hawai'i nurses to focus on reasons for turnover
- Implemented a five year longitudinal survey of new graduate RNs
- Report submitted to the Legislature in response to SCR 76, on nurse staffing including a comprehensive review of the literature: *Nurse Staffing and Patient Outcomes: Examining the Evidence in Acute Care Nursing Homes*

testimony

From: hector ramos [hramos@hinurse.org]
Sent: Monday, February 11, 2008 7:41 PM
To: testimony
Cc: joancraft@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: RE: Wednesday, February 13, 2008 1:15 pm, Room 016 Joint hearing HTH/CPH.

Hector R. Ramos, Interim Executive Director
Hawaii Nursing Association
677 Ala Moana Blvd, Ste 301
Honolulu, HI 96813

February 11, 2008

Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Affordable Housing Committee
Senator Russell S. Kokubun Chair
Senator David Y. Ige, Vice- Chair
Members:
Senator Will Espero
Senator Les Ihara
Senator Norman Sakamoto
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi
Senator Gordon Trimble

Health Committee
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Carol Fukunaga, Vice-Chair
Members:
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker
Senator Ron Menor
Senator Paul Whalen

Re: Opposing SB 2146 Relating to Source of funding for the
Hawaii Center of Nursing

Aloha Chair Kokubun, Chair Ige and Honorable Committee Members;

My name is Hector R. Ramos and I represent the over 4,000 members of the Hawaii Nurses Association. I strongly oppose SB2146.

I strongly oppose SB 2146 which would extend the tax on nurses in Hawaii contrary to the compact made with them when the Center for Nursing was originally established. This tax is an unprecedented tax on a vital profession and it penalizes nurses for a problem faced by the community as though it was they that caused it. We constantly hear of a shortage of doctors and engineers yet they are not forced to pay such a tax as the nurses are. Why has this unique tax been thrust upon them? Is it because they are predominantly females and their profession is one of nurturing and caring for others above their own needs? What other group of professionals must fund such an entity as the Center for Nursing, which has brought no relief

2/12/2008

to the shortage in their profession?

The Center for Nursing has not focused on the underlying cause of why nurses are leaving the profession – working conditions. They have produced beautiful literature and brochures stating their mandate, vision, core values, etc. They have authored a report rejecting the very item that all nursing unions are clamoring for because unions are member driven – patient to nurse ratios. Wilcox Hospital nurses in Kauai were on the picket line for 127 days because they were trying to obtain such ratios in their contract and thus meet the most sacred tenet of their chosen profession – advocate for safe patient care. Yet a workgroup of eight administrators, including an HNA official that was not a bedside nurse, drafted the Center for Nurses position on this most important working condition which rejects what nurses in Hawaii and across the country have been risking their livelihood on. By rejecting such simple common sense approach to working conditions, patient to nurse ratios, the Center for Nursing has ceased to be a viable tool in solving the nursing shortage. Their reports and testimony mentions various surveys they have conducted, six by my last count. Yet not one survey has been conducted of those nurses that have already left the profession as to why or what would it take to bring them back to bedside nursing. How can you address the shortage if you refuse to address what makes them leave in the first place? Bringing more nurses into the same working conditions will not stem the drainage from bedside caring, it will just increase the number of our citizens that while educated to be nurses, they no longer work in the profession.

A systematic analysis of working conditions and a plan of action to improve those working conditions is the solution to stop the exodus of registered nurses from the bed-side. Besides patient to nurse ratios, the profession is overwhelmed with other areas that need improvement. Two such areas are back injuries and rotation. Rotation is when a nurse is required to work a different shift rather than her/his regular one. This occurs quite often and I ask you, how many years are nurses, with family responsibilities and other community interests, supposed to endure such disruptions in their personal lives before they seek employment elsewhere? Back-injuries, the rate of back-injuries among healthcare workers is the highest or second-highest among all professions in the country. Why are nurses not expected to seek employment elsewhere when they have suffered such injuries or witnessed colleague after colleague suffer through such injury. Especially knowing that such injuries are preventable and employers have failed in introducing the needed equipment which has long been available in the marketplace. Has the Center for Nursing considered these issues in their discussions to address the problem? As a legislator responsible for public policy, has the Center even raised the possibility that working conditions may be a cause of the nursing shortage? Let us examine a clear cause and effect example: at HMC-East & West since September 1, 2007 to January 31, 2008, thirty-one (31) nurses have quit their employment there when the new management implemented adverse changes in their working conditions. This number is expected to rise. Has the \$40.00 tax or the Center for Nursing which is funded by this tax on these nurses helped in keeping one nurse at the bedside at these two facilities? Will the area that the Center for Nursing is exploring, surveying or studying prevent any more nurses from quitting these facilities now, tomorrow or in the future? The answer is NO, and until they address working conditions the answer will always be no.

It is HNA's contentions that the Center for Nursing has not met its responsibility to the nurses that fund it or to the legislature by not addressing the real issues of the bed-side nursing shortage. It is HNA's contention that making the nurses pay for a program whose main function is to protect the status quo by not addressing working conditions, yet gives the impression that such tax will bring relief to the nursing shortage and their working conditions is unjust. It seems to confirm what nurses in the Labor Movement are waking up to: as a nurse you will be taken for granted and taken advantage and expected not to protest. I would add that here in Hawaii

you will also be expected to pay for it. Thus this unprecedented tax on nurses must cease and the promise that it would cease after 5 years should be kept by the government.

It is for the above reasons that I urge you to defer this bill. Thank you for allowing me to testify in opposition to SB2146. Thank you for your support. The Nurses thank you.

Respectfully Submitted

Hector R. Ramos
Interim Executive Director
(808) 531-1628
(201) 522-9850

Visit www.UANNurse.org or www.hawaiinurses.org for the latest news and information on the issues important to staff nurses.

testimony

From: tericlue@hawaii.rr.com
Sent: Monday, February 11, 2008 10:23 PM
To: testimony
Subject: SB 2146 Relating to Source of funding for the Hawaii Center of Nursing

Importance: High

Re: TESTIMONY Opposing SB 2146 Relating to Source of funding for the Hawaii Center of Nursing

To:

Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Affordable Housing Committee

Senator Russell S. Kokubun Chair

Senator David Y. Ige, Vice- Chair

Members:

Senator Will Espero

Senator Les Ihara

Senator Norman Sakamoto

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi

Senator Gordon Trimble

Health Committee

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair

Senator Carol Fukunaga, Vice-Chair

Members:

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker

Senator Ron Menor

Senator Paul Whalen

From: Terilyn J. Carvalho Luke, RN, ASN, BSN

Board Member Hawaii Nursing Association

Windward Area District 5

45-475 Holomakani Place

Kaneohe, HI 96744

Date: February 11, 2008

Aloha, Chair Ige, Chair Kokuban, and Honorable Committee Members.

