



# 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.

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LATE

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## TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HB 814 RELATING TO NURSE AIDES

February 3, 2009, 8:30 a.m.  
House Conference Room 329

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 Ryan I. Yamane, Chair  
Honorable Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice-Chair  
Honorable Health Committee Members

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

Sincerely,

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



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## TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HB 814

House Committee on Health

Feb. 3, 2009, 8:30 a.m. | Hawai'i State Legislature | House Conference Room 329

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To: Honorable Ryan I. Yamane, Chair  
Honorable Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice-Chair  
Honorable Health Committee Members

My name is Amy Agbayani. 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 Vice 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,

Amy Agbayani, Ph.D., Vice Chair  
NaFFAA Region XII



# **UNITED FILIPINO COUNCIL OF HAWAII**

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

## **TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HB 814**

House Committee on Health

LATE

Feb. 3, 2009, 8:30 a.m. · Hawai'i State Legislature · Conference Rm. 329

**To:** Honorable Ryan I. Yamane, Chair  
Honorable Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice-Chair  
Honorable Health Committee Members

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

**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.

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



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## TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HB 814

House Committee on Health

Feb. 3, 2009, 8:30 a.m.

Hawai'i State Legislature

House Conference Room 329

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To: Honorable Ryan I. Yamane, Chair, and Honorable Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice-Chair  
Honorable Health Committee Members

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

LATE

### House Committee on Health

Feb. 3, 2009, 8:30 a.m. · Hawai'i State Legislature · House Conference Rm. 329

To:

Honorable Ryan I. Yamane, Chair  
Honorable Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice-Chair  
Honorable Health Committee Members

From:

Jake Manegdeg, President, Filipino American Citizens League

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.

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

LATE



# 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 Norteniens 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

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**To: Honorable Ryan I. Yamane, Chair  
 Honorable Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice-Chair  
 Honorable Health Committee Members**

**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  
 Pasuquimios 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  
 Sampaguita/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