

Kenneth K. Obayashi, RN
District 4 Board Director
Hawai'i Nurses' Association

Hawai'i Medical Center - East

1448 Young Street #207
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96814

LATE

March 26, 2008

RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING SB 2146 SD2 RELATING TO THE
FUNDING SOURCE FOR THE CENTER FOR NURSING

TO: HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Good morning, Chair Marcus Oshiro, Vice Chair Marilyn Lee, and honorable members of the House Finance Committee.

My name is Kenneth K. Obayashi. I am a Registered nurse employed at the Hawai'i Medical Center - East. I am also the elected Board Director representing roughly one thousand four hundred nurses in District 4 of the Hawai'i Nurses' Association.

I strongly oppose extending the sunset clause in which funding of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing is obtained by an imposed \$40.00 surcharge/tax upon nurses each time we renew our nursing license. **The bill, which was enacted into law as Act 198, was enacted without the express knowledge or consent of the bedside care nurses, myself included. The cost is negligible (\$40.00 every two years). However, it is the inception of this measure, along with its exclusivity, making nurses the sole funding source for the Center for Nursing, that we find highly objectionable.**

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 should have 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 the question to be asked.

Also, 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. I would also strongly suggest that funding from the nurses be **voluntary**. A well informed populace of nurses may be more inclined to give more than the mandated \$40.00, **IF** they see the value of a Center for Nursing that works towards achieving their original mandate, and one that advocates for those who fund this Center for Nursing.

It may be helpful to look into the funding mechanisms of all other 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 this opportunity to testify.

Rizza V. Dumadag, RN
Wahiawa General Hospital

311 Christopher Court
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96818

LATE

March 26, 2008

SB 2146

RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING THE FUNDING SOURCE FOR
THE CENTER FOR NURSING

TO: HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Good morning, Chair Marcus Oshiro, Vice Chair Marilyn Lee, and honorable members of the House Finance Committee.

My name is Rizza Dumadag. I am a Registered Nurse employed at Wahiawa General Hospital.

I strongly oppose extending the sunset clause in which funding of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing is obtained by an imposed \$40.00 surcharge/tax upon nurses each time we renew our nursing license. **The bill, which was enacted into law as Act 198, was enacted without the express knowledge or consent of the bedside care nurses.**

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Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Noemi A. Juan, RN
Wahiawa General Hospital

370 Ilima Street
Wahiawa, Hawai'i 96786

LATE

March 26, 2008

SP 2146

RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING THE FUNDING SOURCE FOR
THE CENTER FOR NURSING

TO: HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Good morning, Chair Marcus Oshiro, Vice Chair Marilyn Lee, and honorable members of the House Finance Committee.

My name is Noemi Juan. I am a Registered Nurse employed at Wahiawa General Hospital.

I strongly oppose extending the sunset clause in which funding of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing is obtained by an imposed \$40.00 surcharge/tax upon nurses each time we renew our nursing license. **The bill, which was enacted into law as Act 198, was enacted without the express knowledge or consent of the bedside care nurses.**

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Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Erlinda I. Kimura, RN
Wahiawa General Hospital

P.O. Box 860748
Wahiawa, Hawai'i 96786

LATE

March 26, 2008

SP 2146

RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING THE FUNDING SOURCE FOR
THE CENTER FOR NURSING

TO: HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Good morning, Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee, and honorable members of the House Finance Committee.

My name is Erlinda Kimura. I am a Registered Nurse employed at Wahiawa General Hospital.

I strongly oppose extending the sunset clause in which funding of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing is obtained by an imposed \$40.00 surcharge/tax upon nurses each time we renew our nursing license. **The bill, which was enacted into law as Act 198, was enacted without the express knowledge or consent of the bedside care nurses.**

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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 this opportunity to testify.

**Testimony Presented Before
House Committee on Finance
March 26, 2008
10:00 a.m.
Conference Room 308**

LATE

**NAME
Position/title Organization**

SB 2146, SD 2 Relating to the Center for Nursing

Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and members of the Committee:

As the Regional Nurse Executive for Nursing at Kaiser, I would like to thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony regarding SB 2146 SD 2, Relating to the Center for Nursing. I support this bill which would extend the sunset clause for five years to 2014. The five year extension is critical to allow the continuation of many programs which are currently underway at the Center and the time to explore additional means of funding for future work. Interruption of program activities and data collection would impact the efforts to alleviate the nursing shortage and to improve the retention of practicing nurses.

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. Since becoming operational in April, 2005, the work of the Center for Nursing has benefited nurses, policy makers and the wider healthcare community. The four legislative mandates are listed below along with initiatives that Center has undertaken to meet each 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 outcome

- 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 and Nursing Homes*

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. Providing for a five year extension to 2014 will allow this valuable and beneficial work to continue.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.


Regional Nurse Executive for Kaiser

Jackie Morden, RN
District 4 Board Director
Hawai'i Nurses' Association

Hawai'i Medical Center - East

1121 Wilder Avenue #400-B
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822

LATE

March 26, 2008

RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING SB 2146 SD2 RELATING TO THE
FUNDING SOURCE FOR THE CENTER FOR NURSING

TO: HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Good morning, Chair Marcus Oshiro, Vice Chair Marilyn Lee, and honorable members of the House Finance Committee.

My name is Jackie Morden. I am a Registered nurse employed at the Hawai'i Medical Center - East. I am also the elected Board Director representing roughly one thousand four hundred nurses in District 4 of the Hawai'i Nurses' Association.

I strongly oppose extending the sunset clause in which funding of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing is obtained by an imposed \$40.00 surcharge/tax upon nurses each time we renew our nursing license. **The bill, which was enacted into law as Act 198, was enacted without the express knowledge or consent of the bedside care nurses, myself included. The cost is negligible (\$40.00 every two years). However, it is the inception of this measure, along with its exclusivity, making nurses the sole funding source for the Center for Nursing, that we find highly objectionable.**

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It may be helpful to look into the funding mechanisms of all other 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 this opportunity to testify.