My name is Terilyn J. Carvalho Luke. I have been a Registered Nurse in the State of Hawaii for almost 16 years and I strongly oppose SB2146. I am testifying against SB 2146 which allows the Center for Nursing to be funded by nurses only - by imposing a \$40.00 surcharge/tax upon nurses whenever we renew our nursing license. For all of those years there has always been a nursing shortage and the shortage steadily increases year after year.

I believe that the Center's Administration should have explored alternative funding prior to the sunset date of 2009 - i.e. grants, hospital corporations, or even the nurses employers who express such concern regarding the nursing shortage (except during contract negotiations of course). If the sunset clause is granted, the Center for Nursing will not be motivated to seek alternate funding. The Center is designed to help Hawaii's people increase the nurses in Hawaii and therefore everyone should be accountable for assisting with the Center equally, not force the nurses to help solve this ongoing crisis. It would

be absurd to ask the teachers or police officers in Hawaii to pay for funding to assist in increasing their numbers, yet for some reason, it was felt that discovering a solution for the nursing shortage should be funded solely by the nurses of this state.

The governing body of the largest nursing union in Hawaii, the Hawaii Nurses Association - House of Delegates, voted to stop this misrepresentation of nurses' licensing fees and end the sole funding of the Center for Nursing. The voices of the working Nurse have spoken and want this travesty to cease. The nation has studied the reasons surrounding the nursing shortage and the Hawaii Center for Nursing's solution of funding non-nurses to obtain a masters degree in nursing is insulting to all experienced Hawaii Nurses.

It is for these reasons that I urge you to kill this bill in Committee.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in opposition to SB2146.

Sincerely,

Terilyn J. Carvalho Luke, RN, ASN, BSN
University of Hawaii Nursing Alumni
Staff Nurse

testimony

From: hameljane@aol.com

Sent: Monday, February 11, 2008 6:24 PM

To: testimony

Jane Hamel, RN
Board Member Hawaii Nursing Association
2626 Doris Place
Honolulu, HI 96822

February 11, 2008

Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Affordable Housing Committee

Senator Russell S. Kokubun Chair

Senator David Y. Ige, Vice- Chair

Members:

Senator Will Espero

Senator Les Ihara

Senator Norman Sakamoto

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi

Senator Gordon Trimble

Health Committee

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair

Senator Carol Fukunaga, Vice-Chair

Members:

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker

Senator Ron Menor

Senator Paul Whalen

Re: Opposing SB 2146 Relating to Source of funding for the Hawaii Center of Nursing

Aloha Chair Kokubun, Chair Ige and Honorable Committee Members;

My name is Jane Hamel. I am a Registered nurse. I strongly oppose SB2146.

Hawaii is the only state that we know of that makes the nurses pay for recruitment and retention studies that benefit the hospitals, universities and the communities that we serve. The responsibility for funding should go to those that reap the highest benefit.

2/11/2008

I asked all those nurses that I work with if they were aware that \$40 of their licensing fee goes toward funding the Hawaii Center of Nursing. 100 percent of those surveyed were unaware of the funding. It is almost as though you have gone into our purses without our permission. I strongly urge you to reverse the sunset clause and relieve the already financially beleaguered nurse.

I urge you to remove the sunset clause.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in opposition to SB2146.

Thank you for your support. The Nurses thank you.

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testimony

From: marina robinson [robinsonm042@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Monday, February 11, 2008 9:01 PM
To: testimony
Subject: testimony opposing SB 2146

Re: TESTIMONY Opposing SB 2146 Relating to Source of funding for the Hawaii Center of Nursing

To:

Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Affordable Housing Committee
Senator Russell S. Kokubun Chair
Senator David Y. Ige, Vice- Chair
Members:
Senator Will Espero
Senator Les Ihara
Senator Norman Sakamoto
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi
Senator Gordon Trimble

Health Committee
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Carol Fukunaga, Vice-Chair
Members:
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker
Senator Ron Menor
Senator Paul Whalen

From: Marina Robinson, RN

Board Member Hawaii Nursing Association

1010 Pensacola St.

Honolulu, HI 96814

Date: February 11, 2008

Aloha, Chair Ige, Chair Kokuban, and Honorable Committee Members.

2/11/2008

My name is Marina Robinson. I have been a Registered Nurse for 26 years and I strongly oppose SB2146. I am testifying against SB 2146 which allows the Center for Nursing to be funded by nurses only - by imposing a \$40.00 surcharge/tax upon nurses whenever we renew our nursing license.

I believe that the Center's Administration should have explored alternative funding prior to the sunset date of 2009 - i.e. grants, hospital corporations, or even the nurses employers who express such concern regarding the nursing shortage (except during contract negotiations of course). If the sunset clause is granted, the Center for Nursing will not be motivated to seek alternate funding.

The governing body of the largest nursing union in Hawaii, the Hawaii Nurses Association - House of Delegates, voted to stop this misrepresentation of nurses' licensing fees and end the sole funding of the Center for Nursing. The voices of the working Nurse has spoken and wants this travesty to cease. The nation has studied the reasons surrounding the nursing shortage and Hawaii Center for Nursing solution of funding non-nurses to obtain a masters degree in nursing is insulting to all experienced Hawaii Nurses.

It is for the above reasons that I urge you to kill this bill in Committee.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in opposition to SB2146.

Marina Robinson, RN

alternate funding.

The governing body of the largest nursing union in Hawaii, the Hawaii Nurses Association - House of Delegates, voted to stop this misrepresentation of nurses' licensing fees and end the sole funding of the Center for Nursing. The voices of the working Nurse has spoken and wants this travesty to cease. The nation has studied the reasons surrounding the nursing shortage and Hawaii Center for Nursing solution of funding non-nurses to obtain a masters degree in nursing is insulting to all experienced Hawaii Nurses.

It is for the above reasons that I urge you to kill this bill in Committee.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in opposition to SB2146.

Roberta Tanner, MSN, RN, CNN

Aloha Chair Kokubun, Chair Ige and Honorable Committee Members;

My name is (your name). I am a Registered nurse

**Testimony Presented Before
Senate Committees on Health
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Affordable Housing
February 13, 2008
1:15 p.m.
By**

Suzann C. Filleul, BSN, MBA, CNOR

SB 2146, Relating to the Center for Nursing

Chair Ige, Chair Kokubun, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and members of the Committees:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony regarding SB 2146, Relating to the Center for Nursing. I am a Registered Nurse employed at Kaiser Permanente full time and also represent the American Organization of Nurse Executives – Hawai'i on the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing Advisory Board. I support this bill which amends Act 198 to make permanent the deposit and disbursement of the center for nursing special fund.

