

HB 814 HD 2

**Measure
Title:**

RELATING TO NURSE AIDES.

**Report
Title:**

Nurse Aide Certification

Description:

Specifies the renewal period for the recertification of nurse aides and the number of continuing education hours for their recertification. Effective 07/01/2020. (HB814 HD2)



LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR
JAMES R. AIONA, JR.
LT. GOVERNOR

STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
335 MERCHANT STREET, ROOM 310
P.O. Box 541
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809
Phone Number: 586-2850
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LAWRENCE M. REIFURTH
DIRECTOR
RONALD BOYER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

**PRESENTATION OF THE
PROFESSIONAL AND VOCATIONAL LICENSING DIVISION**

THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2009

Monday, March 16, 2009
3:00 p.m.

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL NO. 814, H.D. 2, RELATING TO NURSE AIDES.

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

My name is Kathy Yokouchi, the Executive Officer of the Nurse Aide Program under the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department"). We appreciate the opportunity to present testimony on behalf of the Department on House Bill No. 814, H.D. 2.

The purpose of House Bill No. 814, H.D. 2 is to specify the renewal period for the recertification of certified nurse aides and to limit the number of continuing education hours for their recertification.

In accordance with Act 226, Session Laws of Hawaii 2007 and Federal law, 42 United States Code sections 13951i and 1396r, the Department of Human Services

Testimony on House Bill No. 814, H.D. 2
Monday, March 16, 2009
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("DHS") clearly has jurisdiction over certified nurse aide training. The Department defers to the DHS in determining the number of hours that are appropriate for nurse aides to prove that they are competent to continue to safely practice as certified nurse aides.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 814, H.D. 2.

HAWAII COALITION OF CAREGIVERS

P.O. Box 2441, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96804

March 16, 2009

MEMBERS 2008-09

Testimony in Strong Support of HB 814 – HTH – 3/16/09, 3:00 p.m., Rm. 016

Chair Ige, Vice Chair Green, and Members of the Committee:

Myriam Tabaniag

President
*Alliance of Residential Care
Administrators*

The Hawaii Coalition of Caregivers (HCCG) **strongly supports HB814** amending Act 226 (2007) codified as HRS Chapter 457A, which imposed various requirements on Certified Nurses' Aides (CNAs) renewing their licenses, to specify the number of continuing education (CE) hours required for recertification.

Lani Akee

President
*Adult Foster Homecare
Association of Hawaii*

HCCG supports the intent to require CE training for recertification of CNA's and believes it in the best interest of both providers and recipients of CNA services. CE training would ensure the proficiency of each licensee with respect to all necessary skills and enable licensees to remain competent in providing care to the public.

Esther Pascual

President
*United Group of Home
Operators*

CE training can be provided by state-approved providers to ensure the integrity and quality of the CE program. In addition to ensuring proficiency, licensees would have the opportunity to update or even improve their skills. For these reasons, many regulated professions in the State require CE; for example, 12 hours every two years for real estate agents.

Myriam Guerrero

President
*Alliance of Residential Care
Administrators - Big Island
Chapter*

No compromise to the health or safety of the public will arise from this measure. CE providers can still ensure licensees possess the necessary knowledge and skills while at the same time giving licensees an opportunity to update, improve, or refine their skills. In fact, CE will result in safer and higher quality service to recipients.

Daniel Marcos

President
*Adult Foster Home
Association of Hawaii - Big
Island Chapter*

In summary, HCCG reiterates its **strong support of HB814** specifying the number of continuing education (CE) hours required for recertification.

Myriam Guerrero

President
*Alliance of Residential Care
Administrators - Big Island
Chapter*

Mila Medallon

Advisor

Very truly yours,

Donnie Juan, Esq.

