

SCR 167

**PRESENTATION OF THE
BOARD OF NURSING**

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2010

Wednesday, April 7, 2010
10:00 a.m.

WRITTEN COMMENTS ONLY

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 167, S.D. 1,
REQUESTING THE HAWAII STATE CENTER FOR NURSING TO EVALUATE THE
NEED FOR AND RESOURCES REQUIRED TO ESTABLISH A CONTINUING
EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR NURSES.**

TO THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Lee Ann Teshima, Executive Officer of the Board of Nursing
("Board"). Thank you for the opportunity to present our written comments on Senate
Concurrent Resolution No. 167, S.D. 1.

The purpose of the concurrent resolution is to request the Hawaii State Center
for Nursing ("Center") to evaluate the need for and resources required to establish a
continuing education program for nurses. The resolution adds a representative of the
State Board of Nursing to serve on the joint advisory committee; extends the deadline by
which the Hawaii State Center for Nursing ("Center") is requested to submit a final report
to the Legislature; adds a progress reporting and interim reporting requirement for the
Center to keep the Legislature abreast of its progress on the study; and extends the date
by which the joint advisory committee is to dissolve to allow the committee sufficient time
to complete its study.

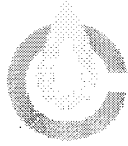
This concurrent resolution requires the Center to submit three reports. The first
report is a "status" report which is due no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
the Regular Session of 2011 and which includes a timeline for the convening of the

committee, identifies other parties that should be involved in the study, and specifies the challenges encountered or anticipated by the committee in conducting the study. The second report is the "interim" report, which is due no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2012 and which indicates the status of the study and the committee's work. The third report is the "final" report of the Center's findings and recommendations, including proposed legislation, pertaining to the establishment of a Hawaii Nursing Continuing Education Program, which is due no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2013.

The Board supports the intent of this measure but respectfully recommends:

- That in accordance with the Center's request, the final deadline not be specified until after the Center's interim progress report is submitted with its recommendations.

Therefore, the Board of Nursing supports House Concurrent Resolution No. 167, S.D. 1 **with the proposed amendments**. Thank you for the opportunity to submit our written comments.



Hawai'i State Center for Nursing

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

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**TESTIMONY ON SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 167, S.D. 1
REQUESTING THE CENTER FOR NURSING TO EVALUATE THE NEED AND
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FOR NURSES.**

TO THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR,
TO THE HONORABLE DAVID IGE, VICE CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEES:

My name is Gail Tiwanak, and I am the Director for the Hawaii State Center for Nursing. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written comments on Senate Concurrent Resolution 167, S.D. 1, requesting the Center for Nursing to evaluate the need and resources required to establish a continuing education program for nurses.

This measure requires the Hawaii State Center for Nursing convene a joint advisory committee composed of the representatives from Hawaii Nursing schools, nursing and healthcare organizations, Hawaii State government agencies and employers. The advisory group is charged with assisting the Center in studying many complex issues related to continuing education, providing a status report prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2011, an interim report prior to the 2012 Regular Session and a final report twenty days prior to the 2013 Regular Session.

The center supports the intent of the resolution but respectfully recommends that:

- the final deadline not be specified until after the Center's interim progress report is submitted with its recommendations twenty days prior to the 2012 regular session: and
- the joint advisory board not be dissolved "six months after the committee submits it's final report, but remain in existence until the study is completed: and
- the removal of a representative from the National Council of State Boards of Nursing from the joint advisory committee

With the proposed amendments the Hawaii State Center for Nursing supports Senate Concurrent Resolution 167, S.D. 1.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written comments.



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Wednesday – April 7, 2010 – 10:00am
Conference Room 229

The Senate Committee on Commerce & Consumer Protection

To: Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator David Y. Ige, Vice Chair

From: Art Gladstone, RN MBA
Chief Nurse Executive – Hawaii Pacific Health
Chief Operating Office – Straub Clinic & Hospital

Re: **Testimony in Support of SCR 167 SD1 Requesting the Hawaii State Center for Nursing to Evaluate the Need for and Resources Required to Establish a Continuing Education Program for Nurses**

My name is Art Gladstone, Chief Nurse Executive at Hawaii Pacific Health (HPH) and Chief Operating Officer at Straub Clinic & Hospital. Hawaii Pacific Health is a nonprofit health care system and the state's largest health care provider, committed to providing the highest quality medical care and service to the people of Hawaii and the Pacific Region through its four affiliated hospitals, 44 outpatient clinics and more than 2,200 physicians and clinicians. The network is anchored by its four nonprofit hospitals: Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children, Kapi'olani Medical Center at Pali Momi, Straub Clinic & Hospital and Wilcox Memorial Hospital. Collectively, they lead the state in the areas of women's health, pediatric care, cardiovascular services, bone and joint services and cancer care. Hawaii Pacific Health ranks among the top 3.8 percent of hospitals nationwide in electronic medical record adoption, with system-wide implementation that allows its hospitals to offer integrated, coordinated care throughout the state. Learn more at: <http://www.hawaiipacifichealth.org>

I am writing in support of SCR 167 SD1 which requests that the Hawaii State Center for Nursing conduct an in-depth study of the need for as well as the requirements and resources needed to implement a comprehensive continuing education program for nurses. We recognize that the practice of nursing is one that changes over time because of the rapidly ongoing evolution in the health care field. Therefore, continuing education would not only enhance the practice of nursing, but ensure that our community may avail itself of well-trained nurses. HPH has been working with the Board of Nursing, Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and other stakeholders on the matter of continuing education. SCR 167 SD1 is essential to developing a continuing education program which will benefit all nurses and improve the level of nurse competency and healthcare in Hawaii.

Thank you for your consideration of SCR 167 SD1 and for this opportunity to submit testimony in support of it.



Affiliates of Hawaii Pacific Health



SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION
Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair

Conference Room 229
April 7, 2010 at 10:00 a.m.

Supporting SCR 167 SD1.

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii represents its member organizations that span the entire spectrum of health care, including all acute care hospitals, as well as long term care facilities, home care agencies, and hospices. Thank you for this opportunity to comment in support of SCR 167 SD 1, which requests that the Center for Nursing study the feasibility of establishing a continuing education requirement for nursing license renewals.

Professionals in many other fields are required to have regular continuing education, but nurses in Hawaii are not required to submit proof of having completed continuing education to renew their licenses. The only exception is for advanced practice registered nurses with prescriptive authority.

There are questions of whether mandating continuing education for all nurses would result in benefits to consumers and whether these benefits would be worth the cost. The resolution under consideration is intended to gather information relevant to these questions.

The issues involved in requiring continuing education for nurses are complex. The Center for Nursing is the most appropriate agency to perform the study because it has the necessary experience and expertise. The State Legislature enacted Act 198, Session Laws of Hawaii 2003, creating the Center for Nursing to help ensure the quality of health care for the people of Hawaii by proactively addressing issues related to the nursing workforce. Among its many accomplishments, the Center for Nursing has developed statistics that help provide a clear picture of nursing and the factors that affect it, along with a strategic plan for the nursing workforce in Hawaii.

The resolution calls for the Center for Nursing to convene an advisory committee with representation from all of the relevant stakeholders to assist with that effort. The Healthcare Association of Hawaii is named as a member of the advisory committee, and would be glad to provide perspectives from its various member organizations.

For the foregoing reasons, the Healthcare Association of Hawaii supports SCR 167 SD 1.