As a registered nurse I am more than happy to continue to pay an additional licensing fee of \$40.00 every two years (\$1.66 per month) to support the work of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing. As a profession it is important that we support the center so that it may continue to provide important data related to our local workforce. In addition to the data, the center also supports local research designed to better understand interventions that may improve and enhance the practice of professional nursing in Hawai'i.

The 2003 Legislature established the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing, and placed it at School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, to:

- Collect and analyze data regarding the current and future status and trends of the nursing workforce
- Conduct research on best practices and quality outcomes
- Develop a plan for implementing strategies to recruit and retain nurses
- Research analyze and report data related to the retention of the nursing workforce

Since becoming operational in April, 2005, the work of the Center for Nursing has benefited nurses, policy makers and the wider healthcare community. The Center has contributed significantly by:

- Engaging and involving nurses from all islands and all sectors of healthcare in guiding the work of the Center (Education/Practice Summit of 2006, Nursing Workforce Summit of 2007, Collaborative Workgroups)

- Providing Hawai'i specific data on the nursing workforce and the nursing shortage to inform policy decisions and resource allocation
- Focusing on increasing educational capacity including conducting an annual survey of 100% of Hawai'i's nursing programs. Providing data to policy makers and stakeholders to address the shortage of nursing faculty.
- Establishing innovative programs to improve and support retention of nurses in both acute and long term care (leadership training programs for acute care and preceptor development in long term care).
- Obtaining grant funding to support additional initiatives (Robert Wood Johnson Partners in Nursing grant with HMSA Foundation)
- Initiating research projects such as the RN turnover survey on generational differences and the 5 year longitudinal study on new graduate RNs
- Partnering with nurses from throughout the state along with business, philanthropy and government to generate collaborative solutions.

In light of an ongoing nursing shortage in the state and the nation, it is vital that the Center for Nursing continue its efforts to support nurses who are generating Hawai'i specific solutions. Nurses working in partnership with others can build a strong nursing workforce for the future. Elimination of the sunset clause will allow this valuable and beneficial work to continue.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

**Testimony Presented Before
Senate Committees on Health
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Affordable
Housing
February 13, 2008
1:15 p.m.
By**

**Aggie Pigao Cadiz, BSN, RN
Director of Clinical Operations, Hospice Hawai'i**

SB 2146, Relating to the Center for Nursing

Chair Ige, Chair Kokubun, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and members of the Committees:

My name is Aggie Pigao Cadiz. I am a Registered Nurse, a member of Hawai'i Nurses' Association, and an appointee to the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing Advisory Board. Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony regarding SB 2146, Relating to the Center for Nursing. I support the intent of this bill which amends Act 198 to make permanent the deposit and disbursement of the center for nursing special fund. However, I would like to suggest the bill be amended to provide for a 5 year extension of the sunset clause to 2014.

The Hawai'i State Center for Nursing was established by the Hawai'i State Legislature in 2003 "to address nursing workforce issues" (Act 198, HB 422). Functions of the Center were to:

- Collect and analyze data regarding the current and future status and trends of the nursing workforce
- Conduct research on best practices and quality outcomes
- Develop a plan for implementing strategies to recruit and retain nurses
- Research analyze and report data related to the retention of the nursing workforce

Since its inception, the work of the Center for Nursing has benefited nurses, policy makers and the wider healthcare community. Examples of significant contributions by the Center include:

- Providing Hawai'i specific data on the nursing workforce and the nursing shortage to inform policy decisions and resource allocation
- Initiating research projects such as the RN turnover survey on generational differences and the 5 year longitudinal study on new graduate RNs.

- Providing funding to nurse researchers to improve nurse recruitment and retention.
- Conducting a survey of 100% of Hawai'i's nursing education programs on the types of programs offered, enrollment capacity, number of graduates, student and faculty demographics, and current issues affecting program capacity. The Center provided data to policy makers and stakeholders to assist in increasing educational capacity by addressing the nursing faculty shortage.
- Establishing innovative programs in partnership with public and private agencies to improve and support retention of nurses in both acute and long term care (leadership training programs for acute care and preceptor development in long term care).
- Obtaining grant funding to support additional initiatives (Robert Wood Johnson Partners in Nursing grant with HMSA Foundation)
- Engaging and involving nurses from all islands and all sectors of healthcare in guiding the work of the Center (Education/Practice Summit of 2006, Nursing Workforce Summit of 2007, Collaborative Workgroups)
- Partnering with nurses from throughout the state along with business, philanthropy and government to generate collaborative solutions.

No other entity in Hawai'i is doing work similar to that of the Center for Nursing, or has as its focus to address the nursing shortage. In light of an ongoing nursing shortage in the state and the nation, it is vital that the Center for Nursing continue its efforts to support nurses who are generating Hawai'i specific solutions. Nurses working in partnership with others can build a strong nursing workforce for the future. Elimination of the sunset clause or providing for a five year extension to 2014 will enable this valuable and beneficial work to continue.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify. I ask for your support of nurses and urge you to vote in favor of this bill.

**Testimony Presented Before
Senate Committees on Health
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Affordable Housing
February 13, 2008
1:15 p.m.
By**

**SAI CHANTAVY
Executive Director/CEO, Maunalani Nursing and Rehabilitation Center**

SB 2146, Relating to the Center for Nursing

Chair Ige, Chair Kokubun, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and members of the Committees:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony regarding SB 2146, relating to the Center for Nursing. I support the intent of this bill which amends Act 198 to make permanent the deposit and disbursement of the center for nursing special fund. However, I would like to suggest the bill be amended to provide for a 5 year extension of the sunset clause to 2014.

The 2003 Legislature established the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing, and placed it at School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, to:

- Collect and analyze data regarding the current and future status and trends of the nursing workforce
- Conduct research on best practices and quality outcomes
- Develop a plan for implementing strategies to recruit and retain nurses
- Research analyze and report data related to the retention of the nursing workforce

Since becoming operational in April 2005, the work of the Center for Nursing has benefited nurses, policy makers and the wider healthcare community. The Center has contributed significantly by:

- Engaging and involving nurses from all islands and all sectors of healthcare in guiding the work of the Center (Education/Practice Summit of 2006, Nursing Workforce Summit of 2007, Collaborative Workgroups)
- Providing Hawai'i specific data on the nursing workforce and the nursing shortage to inform policy decisions and resource allocation
- Focusing on increasing educational capacity including conducting an annual survey of 100% of Hawai'i's nursing programs. Providing data to policy makers and stakeholders to address the shortage of nursing faculty.