Lobbyist

The Hawaii Coalition of Caregivers (HCCG)

Bryan P. Andaya

Advisor

By: Bryan P. Andaya

About HCCG

HCCG consists primarily of four organizations working in collaboration towards the common mission of uniting the home and community based care giving industry to improve the quality of care provided to elderly and developmentally disabled clients in various home and community based programs, as well as to improve the state of the industry. HCCG members include: The Alliance of Residential Care Administrators (ARCA), the United Group of Home Administrators (UGHO), and the Adult Foster Home Association of Hawaii (AFHA). Together, members of the four organizations have a membership of almost 1,250 and comprise about 70% of the home and community-based caregivers in the State of Hawaii.

THE PRIMARY CARE PROVIDERS

P.O. Box 2441, Honolulu, Hawai`i 96804

March 16, 2009

Testimony in Strong Support of HB 814 - HTH - 3/16/09, 3:00
p.m., Rm. 016

Maria Etrata
President &
Founder

Chair Ige, Vice Chair Green, and Members of the Committee:

The Primary Care Providers (TPCP) **strongly supports HB814** amending Act 226 (2007) codified as HRS Chapter 457A, which imposed various requirements on Certified Nurses' Aides (CNAs) renewing their licenses, to specify the number of continuing education (CE) hours required for recertification.

TPCP supports the intent to require CE training for recertification of CNA's and believes it in the best interest of both providers and recipients of CNA services. CE training would ensure the proficiency of each licensee with respect to all necessary skills and enable licensees to remain competent in providing care to the public.

CE training can be provided by state-approved providers to ensure the integrity and quality of the CE program. In addition to ensuring proficiency, licensees would have the opportunity to update or even improve their skills. For these reasons, many regulated professions in the State require CE; for example, 12 hours every two years for real estate agents.

No compromise to the health or safety of the public will arise from this measure. CE providers can still ensure licensees possess the necessary knowledge and skills while at the same time giving licensees an opportunity to update, improve, or refine their skills. In fact, CE will result in safer and higher quality service to recipients.

In summary, TPCP reiterates its **strong support of HB814** specifying the number of continuing education (CE) hours required for recertification.

Very truly yours,

The Primary Care Providers (TPCP)

About TPCP

TPCP's mission is unite the home and community based care giving industry to improve the quality of care provided to elderly and developmentally disabled clients in various home and community based programs, as well as to improve the state of the industry. Together, members of the four organizations have a membership of about 500 and comprise about 35% of the home and community-based caregivers in the State of Hawaii.

Testimony of HCCG in Support of HB814

February 3, 2009

Page 2 of 2

By: Maria Etrata



Nursing Advocates & Mentors, Inc.

... a non-profit organization with a mission to address the global nursing shortage by providing guidance and assistance for nursing colleagues to obtain their professional license in nursing.

P.O. Box 2034 Aiea, HI 96701
E-mail: bramosrazon@aol.com

*Bea Ramos-Razon, RN,
FACDONA
President*

*Tessie Oculito, RN
Vice President*

*D Jun Obaldo, RN, BSN
Corresponding Secretary*

*Au Curameng, RN, CM
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Erlinda Ferrer, RN, BSN

Estrella Guevarra, RN

Delmar Magno, RN, C

Edel Matias, RN, CM

Tielito Lyn Matias, RN, BSN

Brenda Monegas, RN

Oscar Querido, RN

Lucy Porte, RNC

Violeta Sadural, RN, BSN

Tina Salvador, RN, BSN, CNN

Ramon Sumibcay, CPT, AN

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HB 814 HD 2

Senate Committee on Health

March 16, 2009, 3 p.m.

Hawai'i State Legislature, Room 016

Report Title: Nurse Aide Certification

Description: Specifies the renewal period for the recertification of certified nurse aides and the number of continuing education hours for their recertification.

To: Honorable Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Honorable Senator Josh Green, M.D., Vice Chair
Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Health

From: Beatrice Ramos-Razon, RN, FACDONA
President, Nursing Advocates and Mentors, Inc. (NAMI)

My name is Beatrice Ramos Razon. As the founder and president of NAMI (Nursing Advocates & Mentors, Inc.), we are in strong support of this bill. NAMI's membership is comprised of over 75 volunteer nurses, instructors, allied health care professionals, and Filipino leaders, who are dedicated to improve the health of Hawai'i's people by addressing not only a statewide, but worldwide nursing shortage through the training and mentoring of foreign medical graduate nurses, many of whom come from underprivileged backgrounds, to pass Hawai'i's nurses board exams.