Gail A. Dias, RN
Wahiawa General Hospital

94-466 Punono Street
Mililani, Hawai'i 96789

LATE

March 26, 2008

SP 2146

RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING THE FUNDING SOURCE FOR
THE CENTER FOR NURSING

TO: HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Good morning, Chair Marcus Oshiro, Vice Chair Marilyn Lee, and honorable members of the House Finance Committee.

My name is Gail Dias. I am a Registered Nurse employed at Wahiawa General Hospital.

I strongly oppose extending the sunset clause in which funding of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing is obtained by an imposed \$40.00 surcharge/tax upon nurses each time we renew our nursing license. **The bill, which was enacted into law as Act 198, was enacted without the express knowledge or consent of the bedside care nurses.**

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Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Maribel B. Calizo, RN
Wahiawa General Hospital

91-218 Maka'ina Place
Ewa Beach, Hawai'i 96706

LATE

March 26, 2008

CB 2146

RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING THE FUNDING SOURCE FOR
THE CENTER FOR NURSING

TO: HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Good morning, Chair Marcus Oshiro, Vice Chair Marilyn Lee, and honorable members of the House Finance Committee.

My name is Maribel Calizo. I am a Registered Nurse employed at Wahiawa General Hospital since 1994.

I strongly oppose extending the sunset clause in which funding of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing is obtained by an imposed \$40.00 surcharge/tax upon nurses each time we renew our nursing license. **The bill, which was enacted into law as Act 198, was enacted without the express knowledge or consent of the bedside care nurses.**

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Kathleen Y. Abuluyan, RN
Board of Directors
Hawai'i Nurses' Association

Wahiawa General Hospital

95-114 Waimoku Place
Mililani, Hawai'i 96789

LATE

March 26, 2008

2146

RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING HB 2134 HD2 RELATING TO THE
FUNDING SOURCE FOR THE CENTER FOR NURSING

TO: HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Good morning, Chair Marcus Oshiro, Vice Chair Marilyn Lee, and honorable members of the House Finance Committee.

My name is Kathleen Abuluyan. I am a Registered nurse employed at Wahiawa General Hospital, and an elected Director to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Nurses' Association.

I strongly oppose extending the sunset clause in which funding of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing is obtained by an imposed \$40.00 surcharge/tax upon nurses each time we renew our nursing license. **The bill, which was enacted into law as Act 198, was enacted without the express knowledge or consent of the bedside care nurses, myself included.**

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Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Marina J. Robinson, RN
District 6 Board Director
Hawai'i Nurses' Association

Kaiser Foundation Honolulu Clinic
98-1256 Kulawai Street
Aiea, Hawai'i 96701

LATE

March 26, 2008

SP 2146

RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING THE FUNDING SOURCE FOR
THE CENTER FOR NURSING

TO: HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Good morning, Chair Marcus Oshiro, Vice Chair Marilyn Lee, and honorable members of the House Finance Committee.

My name is Marina Robinson. I am a Registered nurse employed at the Kaiser Foundation Honolulu Clinic. I am also the elected Board Director representing roughly one thousand four hundred and fifty nurses in District 6 of the Hawai'i Nurses' Association.

I strongly oppose extending the sunset clause in which funding of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing is obtained by an imposed \$40.00 surcharge/tax upon nurses each time we renew our nursing license. **The bill, which was enacted into law as Act 198, was enacted without the express knowledge or consent of the bedside care nurses, myself included.**

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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.

It may be helpful to look into the funding mechanisms of all other 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 this opportunity to testify.

Elayne C. Schwartz, RN
Board Director
Hawai'i Nurses' Association

Queen's Medical Center

98-711 Iho Place
Aiea, Hawai'i 96701

LATE

March 26, 2008

SP2146

RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING THE FUNDING SOURCE FOR
THE CENTER FOR NURSING

TO: HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Good morning, Chair Marcus Oshiro, Vice Chair Marilyn Lee, and honorable members of the House Finance Committee.

My name is Elayne Schwartz. I am a Registered nurse employed at the Queen's Medical Center. I am also the elected Board Director representing roughly one thousand plus nurses at the Queen's Medical Center, on the Hawai'i Nurses' Association Board of Directors.

I strongly oppose extending the sunset clause in which funding of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing is obtained by an imposed \$40.00 surcharge/tax upon nurses each time we renew our nursing license. **The bill, which was enacted into law as Act 198, was enacted without the express knowledge or consent of the bedside care nurses, myself included. The cost is negligible (\$40.00 every two years). However, it is the inception of this measure, along with its exclusivity, making nurses the sole funding source for the Center for Nursing, that we find highly objectionable.**

Act 198 was introduced during the most inopportune time, when the bedside care nurses were facing very challenging situations, all of which were happening concurrently:

- In 2002 and 2003, bedside care nurses from several of the State's largest healthcare facilities were on strike, or just emerging from a strike, for safe staffing and better working conditions.
- Concurrently, bedside care nurses were also embattled in a lawsuit that sought to enforce fiscal accountability and insulation within a problematic organizational structure resulting in today's restructured HNA.

- In 2003, all of HNA's nurses banded together to fend off a decertification campaign (an organized effort to separate HNA from its national affiliate).
- Concurrently, the Hawai'i Nurses' Association was being actively raided by two predatory organizations, the larger one being the California Nurses' Association, in which battle the Hawai'i Nurses' Association prevailed, being the only State Nurses' Association in the nation to have successfully fended off the unusually militant California Nurses' Association.
- Seeing that HNA was in such turmoil, some employers took advantage of the situation by refusing to recognize the contractual agreements between their facilities and the Hawai'i Nurses' Association. HNA members were summarily terminated, suspended, or disciplined without due process, and HNA Labor Representatives were denied access to these facilities, preventing them from exercising their duties of fair representation.
- 2003 was the year when the Bill was enacted into law, Act 198, making nurses the sole funding source for the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing.