- Establishing innovative programs to improve and support retention of nurses in both acute and long term care (leadership training programs for acute care and preceptor development in long term care).
- Obtaining grant funding to support additional initiatives (Robert Wood Johnson Partners in Nursing grant with HMSA Foundation)
- Initiating research projects such as the RN turnover survey on generational differences and the 5 year longitudinal study on new graduate RNs
- Partnering with nurses from throughout the state along with business, philanthropy and government to generate collaborative solutions.

In light of an ongoing nursing shortage in the state and the nation, it is vital that the Center for Nursing continue its efforts to support nurses who are generating Hawai'i specific solutions. Nurses working in partnership with others can build a strong nursing workforce for the future. Elimination of the sunset clause or providing for a five year extension to 2014, as was discussed at the House Higher Education Committee, will allow this valuable and beneficial work to continue.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

**Testimony Presented Before the Senate
Committee on Health, Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and
Affordable Housing**

February 13, 2008 1:15 p.m.

By

**By Faith Rossman, RN, MN
Clinical Specialist, Kona Community Hospital**

SB 2146, Relating to the Center for Nursing

Chair Ige, Chair Kokubun, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and members of the Committees:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony regarding SB 2146, relating to the Center for Nursing. I support the intent of this bill which amends Act 198 to make permanent the deposit and disbursement of the center for nursing special fund. However, I would like to suggest the bill be amended to provide for a 5-year extension of the sunset clause to 2014.

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- Engaging and involving nurses from all islands and all sectors of healthcare in guiding the work of the Center (Education/Practice Summit of 2006, Nursing Workforce Summit of 2007, Collaborative Workgroups)
- Providing Hawai'i specific data on the nursing workforce and the nursing shortage to inform policy decisions and resource allocation
- Focusing on increasing educational capacity including conducting an annual survey of 100% of Hawai'i's nursing programs. Providing data to policy makers and stakeholders to address the shortage of nursing faculty.
- Establishing innovative programs to improve and support retention of nurses in both acute and long term care (leadership training programs for acute care and preceptor development in long term care).
- Obtaining grant funding to support additional initiatives (Robert Wood Johnson Partners in Nursing grant with HMSA Foundation)
- Initiating research projects such as the RN turnover survey on generational differences and the 5 year longitudinal study on new graduate RNs
- Partnering with nurses from throughout the state along with businesses, philanthropic organizations and government to generate collaborative solutions.

With the ongoing nursing shortage in the state and the nation, it is imperative for the Center for Nursing to support nurses who are developing Hawai'i-specific solutions. Nurses working with others can build a strong healthcare workforce for the future.

Please provide for a five-year extension of the sunset clause to 2014 to allow this valuable and beneficial work to continue.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



THE QUEEN'S MEDICAL CENTER

1301 Punchbowl Street • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 • Phone (808) 538-9011 • Fax: (808) 547-4646

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chair

SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION & AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Senator Russell S. Kokubun, Chair
Senator David Y. Ige, Vice Chair

Wednesday, February 13, 2008 – 1:15 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 016
Deliver to: Committee Clerk, Room 215, 1 copy

In Support of SB 2146, Relating to the Center for Nursing

Chairs Ige & Kokubun, Vice Chairs Fukunaga & Ige, and Members of the Committees:

My name is Cindy Kamikawa, Vice President of Nursing and Chief Nursing Officer at The Queen's Medical Center. The Queen's Medical Center supports Senate Bill 2146, which amends Act 198 to make permanent the deposit and disbursement of certain nursing fees into the Compliance Resolution Fund to the credit of the Center for Nursing Special Fund.

The Queen's Medical Center is the largest private tertiary care hospital in the State of Hawaii. We offer specialized care in the areas of cardiology, neuroscience, orthopedics, behavioral health, oncology, women's health, emergency services and trauma. A significant and essential asset of our patient care team is our registered nurses who enable us to provide high quality patient care to the citizens of Hawaii.

New graduate nurses are a significant resource for Queen's to fill our positions. Last year we hired 92 new graduate nurses. With the anticipation that the nursing shortage will continue, it is essential that our local schools produce more nursing graduates. Our needs of the Medical Center extend to both the baccalaureate and masters graduates in filling vacancies and developing our nursing workforce.

The 2003 Legislature established the Hawaii State Center for Nursing to conduct research and implement a plan to recruit and retain nurses. Over the past several years, the Center has been successful in laying the foundation for this work thru a collaborative effort with community and industry leaders in nursing. Funding must be continued to support these efforts in order to address the current challenges with the nursing workforce. Elimination of the sunset clause will allow this valuable and beneficial work to continue.

We respectfully request your support for the passage of Senate Bill 2146. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Cindy Kamikawa, RN, MS, CNAA
Vice President, Nursing, and Chief Nursing Officer
The Queen's Medical Center



SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
Senator David Ige, Chair

SENATE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & AFFORDABLE HOUSING
Senator Russell Kokubun, Chair

Conference Room 016
February 13, 2008 at 1:15 p.m.

Testimony in support of SB 2146.

I am Rich Meiers, President and CEO of the Healthcare Association of Hawaii, which represents the entire spectrum of health care, including acute care hospitals, two-thirds of the long term care beds in Hawaii, as well as home care and hospice providers. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of SB 2146, which repeals the sunset provision of the funding mechanism for the Center for Nursing.

When the shortage of nurses was first identified as a serious problem, the information needed to address the problem was incomplete, scattered, and sometimes conflicting. As a result, decisions to increase the supply of nurses could not be made with much confidence. So the Legislature passed Act 198, SLH 2003, to create the Center for Nursing, which has been tasked with the following functions:

- (1) Collect and analyze data, and make recommendations regarding the current status and trends of the nursing workforce;
- (2) Conduct research in best practices and quality outcomes;
- (3) Develop a plan for implementing strategies to recruit and retain nurses; and
- (4) Research, analyze, and report data related to the retention of the nursing workforce.

Since its inception, the Center for Nursing has engaged in a variety of research that provides a greater understanding of the nursing workforce, including: (1) Nurse turnover and retention; (2) Nurse employer demand; (3) A longitudinal study of new graduates; (4) A forecast of Hawaii's nursing workforce until 2020; and (5) Recruitment and retention of nurses in the long term care sector. In addition, the Center for Nursing has issued reports on nurse education programs in Hawaii, nurse education and practice, and the state of the nursing workforce.

The Center for Nursing has demonstrated its value in gathering and analyzing data that is essential to creating sustainable solutions that are specific to Hawaii's nursing workforce shortage. Previously, we were reliant upon national data and trends that did not correlate well with Hawaii's conditions.