Many NAMI nurse volunteers and their colleagues work in the long term care industry or are caregivers themselves. This bill reflects their views in support of certified nurses aides.

Thank you for hearing this bill, and for the opportunity to provide strong support. Your help in its passage is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Beatrice Ramos-Razon, RN, FACDONA
President, Nursing Advocates and Mentors, Inc.



UNITED FILIPINO COUNCIL OF HAWAII

P.O. BOX 498, Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0498

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HB 814 HD 2

Senate Committee on Health

March 16, 2009, 3 p.m. | Hawai'i State Legislature | Room 016

Report Title:
Nurse Aide Certification

Description:
Specifies the renewal period for the recertification of certified nurse aides and the number of continuing education hours for their recertification.

To: Honorable Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
 Honorable Senator Josh Green, M.D., Vice Chair
 Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Health

From: Eddie Agas, President, United Filipino Council of Hawaii

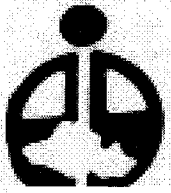
My name is Eddie Agas. I am the president of the United Filipino Council of Hawaii (UFCH). I submit this testimony to strongly support this bill on behalf of UFCH, which is a statewide umbrella organization with member organizations from six islands. UFCH membership is comprised of nearly 5,000 individual members, many of whom are in the certified nurse aide profession or are closely affiliated through kinship, social, cultural, political, and professional networks.

This bill is important because it benefits not only members of our Filipino community, who make up the majority of the certified nurse aide work force, but also all of Hawai'i's people, who are offered an affordable community-based alternative to expensive, institutional long term care services. Certified nurse aides are advocating for changes in training requirements that reflect respect and acknowledgement for their profession's knowledge and skills gained in long term care services that span over forty years of service in the most demanding and labor intensive occupation. Certified nurse aides aim to uphold quality and accountable training standards in order to continue providing top notch long term care services to the State of Hawai'i.

UFCH thanks this committee for hearing this bill, and asks for your help in its passage.

Respectfully submitted,

Eddie Agas, President, United Filipino Council of Hawaii



OAHU FILIPINO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

P.O. Box 17531 · Honolulu · Hawaii 96817

Unit Organizations

Alliance of Residential
 Carehome Administrators
 Aloha Saguibsib Cultural
 Foundation, Inc.
 Annac ti Bado iti Hawaii
 Annac ti Batac
 Annac ti Caoayan 2002
 Annak ti Kailokuan iti
 America
 Annak ti Sinait iti Hawaii
 Asingan Organization of
 Hawaii
 Badoc-Pinili Aid
 Association of Hawaii
 Banna Association of
 Hawaii
 Bannatiran Association of
 Hawaii
 Batangas Association of
 Hawaii
 Bulacan Circle of Hawaii
 Caballeros de Dimasalang
 Cabugao Sons & Daughters
 of Hawaii
 Candonians of Hawaii
 Caoayan ISAH
 Cavitenians of Hawaii
 Dingras Association of
 Hawaii
 Divine Word College
 Alumni Association
 FilAm Sports USA
 Fil American Citizens
 League
 Filipino Business Women's
 Club
 Filipino Nurses Organization
 of Hawaii
 Filipino Women's Civic
 Club
 GUMIL Hawaii
 GUMIL Oahu
 Hawaii Filipino Women's
 Club
 Hawaii Council of Bilingual
 Educators
 ILAH
 Ilocos Nortenians of
 America
 INCAT Alumni Association
 of Hawaii
 International Filipino
 Society of Hawaii
 Kalayaan Phil.-Hi. Int.
 La Union Circle of
 Hawaii
 Lingayen Gulf Club of
 Hawaii

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HB 814 HD 2

Senate Committee on Health

March 16, 2009, 3 p.m. | Hawai'i State Capitol | Room 016

Report Title: Nurse Aide Certification

Description: Specifies the renewal period for the recertification of certified nurse aides and the number of continuing education hours for their recertification.