Given all the above concurrent challenges the bedside care nurses have had to face, is it a wonder why a vast majority of bedside care nurses are unaware of this measure, or why there has not been any opposition till now?

The challenge of having to revive, stabilize, and reorganize an embattled State Nurses' Association does not happen overnight. These monumental tasks take time, and resources that we don't have. However, with the introduction of a bill with the intent to lift the sunset clause, making nurses the permanent funding source for the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing, may just have been the last straw.

Five years have passed since the creation of the State Center for Nursing, which begs the next question.

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 should have 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 the question to be asked.

Also, 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. I would also strongly suggest that funding from the nurses be **voluntary**. A well informed populace of nurses may be more inclined to give more than the mandated \$40.00, **IF** they see the value of a Center for Nursing that works towards achieving their original mandate, and one that advocates for those who fund this Center 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 this opportunity to testify.

Ravada Benjamin, RN
Kaiser Foundation Hospital

LATE

March 26, 2008

Q2146

RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING THE FUNDING SOURCE FOR
THE CENTER FOR NURSING

TO: HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Good morning, Chair Marcus Oshiro, Vice Chair Marilyn Lee, and honorable members of the House Finance Committee.

My name is Ravada Benjamin. I am a practicing bedside care Registered Nurse currently employed at the Kaiser Hospital's Post-anesthesia Care Unit.

I strongly oppose extending the sunset clause wherein the funding of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing is obtained by an imposed \$40.00 surcharge/tax upon nurses each time we renew our nursing license. **This management-imposed bill, which was enacted into law as Act 198, was enacted without the express knowledge or consent of the bedside care nurses, myself included. The cost is negligible (\$40.00 every two years). However, it is the inception of this measure, along with its exclusivity, making nurses the sole funding source for the Center for Nursing, that we find highly objectionable.**

Act 198 was introduced during the most inopportune time, when the bedside care nurses were facing very challenging situations, all of which were happening concurrently:

- In 2002 and 2003, bedside care nurses from several of the State's largest healthcare facilities were on strike, or just emerging from a strike, for safe staffing and better working conditions.
- Concurrently, bedside care nurses were also embattled in a lawsuit that sought to enforce fiscal accountability and insulation within a problematic organizational structure resulting in today's restructured HNA.
- In 2003, all of HNA's nurses banded together to fend off a decertification campaign (an organized effort to separate HNA from its national affiliate).
- Concurrently, the Hawai'i Nurses' Association was being actively raided by two predatory organizations, the larger one being the California Nurses' Association, in which battle the Hawai'i Nurses' Association prevailed, being the only State Nurses' Association in the nation to have

successfully fended off the unusually militant California Nurses' Association.

- Seeing that HNA was in such turmoil, some employers took advantage of the situation by refusing to recognize the contractual agreements between their facilities and the Hawai'i Nurses' Association. HNA members were summarily terminated, suspended, or disciplined without due process, and HNA Labor Representatives were denied access to these facilities, preventing them from exercising their duties of fair representation.
- 2003 was the year when the Bill was enacted into law, Act 198, making nurses the sole funding source for the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing.

Given all the above concurrent challenges the bedside care nurses have had to face, is it any wonder why a vast majority of bedside care nurses are unaware of this measure, or why there has not been any opposition till now?

The challenge of having to revive, stabilize, and reorganize an embattled State Nurses' Association does not happen overnight. These monumental tasks take time, and resources that we don't have. However, with the introduction of a bill with the intent to lift the sunset clause, making nurses the permanent funding source for the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing, may just have been the last straw.

Five years have passed since the creation of the State Center for Nursing, which begs the next question.

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 should have 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 the question to be asked.

Also, 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. A list of other Centers for Nursing, and their funding sources, is in the process of being verified for posting on the HNA website, to include these Centers' contact information. This is so we could direct our membership to the website link should they need to know how other Centers for Nursing are currently being funded.

It may be helpful to look into the funding mechanisms of all other Centers for Nursing to find alternate funding for the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing. I would also strongly suggest that funding from the nurses be **voluntary**. A well informed populace of nurses may be more inclined to give more than the mandated \$40.00, **IF** they see the value of a Center for Nursing that works towards achieving their original mandate, and one that advocates for those who fund this Center for Nursing.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Francine K. Walker, RN
Wahiawa General Hospital

59-530 Pupukea Road
Haleiwa, Hawai'i 96712

LATE

March 26, 2008

CB2146

RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING SB 2146 SD2
RELATING TO THE CENTER FOR NURSING

To: Chair Marcus Oshiro, Finance Committee

Good morning, Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee, and honorable members of the House Finance Committee.

My name is Francine Walker. I am a Registered Nurse employed at Wahiawa General Hospital, since 1988.

I strongly oppose extending the sunset clause in which funding of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing is obtained by an imposed \$40.00 surcharge/tax upon nurses each time we renew our nursing license. **The bill, which was enacted into law as Act 198, was enacted without the express knowledge or consent of the bedside care nurses, myself included.**

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 should have been collected over these past five years, and presented to this Legislature, including but not confined to the following:

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- 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 the question to be asked.

Also, 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. It may be helpful to look into the funding mechanisms of all other 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 this opportunity to testify.

Margielyn B. Acierto, RN
Wahiawa General Hospital

955 Hanau Street
Wahiawa, Hawai'i 96786

LATE

March 26, 2008

RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING THE FUNDING SOURCE FOR
THE CENTER FOR NURSING

TO: HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Good morning, Chair Marcus Oshiro, Vice Chair Marilyn Lee, and honorable members of the House Finance Committee.