The sunset provision for the funding mechanism for the Center for Nursing was included in Act 198, SLH 2003, to ensure that a proactive effort would have to be made to continue the activities of the Center for Nursing. The Center for Nursing has clearly proven its value.

For the foregoing reasons, the Healthcare Association strongly supports SB 2146.

**Testimony Presented Before
Senate Committees on Health
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Affordable Housing
February 13, 2008
1:15 p.m.
By**

**Joan P. White
Executive Director, Honolulu Community Action Program
Immediate Past Chair, Hawaii State Center for Nursing**

SB 2146, Relating to the Center for Nursing

Chair Ige, Chair Kokubun, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and members of the Committees:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony regarding SB 2146, Relating to the Center for Nursing. I support the intent of this bill which amends Act 198 to make permanent the deposit and disbursement of the center for nursing special fund. However, I would like to suggest the bill be amended to provide for a 5 year extension of the sunset clause to 2014.

The 2003 Legislature established the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing, and placed it at School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, to:

- Collect and analyze data regarding the current and future status and trends of the nursing workforce
- Conduct research on best practices and quality outcomes
- Develop a plan for implementing strategies to recruit and retain nurses
- Research analyze and report data related to the retention of the nursing workforce

Since becoming operational in April, 2005, the work of the Center for Nursing has benefited nurses, policy makers and the wider healthcare community. The Center has contributed significantly by:

- Engaging and involving nurses from all islands and all sectors of healthcare in guiding the work of the Center (Education/Practice Summit of 2006, Nursing Workforce Summit of 2007, Collaborative Workgroups)
- Providing Hawai'i specific data on the nursing workforce and the nursing shortage to inform policy decisions and resource allocation

- Focusing on increasing educational capacity including conducting an annual survey of 100% of Hawai'i's nursing programs. Providing data to policy makers and stakeholders to address the shortage of nursing faculty.
- Establishing innovative programs to improve and support retention of nurses in both acute and long term care (leadership training programs for acute care and preceptor development in long term care).
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- Initiating research projects such as the RN turnover survey on generational differences and the 5 year longitudinal study on new graduate RNs
- Partnering with nurses from throughout the state along with business, philanthropy and government to generate collaborative solutions.

In light of an ongoing nursing shortage in the state and the nation, it is vital that the Center for Nursing continue its efforts to support nurses who are generating Hawai'i specific solutions. Nurses working in partnership with others can build a strong nursing workforce for the future. Elimination of the sunset clause or providing for a five year extension to 2014, as was discussed at the House Higher Education Committee, will allow this valuable and beneficial work to continue.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

**Testimony Presented Before
Senate Committees on Health
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Affordable Housing
February 13, 2008
1:15 p.m.
By**

Jeannette Bala, R.N., M.S.N.

SB 2146, Relating to the Center for Nursing

Chair Ige, Chair Kokubun, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and members of the Committees:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony regarding SB 2146, Relating to the Center for Nursing. I am a Registered Nurse employed at Kaiser Permanente full time. I support this bill which amends Act 198 to make permanent the deposit and disbursement of the center for nursing special fund.

As a registered nurse I am more than happy to continue to pay an additional licensing fee of \$40.00 every two years (\$1.66 per month) to support the work of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing. As a profession it is important that we support the center so that it may continue to provide important data related to our local workforce. In addition to the data, the center also supports local research designed to better understand interventions that may improve and enhance the practice of professional nursing in Hawai'i.

The 2003 Legislature established the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing, and placed it at School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, to:

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In light of an ongoing nursing shortage in the state and the nation, it is vital that the Center for Nursing continue its efforts to support nurses who are generating Hawai'i specific solutions. Nurses working in partnership with others can build a strong nursing workforce for the future. Elimination of the sunset clause will allow this valuable and beneficial work to continue.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

**Testimony Presented Before
Senate Committees on Health
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Affordable Housing
February 13, 2008
1:15 p.m.
By**

DAWN STYNER, RN, BC

**Position/title Organization: Registered Nurse, Staff Nurse, Kona Community
Hospital Med/Surg Unit, Kealahou, HI and
Member of the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Nurses Association**

RE: SB 2146, Relating to the Center for Nursing

Chair Ige, Chair Kokubun, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and members of the Committees:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony regarding SB 2146, Relating to the Center for Nursing. I support the intent of this bill which amends Act 198 to make permanent the deposit and disbursement of the center for nursing special fund. However, I would like to suggest the bill be amended to provide for a 5 year extension of the sunset clause to 2014.

The 2003 Legislature established the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing, and placed it at School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, to:

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In light of an ongoing nursing shortage in the state and the nation, it is vital that the Center for Nursing continue its efforts to support nurses who are generating Hawai'i specific solutions. Nurses working in partnership with others can build a strong nursing workforce for the future. Elimination of the sunset clause or providing for a five year extension to 2014, as was discussed at the House Higher Education Committee, will allow this valuable and beneficial work to continue.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Dawn Styner, RN, BC

75-6188 Akoa Place
Kailua-Kona, HI 96740
(808) 339-9644 (Home)
(808) 322-4410 (Work)

**Testimony Presented Before
Senate Committees on Health
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Affordable Housing
February 13, 2008
1:15 p.m.
By**

Ana Silva, RN, CNA, BC

**Position/title Organization: Registered Nurse, Director of Education, Kona
Community Hospital, Kealahou, HI
Also, Board Member of the Hawaii Nurses Association and Member of the Hawaii
State Center for Nursing Advisory Board**

RE: SB 2146, Relating to the Center for Nursing

Chair Ige, Chair Kokubun, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and members of the Committees:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony regarding SB 2146, Relating to the Center for Nursing. I support the intent of this bill which amends Act 198 to make permanent the deposit and disbursement of the center for nursing special fund. However, **I would like to suggest the bill be amended to provide for a 5 year extension of the sunset clause to 2014.**

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Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Ana Silva, RN, CNA, BC



P O Box 390573
Kailua-Kona, HI 96739
(808) 324-6012 (Home)
(808) 322-4560 (Work)
(808) 896-0073

Testimony Presented Before
Senate Committees on Health
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Affordable Housing
February 13, 2008
1:15 p.m.
By

Patty Briseno, RN, CRNI, OCN

Position/title Organization: Registered Nurse, Staff Nurse, Infusion Therapy
Department (Chemd), Kona Community Hospital, Kealahou, HI

RE: SB 2146, Relating to the Center for Nursing

Chair Ige, Chair Kokubun, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and members of the Committees:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony regarding SB 2146, Relating to the Center for Nursing. I support the intent of this bill which amends Act 198 to make permanent the deposit and disbursement of the center for nursing special fund. However, I would like to suggest the bill be amended to provide for a 5 year extension of the sunset clause to 2014.