To:

Honorable Senator David Y. Ige, Chair

Honorable Senator Josh Green, M.D., Vice Chair

Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Health

From:

Cirvalina Longboy, President

Oahu Filipino Community Council

My name is Cirvalina Longboy, president of the Oahu Filipino Community Council. OFCC is an umbrella organization that represents a network of non-profit civic groups with a unified vision to improve the lives of our Filipino communities.

I submit this testimony to strongly support this bill. Hawai'i's Filipinos have served as the backbone in community-based long term care services, and were the first to step up to the plate with a viable solution, when state and federal officials grappled with the spiraling high costs of long term care over forty years ago. The proposed changes to training requirements of certified nurse aides is a result of decades of lessons learned in best business and training practices garnered in the certified nurse aide profession. OFCC is proud to advocate on their behalf, in order for them to continue to serve and protect Hawai'i's most vulnerable people with accountability and high standards of care.

Your support of this bill is much appreciated. Thank you for hearing this bill.

Sincerely,

Cirvalina Longboy
 President, Oahu Filipino Community Council

Unit Organizations

Magsingal Association of
 Hawaii
 Narvacan/San Antonio Club of
 Hawaii
 Nueva Vizcaya Association of
 Hawaii
 Pasuquinos Association of
 Hawaii
 Philippine Cultural Foundation
 Philippine Nurses
 Association of Hawaii
 Piddig Association of Hawaii
 Sanchez Mira Association of
 Hawaii
 San Manuel Pangasinan
 Association of Hawaii
 San Nicolaneos USA
 San Nicolas Goodwill
 Foundation
 San Nicolas Teachers of
 Hawaii
 Santa Lucia Association of
 Hawaii
 Sarrat Association of Hawaii
 Sarrat International Inc.
 Sinait Nt. High School Alumni
 of Hawaii
 Solsona of Hawaii
 Tarlac Mutual Club of Hawaii
 TPCP
 Kalihi Ballroom, Inc.
 Sadiri ti San Nicolas iti Hawaii
 Samar Leyte Association of
 Hawaii
 Sampaguaita/Sunflower Club of
 Hawaii
 San Juan Association of
 Hawaii
 San Nicolas Nat. High
 Santa Marians of Hawaii
 School Alumni
 Santa Nicolas Nat. High
 School Bingao Annex
 Tagalog Association of Oahu
 United Bacarreneos of Hawaii
 United Group of Home
 Operators
 United Pangasinan of Hawaii
 United Urdaneta Club of
 Hawaii
 United Vintarinians of Hawaii
 Vigan Association of Hawaii



TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HB 814 HD 2

Senate Committee on Health
March 16, 2009, 3 p.m. | Hawai'i State Legislature | Room 016

Report Title: Nurse Aide Certification

Description: Specifies the renewal period for the recertification of certified nurse aides and the number of continuing education hours for their recertification.

To: Honorable Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Honorable Senator Josh Green, M.D., Vice Chair
Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Health

From: Ron Menor, Chair, NaFFAA Region XII

My name is Ron Menor. NaFFAA Region XII strongly supports this bill, in which certified nurse aides have proactively proposed training requirement changes. This measure affirms the integrity of the certified nurse aide profession, while at the same time retains and meets quality standards of care.

As Chair of the National Federation of Filipino American Associations Region XII, which represents the interests of Filipinos in Hawai'i, Guam, and the Commonwealth of Northern Marianas Islands, we support the significant contributions of certified nurse aides in America's health care systems. NaFFAA Region XII is an affiliate of the National NaFFAA. Washington policy-makers, private industry and national advocacy groups recognize NaFFAA as the Voice of Filipinos and Filipino Americans throughout the United States. We are a non-partisan, non-profit national affiliation of more than five hundred Filipino-American institutions and umbrella organizations that span twelve regions throughout the continental United States and U.S. Pacific territories.