My name is Margielyn Acierto. I am a Registered Nurse employed at Wahiawa General Hospital since 2002.

I strongly oppose extending the sunset clause in which funding of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing is obtained by an imposed \$40.00 surcharge/tax upon nurses each time we renew our nursing license. **The bill, which was enacted into law as Act 198, was enacted without the express knowledge or consent of the bedside care nurses.**

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 should have 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,

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Also, 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.

It may be helpful to look into the funding sources of all other 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 this opportunity to testify.

Peter Fong, RN
Wahiawa General Hospital

94-1028 Waiahu Street
Royal Kunia, Hawai'i 96797

LATE

March 26, 2008

RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING SB 2146 SD2
RELATING TO THE CENTER FOR NURSING

To: Chair Marcus Oshiro, Finance Committee

Good morning, Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee, and honorable members of the House Finance Committee.

My name is Peter Fong. I am a Registered nurse employed at Wahiawa General Hospital.

I strongly oppose extending the sunset clause in which funding of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing is obtained by an imposed \$40.00 surcharge/tax upon nurses each time we renew our nursing license. **The bill, which was enacted into law as Act 198, was enacted without the express knowledge or consent of the bedside care nurses.**

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 should have 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 the question to be asked.

Also, 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. 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 the opportunity to testify.

Luanne H. Long, RN
President
Hawai'i Nurses' Association

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

LATE

March 26, 2008

RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING THE FUNDING SOURCE FOR
THE CENTER FOR NURSING

TO: HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Good morning, Chair Marcus Oshiro, Vice Chair Marilyn Lee, and honorable members of the House Finance Committee.

My name is Luanne Long. I am a practicing bedside care Registered Nurse of more than twenty one years, and currently employed at Wahiawa General Hospital's Acute Care Unit. I am also the elected President of the Hawai'i Nurses' Association, representing four thousand two hundred plus nurses.

I strongly oppose extending the sunset clause wherein the funding of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing is obtained by an imposed \$40.00 surcharge/tax upon nurses each time we renew our nursing license. **This management-imposed bill, which was enacted into law as Act 198, was enacted without the express knowledge or consent of the bedside care nurses, myself included. The cost is negligible (\$40.00 every two years). However, it is the inception of this measure, along with its exclusivity, making nurses the sole funding source for the Center for Nursing, that we find highly objectionable.**

Act 198 was introduced during the most inopportune time, when the bedside care nurses were facing very challenging situations, all of which were happening concurrently:

- In 2002 and 2003, bedside care nurses from several of the State's largest healthcare facilities were on strike, or just emerging from a strike, for safe staffing and better working conditions.
- Concurrently, bedside care nurses were also embattled in a lawsuit that sought to enforce fiscal accountability and insulation within a problematic organizational structure resulting in today's restructured HNA.

- In 2003, all of HNA's nurses banded together to fend off a decertification campaign (an organized effort to separate HNA from its national affiliate).
- Concurrently, the Hawai'i Nurses' Association was being actively raided by two predatory organizations, the larger one being the California Nurses' Association, in which battle the Hawai'i Nurses' Association prevailed, being the only State Nurses' Association in the nation to have successfully fended off the unusually militant California Nurses' Association.
- Seeing that HNA was in such turmoil, some employers took advantage of the situation by refusing to recognize the contractual agreements between their facilities and the Hawai'i Nurses' Association. HNA members were summarily terminated, suspended, or disciplined without due process, and HNA Labor Representatives were denied access to these facilities, preventing them from exercising their duties of fair representation.
- 2003 was the year when the Bill was enacted into law, Act 198, making nurses the sole funding source for the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing.

Given all the above concurrent challenges the bedside care nurses have had to face, is it any wonder why a vast majority of bedside care nurses are unaware of this measure, or why there has not been any opposition till now?

The challenge of having to revive, stabilize, and reorganize an embattled State Nurses' Association does not happen overnight. These monumental tasks take time, and resources that we don't have. However, with the introduction of a bill with the intent to lift the sunset clause, making nurses the permanent funding source for the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing, may just have been the last straw.

Five years have passed since the creation of the State Center for Nursing, which begs the next question.

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 should have 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 the question to be asked.

Also, 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.

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It may be helpful to look into the funding mechanisms of all other Centers for Nursing to find alternate funding for the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing. I would also strongly suggest that funding from the nurses be **voluntary**. A well informed populace of nurses may be more inclined to give more than the mandated \$40.00, **IF** they see the value of a Center for Nursing that works towards achieving their original mandate, and one that advocates for those who fund this Center for Nursing.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Ana Marie Zaragoza, RN
Wahiawa General Hospital

57 Lena Place
Wahiawa, Hawai'i 96786

LATE

March 26, 2008

RE: ^{SK 2146} TESTIMONY OPPOSING THE FUNDING SOURCE FOR
THE CENTER FOR NURSING

TO: HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Good morning, Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee, and honorable members of the House Finance Committee.

My name is Ana Marie Zaragoza. I am a Registered Nurse employed at Wahiawa General Hospital.

I strongly oppose extending the sunset clause in which funding of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing is obtained by an imposed \$40.00 surcharge/tax upon nurses each time we renew our nursing license. **The bill, which was enacted into law as Act 198, was enacted without the express knowledge or consent of the bedside care nurses.**

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.

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Also, 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 this opportunity to testify.

Archie C. Redor, RN
Wahiawa General Hospital

LATE

91-101 Aha Way
Ewa Beach, Hawai'i 96706

March 26, 2008

RE: ^{SB 2146} TESTIMONY OPPOSING THE FUNDING SOURCE FOR
THE CENTER FOR NURSING

TO: HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Good morning, Chair Marcus Oshiro, Vice Chair Marilyn Lee, and honorable members of the House Finance Committee.