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Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Patty Briseno, RN, CRNI, OCN

77-133 Queen Kalama Avenue
Kailua-Kona, HI 96740
(808) 322-0159 (Home)
(808) 322-4493 (Work)

**Testimony Presented Before
Senate Committees on Health
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Affordable Housing
February 13, 2008
1:15 p.m.
By**

ROSEMARY TAYLOR, RN, CNN

**Position/title Organization: Registered Nurse, Staff Nurse, Liberty Dialysis Center
Kealahou, HI**

RE: SB 2146, Relating to the Center for Nursing

Chair Ige, Chair Kokubun, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and members of the Committees:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony regarding SB 2146, Relating to the Center for Nursing. I support the intent of this bill which amends Act 198 to make permanent the deposit and disbursement of the center for nursing special fund. However, I would like to suggest the bill be amended to provide for a 5 year extension of the sunset clause to 2014.

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Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Rosemary Taylor, RN, CNN

75-140 Lunapule Road
Kailua-Kona, HI 96740
(808) 334-1949 (Home)
(808) 322-2131 (Work)

**Testimony Presented Before
Senate Committees on Health
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Affordable Housing
February 13, 2008
1:15 p.m.
By**

Gloria Woodwell, RN

**Position/title Organization: Registered Nurse, Staff Nurse, Education Dept, Kona
Community Hospital, Kealahou, HI**

RE: SB 2146, Relating to the Center for Nursing

Chair Ige, Chair Kokubun, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and members of the Committees:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony regarding SB 2146, Relating to the Center for Nursing. I support the intent of this bill which amends Act 198 to make permanent the deposit and disbursement of the center for nursing special fund. However, I would like to suggest the bill be amended to provide for a 5 year extension of the sunset clause to 2014.

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Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Gloria Woodwell, RN

P. O. Box 2179
Kealahou, Hawaii 96750
(808) 324-0494 (Home)
(808) 322-4559 (Work)

testimony

From: vicky poland [poland001@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 12, 2008 12:15 PM
To: testimony
Subject: SB2146 Joint Hearing date Feb 13 in room 016

Vicky Poland, CCRN
Board Member Hawaii Nursing Association
Board Member Hawaii State Center for Nursing

98-1746 Hapaki Street
Aiea
Hawaii. 96701

February 12, 2008

Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Affordable Housing Committee
Senator Russell S. Kokubun Chair
Senator David Y. Ige, Vice- Chair
Members:
Senator Will Espero
Senator Les Ihara
Senator Norman Sakamoto
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi
Senator Gordon Trimble

Health Committee
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Carol Fukunaga, Vice-Chair
Members:
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker
Senator Ron Menor
Senator Paul Whalen

Re: Opposing SB 2146 Relating to Source of funding for the Hawaii Center of Nursing

Aloha Chair Kokubun, Chair Ige and Honorable Committee Members;

2/12/2008

My name is Vicky Poland. I am a Registered nurse currently working at Kuakini Medical Center. I strongly oppose SB2146. Firstly let me state I firmly believe in the Center for nursing and what it is doing and what it can do in the future. I am a member of the Center for Nursing Board of Directors. What I object to is using the nurses to fund it. I am aware that asking the Government or the Employers for funding is difficult but the nurses were never asked! It was just mandated for them to pay. The nursing shortage is real and it will effect each and every one of us. It is going to be critical to find solutions and I believe in what the Center is doing to facilitate this. Please do not eliminate the sunset clause. Please make it a priority to find funding from a more appropriate source than taxing the nurses. They are the solution and the salvation. They should not be the ones who are taxed in this way. I implore you to make the center and it's funding a priority and stop taxing the nurses.

Thank you for allowing me to testify against SB2146

Respectfully

Vicky Poland CCRN

**Testimony Presented Before
Senate Committees on Health
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Affordable Housing
February 13, 2008
1:15 p.m.
By**

Gary Kienbaum, R.N., M.S.N.

SB 2146, Relating to the Center for Nursing

Chair Ige, Chair Kokubun, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and members of the Committees:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony regarding SB 2146, Relating to the Center for Nursing. I am a Registered Nurse employed at Kaiser Permanente full time and also represent the American Organization of Nurse Executives – Hawai'i on the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing Advisory Board. I support this bill which amends Act 198 to make permanent the deposit and disbursement of the center for nursing special fund.

As a registered nurse I am more than happy to continue to pay an additional licensing fee of \$40.00 every two years (\$1.66 per month) to support the work of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing. As a profession it is important that we support the center so that it may continue to provide important data related to our local workforce. In addition to the data, the center also supports local research designed to better understand interventions that may improve and enhance the practice of professional nursing in Hawai'i.

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Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

To: Chairs David Ige and Russell Kokuban, and Members of HTH and CPH

From: Bill Richter, RN

Date: February 10, 2008

Good Morning Chairs IGE and Kokuban and members of the Committees.

My name is Bill Richter. I have been a Registered Nurse in Hawaii for twenty years and I am testifying against SB2146, which allows the Hawaii State Center for Nursing (HSCN) to be funded for another five years by imposing a \$40.00 surcharge/tax upon nurses whenever we renew our nursing license.

Without getting into the lengthy and contested issue about whether the HSCN is actually providing a beneficial service to either the State's efforts to educate more nurses, or the employer's efforts to make the workplace more conducive to retaining them, it is clear that the nursing shortage continues to affect everyone in the community.

As the nursing shortage affects everyone, it seems somewhat unfair to burden only nurses with the cost of funding an arguably redundant and ineffective think-tank in an attempt to identify why this shortage exists. As bedside nurses we have been saying for years what would help; better staffing, better working conditions, no mandatory overtime, and lift-teams are just a few of the items that have been proposed.

Let's compare for a moment. In Hawaii we have a shortage of physicians and law enforcement officer candidates. Think for a moment how imposing additional fees on these groups would influence them to stay in Hawaii. With the cost of living in Hawaii, additional fees on any of our critically needed positions are likely to have a negative influence on attracting and keeping them here.

If you feel that the HSCN is indeed performing a beneficial service, and many bedside nurses would disagree with that premise based on the continued difficulty maintaining adequate staffing levels of RNs in the hospital setting as well as the continued exodus of nurses from the profession, then I respectfully request that you find an alternate and more equitable means to finance them, rather than this objectionable fee attached to our licensure.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in opposition to SB 2146.