Sincerely,

Ron Menor, Chair, NaFFAA Region XII



Filipino Coalition for Solidarity

A HAWAII RIGHTS ADVOCACY GROUP • FOUNDED IN 1990

c/o 728 Nunu St. · Kailua, HI 96734 · <http://www.philippinesonline.org/thecoalition/>

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HB 814 HD 2

Senate Committee on Health
March 16, 2009, 3 p.m. | Hawai'i State Legislature | Room 016

Report Title: Nurse Aide Certification

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To: Honorable Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Honorable Senator Josh Green, M.D., Vice Chair
Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Health

From: Charlene Cuaresma, MPH, President, Filipino Coalition For Solidarity

My name is Charlene Cuaresma. As president of the Filipino Coalition for Solidarity, I want to express appreciation to you for hearing this important bill. Since its inception in 1990, the Coalition has represented more than 50 Filipino community leaders, whose aim is to work for social justice issues to empower Filipinos to make socially responsible contributions to Hawai'i and our global neighbors through education, advocacy, and social action.

I am submitting testimony in strong support of this bill. Filipinos comprise the majority of certified nurse aides, many of whom are respected and longtime leaders within the Filipino Coalition for Solidarity. This bill reflects their views on training, as they strive with great pride to continue providing high standards of care that are cost effective to Hawai'i's frail and elderly population.

Respectfully,

Charlene Cuaresma, MPH
President
Filipino Coalition for Solidarity

Filipino American Citizens League

Jake Manegdeg, President
P. O. Box 270126 * Honolulu, Hawai'i 96827

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HB 814 HD 2

Senate Committee on Health

March 16, 2009, 3 p.m.

Hawai'i State Legislature

Conference Rm. 016

Report Title: Nurse Aide Certification

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To: Honorable Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Honorable Senator Josh Green, M.D., Vice Chair
Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Health

From: Jake Manegdeg, President, Filipino American Citizens League

My name is Jake Manegdeg. I am the president of the Filipino American Citizens League. The Filipino American Citizens League was formed over ten years ago to contribute to the advancement of civil rights and social justice for minority groups, underserved populations, and vulnerable communities through education, advocacy, and social action.

I submit this testimony to strongly support this bill, which is in keeping with training requirements that both respect the certified nurse profession, and is accountable to protect public safety with its proposed changes. The Filipino American Citizens League is proud to support Hawai'i's certified nurse aides, who have offered the families, long term care institutions, those in need of these services, and tax payers of our Aloha State, quality and compassionate caregiver services at affordable rates.

Thank you for the chance to provide support for this bill. Your help in its passage is greatly appreciated.

Very Sincerely,

Jake Manegdeg
President
Filipino American Citizens League

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HB 814 HD 2

Senate Committee on Health

Date: March 16, 2009

Time: 3 p.m.

Place: Hawai'i State Capitol, Conference Room 016

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Description: Specifies the renewal period for the recertification of certified nurse aides and the number of continuing education hours for their recertification.

To: Honorable Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Honorable Senator Josh Green, M.D., Vice Chair
Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Health

From: Amy Agbayani, Private Citizen
3432 B-1 Kalihi Street, Honolulu, HI 96819

My name is Amy Agbayani. Thank you for hearing this bill and for the opportunity to express my strong support. The intent of this bill is to specify the renewal period for the recertification of certified nurse aides and the number of continuing education hours required for recertification by the director of human services.

Certified nurse aides play an integral role in providing quality health care services and helping to keep the cost of long term care affordable for Hawai'i's families. This clarification in training and recertification will ultimately benefit individuals who are in the care of certified nurse aides that work in nursing facilities participating in Medicare and Medicaid programs and in other state-licensed and state-certified health care settings.

Your support of this bill is very much appreciated.

Sincerely,

Amy Agbayani
Private Citizen