My name is Archie Redor. I am a Registered Nurse employed at Wahiawa General Hospital since 1994.

I strongly oppose extending the sunset clause in which funding of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing is obtained by an imposed \$40.00 surcharge/tax upon nurses each time we renew our nursing license. **The bill, which was enacted into law as Act 198, was enacted without the express knowledge or consent of the bedside care nurses.**

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Whether the State Center for Nursing has met its mandate as it was originally set out to do is the question to be asked.

Also, 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. I would also strongly suggest that funding from the nurses be **voluntary**. A well informed populace of nurses may be more inclined to give more than the mandated \$40.00, **IF** they see the value of a Center for Nursing that works towards achieving their original mandate, and one that advocates for those who fund this Center for Nursing.

It may be helpful to look into the funding sources of all other 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 this opportunity to testify.

Imelda C. Vallente, RN
Wahiawa General Hospital

91-2278 Kanela Street #73
Ewa Beach, Hawai'i 96706

LATE

March 26, 2008

RE: ^{SB2146} TESTIMONY OPPOSING THE FUNDING SOURCE FOR
THE CENTER FOR NURSING

TO: HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Good morning, Chair Marcus Oshiro, Vice Chair Marilyn Lee, and honorable members of the House Finance Committee.

My name is Imelda Vallente. I am a Registered Nurse employed at Wahiawa General Hospital.

I strongly oppose extending the sunset clause in which funding of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing is obtained by an imposed \$40.00 surcharge/tax upon nurses each time we renew our nursing license. **The bill, which was enacted into law as Act 198, was enacted without the express knowledge or consent of the bedside care nurses.**

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 should have 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 the question to be asked.

Also, 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. I would also strongly suggest that funding from the nurses be **voluntary**. A well informed populace of nurses may be more inclined to give more than the mandated \$40.00, **IF** they see the value of a Center for Nursing that works towards achieving their original mandate, and one that advocates for those who fund this Center for Nursing.

It may be helpful to look into the funding sources of all other 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 this opportunity to testify.

Gerry L. Uson, RN
Wahiawa General Hospital

94-402 Ululoa Place
Mililani, Hawai'i 96789

LATE

March 26, 2008

582146
RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING THE FUNDING SOURCE FOR
THE CENTER FOR NURSING

TO: HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Good morning, Chair Marcus Oshiro, Vice Chair Marilyn Lee, and honorable members of the House Finance Committee.

My name is Gerry Uson. I am a Registered Nurse employed at Wahiawa General Hospital's IV/Oncology Clinic.

I strongly oppose extending the sunset clause in which funding of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing is obtained by an imposed \$40.00 surcharge/tax upon nurses each time we renew our nursing license. **The bill, which was enacted into law as Act 198, was enacted without the express knowledge or consent of the bedside care nurses.**

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.

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- 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 the question to be asked.

Also, 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. I would also strongly suggest that funding from the nurses be **voluntary**. A well informed populace of nurses may be more inclined to give more than the mandated \$40.00, **IF** they see the value of a Center for Nursing that works towards achieving their original mandate, and one that advocates for those who fund this Center for Nursing.

It may be helpful to look into the funding sources of all other 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 this opportunity to testify.

Corazon N. Gabriel, RN
Wahiawa General Hospital

94-545 Kiilani Street
Mililani, Hawai'i 96789

LATE

March 26, 2008

582146

RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING THE FUNDING SOURCE FOR
THE CENTER FOR NURSING

TO: HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Good morning, Chair Marcus Oshiro, Vice Chair Marilyn Lee, and honorable members of the House Finance Committee.

My name is Corazon Gabriel. I am a Registered Nurse employed at Wahiawa General Hospital's IV/Oncology Clinic.

I strongly oppose extending the sunset clause in which funding of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing is obtained by an imposed \$40.00 surcharge/tax upon nurses each time we renew our nursing license. **The bill, which was enacted into law as Act 198, was enacted without the express knowledge or consent of the bedside care nurses.**

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.

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It may be helpful to look into the funding sources of all other 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 this opportunity to testify.

Henrietta B. Bucasas, RN
Kaiser Foundation Hospital

66-946 Kamakahala Street
Waialua, Hawai'i 96791

LATE

March 26, 2008

SB2146

RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING THE FUNDING SOURCE FOR
THE CENTER FOR NURSING

TO: HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Good morning, Chair Marcus Oshiro, Vice Chair Marilyn Lee, and honorable members of the House Finance Committee.

My name is Henrietta Bucasas. I am a Registered Nurse employed at Kaiser Hospital's Acute Care Unit.

I strongly oppose extending the sunset clause in which funding of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing is obtained by an imposed \$40.00 surcharge/tax upon nurses each time we renew our nursing license. **The bill, which was enacted into law as Act 198, was enacted without the express knowledge or consent of the bedside care nurses.**

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.

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It may be helpful to look into the funding sources of all other 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 this opportunity to testify.

Precy A. Agbayani, RN
Wahiawa General Hospital
91-1458 Halahinano Street
Kapolei, Hawai'i 96707

LATE

March 26, 2008

SB 2146

RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING THE FUNDING SOURCE FOR
THE CENTER FOR NURSING

TO: HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Good morning, Chair Marcus Oshiro, Vice Chair Marilyn Lee, and honorable members of the House Finance Committee.

My name is Precy Agbayani. I am a Registered Nurse employed at Wahiawa General Hospital.

I strongly oppose extending the sunset clause in which funding of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing is obtained by an imposed \$40.00 surcharge/tax upon nurses each time we renew our nursing license. **The bill, which was enacted into law as Act 198, was enacted without the express knowledge or consent of the bedside care nurses.**

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 should have 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 the question to be asked.