**CLAUDINE M. TOMASA, RN
1268 MOKAPU BOULEVARD
KAILUA, HAWAII 96734
PHONE: 808-783-5396**

TESTIMONY OPPOSING SB 2146 RELATING TO THE CENTER FOR NURSING

To: Chair David Ige
Senate Committee on Health

Chair Russell Kokuban
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Affordable Housing

From: Claudine M. Tomasa, RN

Date: February 13, 2008

Re: SB 2146 Relating to the Center For Nursing

Good morning Chair Ige, Chair Kokuban, and members of the Committee on Health and the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Affordable Housing.

My name is Claudine Tomasa. I am a Registered Nurse and I am testifying against SB 2146 which allows the Center for Nursing to be funded continuously- by imposing a \$40.00 surcharge/tax upon nurses whenever we renew our nursing license.

I do not believe that the Center for Nursing has complied with Act 198 (which created the Center) in terms of ensuring that better data about nurses is available to improve health care in Hawaii as well as improving working conditions for nurses. Nor do I believe that the Center has conducted research on best practices and quality outcomes for nurses practicing in acute care facilities.

There is a great need to retain qualified, seasoned nurses at the bedside to care for Hawaii's seriously ill patients in the Acute Care Setting. Unfortunately seasoned nurses continue to leave bedside nursing or cut their hours of work, because of the working conditions and its impact upon their ability to practice safe, quality, nursing care - adding to the nursing shortage.

I am unclear as to what the Center For Nursing has been doing the last three to four years to help stop these nurses from leaving the bedside in the acute care facilities. There has been discussion about the ANA Staffing Principles but no action-plan or application of the principles in the work place. It appears that more time and research is focused on programs that take nurses away from the bedside -where the RN's professional assessment, critical thinking, and action- plan is needed – adding to the nursing shortage in the Acute Care Facilities.

Perhaps an audit should be conducted to determine whether the mandatory surcharge is being utilized appropriately to meet the intent of Act 198- address the nursing shortage and retention of qualified seasoned nurses.

It is for the above reasons that I urge you to hold SB 2146 in Committee. Do not compel hard working professional nurses to continuously fund a Center that I believe has not been accountable.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in opposition of SB 2146.

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI‘I SYSTEM

LEGISLATIVE TESTIMONY



SB 2146 Relating to the Center for Nursing

Testimony Presented Before the Senate
Committee on Health and
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection,
and Affordable Housing

February 13, 2008 at 1:15 p.m.

by
Virginia S. Hinshaw, Chancellor
Presented by
Mary G. Boland, DrPH, RN, FAAN
Dean and Professor
School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

**Testimony Presented Before the Senate
Committee on Health and
Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Affordable Housing**
Wednesday, February 13, 2008
1:15 p.m.

by
Virginia S. Hinshaw, Chancellor

Presented by
Mary G. Boland, DrPH, RN, FAAN
Dean and Professor
School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

SB 2146 Relating to the Center for Nursing

Chair Ige, Chair Kokubun, and members of the Senate Committee on Health and Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Affordable Housing, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 2146, Relating to the Center for Nursing. We support this bill which amends Act 198 to make permanent the deposit and disbursement of the center for nursing special fund.

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa is privileged to provide a home for this successful and vital Center established by the 2003 Legislature. Since becoming operational in May 2005, the Center for Nursing efforts have benefited state policy makers, nurses and healthcare. The Center has contributed significantly by:

- Providing a venue to focus on the nursing workforce; supporting the executive and legislative branches of state government to inform policy development
- Convening nurses from all sectors to come together to improve quality of care and health outcomes for Hawai'i residents
- Conducting rigorous surveys whose results inform policy development and resource allocation regarding the state nursing education and workforce capacity
- Establishing innovative partnerships to improve recruitment and retention of nurses in the long term care setting
- Developing and conducting the first prospective 5-year study to document new nurse employment and career patterns.

Specifically, the Center's annual survey of state educational capacity is critical to the UH Mānoa and statewide nursing consortium efforts. Data driven state level evidence on enrollments, graduations, programs and faculty demographics ensure that efforts to increase the pipeline of Hawai'i's nursing workforce and nursing faculty reflect state need.

It is imperative that the Center for Nursing continue its efforts on these complex issues. Due to their efforts, Hawai'i has a data and evidence driven description of the nursing

workforce. As we identify trends and impacts, we are generating policy and funding efforts targeted to our state need. Extension of the sunset clause to 2014 is required to assure the Center can complete its work in establishing a portrait of the Hawai'i nursing workforce, our ability to prepare for state need, and successful efforts to sustain the nursing workforce here.

As authorized in the 2003 legislation, funds to operate the Center are generated by fees collected upon nurses' biannual licensure renewal. The State Treasury provided funds to the University by creating the Center for Nursing Special Fund. We note that there is discussion in the 2008 Legislature regarding the support for the existing fee assessment. A survey of 10 other state centers indicates that several approaches are used to fund such Centers. Three states have a surcharge; one allows nurses to elect the fee at license renewal; and one transfers monies from license fees. Three are funded via recurring state appropriations; one by private foundation; and one by hospitals.

In summary, the University of Hawai'i Mānoa recommends amending SB 2146 by providing for a sunset extension to 2014 and conducting a review of best practices for funding of Centers for Nursing. We believe this approach allows the Center to continue its work in progress as noted above.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify. I am pleased to answer any questions.

Joan Craft RN
Vice-President Hawaii Nurses Association
Vice-President United American Nurses AFLCIO
Board Member Hawaii Center for Nursing
535 A Kuaaina Way
Kailua, HI 96734

February 10, 2008

Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Affordable Housing
Committee

Senator Russell S. Kokubun Chair

Senator David Y. Ige, Vice-Chair

Members:

Senator Will Espero

Senator Les Ihara

Senator Norman Sakamoto

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi

Senator Gordon Trimble

Health Committee

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair

Senator Carol Fukunaga, Vice-Chair

Members:

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker

Senator Ron Menor

Senator Paul Whalen

Re: Opposing SB 2146 Relating to Source of funding for the Hawaii
Center of Nursing

Aloha Chair Kokubun, Chair Ige and Honorable Committee Members;

I'm writing to express my strong opposition to SB2146. As the VP of the Hawaii Nurses Association and on behalf of the 4,000 registered nurses I represent, it is my opinion that a more appropriate funding source than adding \$40 on to nurses registration fees should be implemented.

When I was appointed to the Center for nursing two years ago, I and Vicky Poland the only other staff nurse on the CFN, raised the issue of funding. We suggested that the employers should pay a fair share. The response we got was, that the employers would not agree to it, well it should be noted that the nurses do not agree with being the source of funding either.

I randomly polled other state's Centers for nursing regarding how they are funded. The responses I got included: earmark funding, start up funding, infrastructure funding by the government and hospital corporations and other grants. None of the Centers I called said that nurses funded it.

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii (representing in their words the entire spectrum of health care), Kapiolani medical Center, Straub clinic and Hospitals, Wilcox Health, The Queen's Medical Center, Hawaii Health Systems Corporation-Leahi Hospital all have submitted testimony in support of eliminating the sunset clause because "the Center for Nursing has clearly proven its value" my question is, to whom?

The 4000 Staff nurses that I represent do not want to see the sunset clause extended and do not want to continue to subsidize this center. The above self identified stake holders should be considered as an alternate source of funding. May I suggest amending the bill to the following: For every RN employed at a health care facility a \$40 dollar fee, will be paid every two years, by their employer to fund the Center for Nursing.

The Center for Nursing claims to be a balanced voice for nurses. In Hawaii the majority of nurses are staff nurses yet of the fourteen Center for Nursing board members, only two are staff nurses. The majority of the board members are health care administrators and former health care administrators.

It is for the above reasons that I urge you to defer this bill until an alternate source of funding can be identified,

On behalf of HNA's 4,000 nurses I thank you for allowing me to testify in opposition to SB2146.

Respectfully,

Joan Craft RN

Wilmalee Kimble, RN
Treasurer, Hawai'i Nurses' Association

February 12, 2008

Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Affordable Housing Committee
Senator Russell S. Kokubun Chair
Senator David Y. Ige, Vice- Chair
Members:
Senator Will Espero
Senator Les Ihara
Senator Norman Sakamoto
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi
Senator Gordon Trimble

Health Committee
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Carol Fukunaga, Vice-Chair
Members:
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker
Senator Ron Menor
Senator Paul Whalen

Re: Opposing SB 2146 Relating to Source of funding for the Hawaii
Center of Nursing

Aloha Chair Kokubun, Chair Ige, and Honorable Committee Members;

My name is Wilmalee Kimble. I am a Registered nurse, and the elected
Treasurer for the Hawai'i Nurses' Association. I strongly oppose
SB2146.

The Hawai'i State Center for Nursing was created to, among other
directives, collect data to determine whether there is a nursing shortage
in Hawai'i, much like the existing nursing shortage in the rest of the

country. Another directive is to determine why there continues to be a nursing shortage, and to research possible resolution, and make recommendations to the State relating to this escalating healthcare crisis. This State Center for Nursing has since generated “committees” and “studies”, and recommendations, which to me does not help to solve the nursing shortage in Hawai’i. Perhaps there are not enough bedside nurses on the current Board of Directors for this State Center for Nursing. The current composition of this Board is predominantly nurse managers, nurse executives, and/or non-nursing Board members, none of whom have any idea of the many challenges faced by staff nurses who do the bedside care.

To add insult to injury, the primary funding for this State Center for Nursing is placed on the nurses whenever we renew our nursing licenses. This continuing shortage of nurses affects everyone in the community. So ask yourselves, why is it that only the nurses have to pay this \$40.00 surcharge/tax? Why are employers exempt, when the nursing shortage is as much a problem to them as it is to the rest of the community? This brings us back to the current composition of the Board of Directors for the Hawai’i State Center for Nursing. Clearly, it is an advantage that there are only two Staff Nurse positions on this Board, versus all others on this Board who are either nurse managers, nurse executives, and non-nursing personnel. The greater majority of this Board are more able to serve their own interests, versus the interests of the larger constituency of staff nurses, as evidenced by their testimony in support of this bill.

It is for the above reasons that I urge you to HOLD this bill in Committee.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in opposition to SB2146.

It is for the above reasons that I urge you to defer this bill.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in opposition to SB2146.

Thank you for your support. The Nurses thank you.

testimony

From: Long Luanne [lhlong324@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 13, 2008 4:23 AM
To: testimony
Subject: Testimony, re SB2146
Attachments: pat799094991

Luanne H. Long, RN
President, Hawaii Nurses' Association

91-942 Pahuhu Street
Ewa Beach, Hawai'i 96706

February 13, 2008
Wednesday, 1:15 pm
Conference Room 016

To:
Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Affordable Housing Committee
Health Committee

Good afternoon, Chair Kokubun, Chair Ige, and Honorable Committee Members,

My name is Luanne Long. I am a Registered nurse in Hawai'i for over 15 years, and the elected President of the Hawai'i Nurses' Association. I strongly oppose SB2146, which allows for continued funding of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing by imposing a \$40.00 surcharge/penalty upon nurses each time we renew our nursing license.

In 2003, the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing was created with the objective of gathering data from the various healthcare facilities within the State, to shed light on the continuing nursing shortage; to use this data to find possible resolutions, and to make recommendations to legislators and healthcare proponents on best practices towards the recruitment of new nurses and the retention of seasoned bedside nurses, which then alleviates this continuing nursing shortage.

It is my understanding that the data has been collected over these past five years, and presented to this Legislature, including but not confined to the following:

- the number and frequency of patient falls with resulting injury, due to short staffing or due to increased patient care requirements disproportionate to the number of nurses,
- the frequency of mandatory overtime, or even the frequency of voluntary

- overtime, all of which still points to the need for more nurses at the bedside,
- the number/frequency of musculoskeletal injuries incurred by direct patient care nurses, taking them out of the workforce,
 - the exodus of nurses leaving the profession for various reasons, to include working conditions, and all of the above cited situations.

Whether the State Center for Nursing has met its mandate as it was originally set out to do is not for debate at this time. However, the above situations clearly illustrate that the nursing shortage is, and should be, everyone's concern as it clearly affects everyone within the community. At some point in time, each of us, or someone we know – family, friends – would eventually require some type of health care.

So ask yourselves, why then should the nurses continue to be the primary revenue supporting this Hawai'i State Center for Nursing? Why does the State continue to impose this \$40.00 penalty charge on nurses each time they renew their licenses?

Looking at this from a different perspective, if a bill were to be introduced calling for a study on the effectiveness of legislators in the State of Hawai'i, and mandating that all expenses incurred on behalf of this bill/study be levied on each legislator, I sure would be curious to know how many legislators would jump up and vote in favor of this (theoretical) bill.

Hawai'i is not the only State with a Center for Nursing. There are other State Centers for Nursing throughout the United States. However, I am hard pressed to find another State that penalizes its own nursing populace by singling them out to be the means of revenue to sustaining their Centers for Nursing.

It may be helpful to look into the funding mechanisms of all other State Centers for Nursing to find alternate funding for the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing.

It is for the above reasons that I urge you to defer this bill.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in opposition to SB2146.

Thank you for your support. The Nurses thank you.

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