Also, 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. I would also strongly suggest that funding from the nurses be **voluntary**. A well informed populace of nurses may be more inclined to give more than the mandated \$40.00, **IF** they see the value of a Center for Nursing that works towards achieving their original mandate, and one that advocates for those who fund this Center for Nursing.

It may be helpful to look into the funding sources of all other 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 this opportunity to testify.

Wilmalee Kimble, RN
Treasurer
Hawai'i Nurses' Association

Hawai'i Medical Center - East

LATE

659 Papahehi Place
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96821

March 26, 2008

RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING SB2146 SD2 RELATING TO THE FUNDING
SOURCE FOR THE CENTER FOR NURSING

TO: HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Good morning, Chair Marcus Oshiro, Vice Chair Marilyn Lee, and honorable members of the House Finance Committee.

My name is Wilmalee Kimble. I am a Registered Nurse employed at the Hawai'i Medical Center - East. I am also the elected Treasurer for the Hawai'i Nurses' Association Board of Directors.

I strongly oppose extending the sunset clause in which funding of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing is obtained by an imposed \$40.00 surcharge/tax upon nurses each time we renew our nursing license. **The bill, which was enacted into law as Act 198, was enacted without the express knowledge or consent of the bedside care nurses, myself included. The cost is negligible (\$40.00 every two years). However, it is the inception of this measure, along with its exclusivity, making nurses the sole funding source for the Center for Nursing, that we find highly objectionable.**

Act 198 was introduced during the most inopportune time, when the bedside care nurses were facing very challenging situations, all of which were happening concurrently:

- In 2002 and 2003, bedside care nurses from several of the State's largest healthcare facilities were on strike, or just emerging from a strike, for safe staffing and better working conditions.
- Concurrently, bedside care nurses were also embattled in a lawsuit that sought to enforce fiscal accountability and insulation within a problematic organizational structure resulting in today's restructured HNA.

- In 2003, all of HNA's nurses banded together to fend off a decertification campaign (an organized effort to separate HNA from its national affiliate).
- Concurrently, the Hawai'i Nurses' Association was being actively raided by two predatory organizations, the larger one being the California Nurses' Association, in which battle the Hawai'i Nurses' Association prevailed, being the only State Nurses' Association in the nation to have successfully fended off the unusually militant California Nurses' Association.
- Seeing that HNA was in such turmoil, some employers took advantage of the situation by refusing to recognize the contractual agreements between their facilities and the Hawai'i Nurses' Association. HNA members were summarily terminated, suspended, or disciplined without due process, and HNA Labor Representatives were denied access to these facilities, preventing them from exercising their duties of fair representation.
- 2003 was the year when the Bill was enacted into law, Act 198, making nurses the sole funding source for the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing.

Given all the above concurrent challenges the bedside care nurses have had to face, is it any wonder why a vast majority of bedside care nurses are unaware of this measure, or why there has not been any opposition till now?

The challenge of having to revive, stabilize, and reorganize an embattled State Nurses' Association does not happen overnight. These monumental tasks take time, and resources that we don't have. However, with the introduction of a bill with the intent to lift the sunset clause, making nurses the permanent funding source for the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing, may just have been the last straw.

Five years have passed since the creation of the State Center for Nursing, which begs the next question.

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 should have 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 the question to be asked.

Also, 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. I would also strongly suggest that funding from the nurses be **voluntary**. A well informed populace of nurses may be more inclined to give more than the mandated \$40.00, **IF** they see the value of a Center for Nursing that works towards achieving their original mandate, and one that advocates for those who fund this Center 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 this opportunity to testify.

Cheryl D. Hay, RN
Wahiawa General Hospital

P.O. Box 860332
Wahiawa, Hawai'i 96786

LATE

March 26, 2008

RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING THE FUNDING SOURCE FOR
THE CENTER FOR NURSING

TO: HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Good morning, Chair Marcus Oshiro, Vice Chair Marilyn Lee, and honorable members of the House Finance Committee.

My name is Cheryl Hay. I am a practicing bedside care Registered Nurse for over twenty seven years, and currently employed at Wahiawa General Hospital's Intensive Care Unit.

I strongly oppose extending the sunset clause wherein the funding of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing is obtained by an imposed \$40.00 surcharge/tax upon nurses each time we renew our nursing license. **This management-imposed bill, which was enacted into law as Act 198, was enacted without the express knowledge or consent of the bedside care nurses, myself included.** The cost is negligible (\$20.00 per year). However, it is the inception of this measure, along with its exclusivity, making nurses the sole funding source for the Center for Nursing, that we find highly objectionable.

Act 198 was introduced during the most inopportune time, when the bedside care nurses were facing very challenging situations, all of which were happening concurrently:

- In 2002 and 2003, bedside care nurses from several of the State's largest healthcare facilities were on strike, or just emerging from a strike, for safe staffing and better working conditions.
- Concurrently, bedside care nurses were also embattled in a lawsuit that sought to enforce fiscal accountability and insulation within a problematic organizational structure resulting in today's restructured HNA.

- In 2003, all of HNA's nurses banded together to fend off a decertification campaign (an organized effort to separate HNA from its national affiliate).
- Concurrently, the Hawai'i Nurses' Association was being actively raided by two predatory organizations, the larger one being the California Nurses' Association, in which battle the Hawai'i Nurses' Association prevailed, being the only State Nurses' Association in the nation to have successfully fended off the unusually militant California Nurses' Association.
- Seeing that HNA was in such turmoil, some employers took advantage of the situation by refusing to recognize the contractual agreements between their facilities and the Hawai'i Nurses' Association. HNA members were summarily terminated, suspended, or disciplined without due process, and HNA Labor Representatives were denied access to these facilities, preventing them from exercising their duties of fair representation.
- 2003 was the year when the Bill was enacted into law, Act 198, making nurses the sole funding source for the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing.

Given all the above concurrent challenges the bedside care nurses have had to face, is it any wonder why a vast majority of bedside care nurses are unaware of this measure, or why there has not been any opposition till now?

The challenge of having to revive, stabilize, and reorganize an embattled State Nurses' Association does not happen overnight. These monumental tasks take time, and resources that we don't have. However, with the introduction of a bill with the intent to lift the sunset clause, making nurses the permanent funding source for the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing, may just have been the last straw. We may no longer delay this battle.

Five years have passed since the creation of the State Center for Nursing, which begs the next question.

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 should have 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,
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- 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 the question to be asked.

Also, 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.

It may be helpful to look into the funding mechanisms of all other 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 this opportunity to testify.

Terilyn Carvalho-Luke, RN
District 5 Board Director
Hawai'i Nurses' Association

Kaiser Foundation Hospital

45-475 Holomakani Place
Kaneohe, Hawai'i 96744

March 26, 2008

RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING SB2146 SD2 RELATING TO THE FUNDING
SOURCE FOR THE CENTER FOR NURSING

TO: HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Good morning, Chair Marcus Oshiro, Vice Chair Marilyn Lee, and honorable members of the House Finance Committee.

My name is Terilyn Carvalho-Luke. I am a Registered nurse employed at Kaiser Foundation Hospital. I am also the elected Board Director representing nurses in District 5 of the Hawai'i Nurses' Association.

I strongly oppose extending the sunset clause in which funding of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing is obtained by an imposed \$40.00 surcharge/tax upon nurses each time we renew our nursing license. **The bill, which was enacted into law as Act 198, was enacted without the express knowledge or consent of the bedside care nurses. The cost is negligible (\$40.00 every two years). However, it is the inception of this measure, along with its exclusivity, making nurses the sole funding source for the Center for Nursing that we find highly objectionable.**

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It may be helpful to look into the funding mechanisms of all other 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 this opportunity to testify.

Keith W. McCloskey, RN
Board Director
Hawai'i Nurses' Association

Fresenius Dialysis Center

1296 Kapiolani Blvd., #1109
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96814

LATE

March 26, 2008

RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING THE FUNDING SOURCE FOR
THE CENTER FOR NURSING

TO: HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Good morning, Chair Marcus Oshiro, Vice Chair Marilyn Lee, and honorable members of the House Finance Committee.

My name is Keith McCloskey. I am a Registered nurse employed at the Fresenius Dialysis Center. I am also an elected Board Director on the Hawai'i Nurses' Association Board of Directors.

I strongly oppose extending the sunset clause in which funding of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing is obtained by an imposed \$40.00 surcharge/tax upon nurses each time we renew our nursing license. **The bill, which was enacted into law as Act 198, was enacted without the express knowledge or consent of the bedside care nurses, myself included. The cost is negligible (\$40.00 every two years). However, it is the inception of this measure, along with its exclusivity, making nurses the sole funding source for the Center for Nursing, that we find highly objectionable.**

Act 198 was introduced during the most inopportune time, when the bedside care nurses were facing very challenging situations, all of which were happening concurrently:

- In 2002 and 2003, bedside care nurses from several of the State's largest healthcare facilities were on strike, or just emerging from a strike, for safe staffing and better working conditions.
- Concurrently, bedside care nurses were also embattled in a lawsuit that sought to enforce fiscal accountability and insulation within a problematic organizational structure resulting in today's restructured HNA.

- In 2003, all of HNA's nurses banded together to fend off a decertification campaign (an organized effort to separate HNA from its national affiliate).
- Concurrently, the Hawai'i Nurses' Association was being actively raided by two predatory organizations, the larger one being the California Nurses' Association, in which battle the Hawai'i Nurses' Association prevailed, being the only State Nurses' Association in the nation to have successfully fended off the unusually militant California Nurses' Association.
- Seeing that HNA was in such turmoil, some employers took advantage of the situation by refusing to recognize the contractual agreements between their facilities and the Hawai'i Nurses' Association. HNA members were summarily terminated, suspended, or disciplined without due process, and HNA Labor Representatives were denied access to these facilities, preventing them from exercising their duties of fair representation.
- 2003 was the year when the Bill was enacted into law, Act 198, making nurses the sole funding source for the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing.

Given all the above concurrent challenges the bedside care nurses have had to face, is it any wonder why a vast majority of bedside care nurses are unaware of this measure, or why there has not been any opposition till now?

The challenge of having to revive, stabilize, and reorganize an embattled State Nurses' Association does not happen overnight. These monumental tasks take time, and resources that we don't have. However, with the introduction of a bill with the intent to lift the sunset clause, making nurses the permanent funding source for the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing, may just have been the last straw.

Five years have passed since the creation of the State Center for Nursing, which begs the next question.

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 should have 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 the question to be asked.

Also, 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. I would also strongly suggest that funding from the nurses be **voluntary**. A well informed populace of nurses may be more inclined to give more than the mandated \$40.00, **IF** they see the value of a Center for Nursing that works towards achieving their original mandate, and one that advocates for those who fund this Center 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.

Susan R. Chanco, RN
Board Director
Hawai'i Nurses' Association

Hawai'i Medical Center - East

1848 Kahakai Drive #1605
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96814

LATE

March 26, 2008

RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING SB 2146 SD2 RELATING TO THE
FUNDING SOURCE FOR THE CENTER FOR NURSING

TO: HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Good morning, Chair Marcus Oshiro, Vice Chair Marilyn Lee, and honorable members of the House Finance Committee.

My name is Susan Chanco. I am a Registered nurse employed at the Hawai'i Medical Center - East. I am also an elected Board Director of the Hawai'i Nurses' Association Board of Directors.

I strongly oppose extending the sunset clause in which funding of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing is obtained by an imposed \$40.00 surcharge/tax upon nurses each time we renew our nursing license. **The bill, which was enacted into law as Act 198, was enacted without the express knowledge or consent of the bedside care nurses, myself included. The cost is negligible (\$40.00 every two years). However, it is the inception of this measure, along with its exclusivity, making nurses the sole funding source for the Center for Nursing, that we find highly objectionable.**

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It may be helpful to look into the funding mechanisms of all other 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 this opportunity to testify.

Carolyn J. Sandison, RN, MSN
Kaiser Medical Center

59-526 Aukauka Road
Haleiwa, Hawai'i 96712

LATE

March 26, 2008

RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING SB2146 SD2 RELATING TO THE FUNDING
SOURCE FOR THE CENTER FOR NURSING

TO: HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Good morning, Chair Marcus Oshiro, Vice Chair Marilyn Lee, and honorable members of the House Finance Committee.

My name is Carolyn Sandison. I am a Registered nurse employed at Kaiser Medical Center.

I strongly oppose extending the sunset clause in which funding of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing is obtained by an imposed \$40.00 surcharge/tax upon nurses each time we renew our nursing license. **The bill, which was enacted into law as Act 198, was enacted without the express knowledge or consent of the bedside care nurses. The cost is negligible (\$40.00 every two years). However, it is the inception of this measure, along with its exclusivity, making nurses the sole funding source for the Center for Nursing that we find highly objectionable.**

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It may be helpful to look into the funding mechanisms of all other 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 this opportunity to testify.

Francine K. Walker, RN
Wahiawa General Hospital

59-530 Pupukea Road
Haleiwa, Hawai'i 96712

LATE

March 26, 2008

RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING SB 2146 SD2 RELATING TO THE FUNDING
SOURCE FOR THE CENTER FOR NURSING

TO: HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Good morning, Chair Marcus Oshiro, Vice Chair Marilyn Lee, and honorable members of the House Finance Committee.

My name is Francine Walker. I am a Registered Nurse employed at Wahiawa General Hospital, since 1988.

I strongly oppose extending the sunset clause in which funding of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing is obtained by an imposed \$40.00 surcharge/tax upon nurses each time we renew our nursing license. **The bill, which was enacted into law as Act 198, was enacted without the express knowledge or consent of the bedside care nurses, myself included. The cost is negligible (\$40.00 every two years). However, it is the inception of this measure, along with its exclusivity, making nurses the sole funding source for the Center for Nursing, that we find highly objectionable.**

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

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Dominic Y. Ilacad, RN
Hawai'i Medical Center - East

72 Mahele Loop
Wahiawa, Hawai'i 96786

LATE

March 26, 2008

RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING SB 2146 SD2 RELATING TO THE
FUNDING SOURCE FOR THE CENTER FOR NURSING

TO: HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Good morning, Chair Marcus Oshiro, Vice Chair Marilyn Lee, and honorable members of the House Finance Committee.

My name is Dominic Ilacad. I am a Registered nurse employed at the Hawai'i Medical Center - East.

I strongly oppose extending the sunset clause in which funding of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing is obtained by an imposed \$40.00 surcharge/tax upon nurses each time we renew our nursing license. **The bill, which was enacted into law as Act 198, was enacted without the express knowledge or consent of the bedside care nurses, myself included. The cost is negligible (\$40.00 every two years). However, it is the inception of this measure, along with its exclusivity, making nurses the sole funding source for the Center for Nursing, that we find highly objectionable.**

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It may be helpful to look into the funding mechanisms of all other 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 this opportunity to testify.

Patricia A. Regan, RN
District 3 Board Director
Hawai'i Nurses' Association

Kaiser Maui Clinic

1296 Kawika Place
Wailuku, Hawai'i 96793

LATE

March 26, 2008

RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING SB2146 SD2 RELATING TO THE FUNDING
SOURCE FOR THE CENTER FOR NURSING

TO: HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Good morning, Chair Marcus Oshiro, Vice Chair Marilyn Lee, and honorable members of the House Finance Committee.

My name is Patricia Regan. I am a Registered nurse employed at the Kaiser Maui Clinic. I am also the elected Board Director representing nurses in District 3 of the Hawai'i Nurses' Association.

I strongly oppose extending the sunset clause in which funding of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing is obtained by an imposed \$40.00 surcharge/ tax upon nurses each time we renew our nursing license. **The bill, which was enacted into law as Act 198, was enacted without the express knowledge or consent of the bedside care nurses. The cost is negligible (\$40.00 every two years). However, it is the inception of this measure, along with its exclusivity, making nurses the sole funding source for the Center for Nursing that we find highly objectionable.**

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It may be helpful to look into the funding mechanisms of all other 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 this opportunity to testify.

Sandi S. Niitani, RN
District 2 Board Director
Hawai'i Nurses' Association

Wilcox Memorial Hospital

4150 Kawili Street
Lihue, Hawai'i 96766

LATE

March 26, 2008

RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING SB2146 SD2 RELATING TO THE FUNDING
SOURCE FOR THE CENTER FOR NURSING

TO: HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Good morning, Chair Marcus Oshiro, Vice Chair Marilyn Lee, and honorable members of the House Finance Committee.

My name is Sandi Niitani. I am a Registered nurse employed at Wilcox Memorial Hospital. I am also the elected Board Director representing nurses in District 2 of the Hawai'i Nurses' Association.

I strongly oppose extending the sunset clause in which funding of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing is obtained by an imposed \$40.00 surcharge/tax upon nurses each time we renew our nursing license. **The bill, which was enacted into law as Act 198, was enacted without the express knowledge or consent of the bedside care nurses. The cost is negligible (\$40.00 every two years). However, it is the inception of this measure, along with its exclusivity, making nurses the sole funding source for the Center for Nursing that we find highly objectionable.**

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Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

