

## Commenting on HB 484.

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**Sent:** Tuesday, February 22, 2011 1:40 PM

**To:** CPCtestimony

**Attachments:** HB 484 CPC.pdf (55 KB)

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Aloha,

Please see attached. Mr. George Greene, President and CEO of HAH, will be the testifier. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns please do not hesitate to contact us.

Mahalo,

*Michael R. Yadao*

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HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE  
Rep. Robert Herkes, Chair

Conference Room 325  
Feb. 23, 2011 at 2:05 p.m.

**Commenting on HB 484.**

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii advocates for 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. In their efforts to provide quality care to all of Hawaii's residents, our members employ over 40,000 people. Thank you for this opportunity to comment on HB 484, which requires hospitals to use advance practice registered nurses (APRNs) to the full scope allowed by their licensure.

Health care consumes about 17% of the gross domestic product, and the health care inflation rate is much greater than the overall inflation rate. Health care providers have been searching for alternatives that can hold down costs while maintaining the quality of care, and the increased use of APRNs is one way to do that. APRNs can provide certain kinds of care that were previously limited only to physicians. APRNs can also provide primary care in areas that are underserved by physicians.

APRNs are now responsible in many settings for direct patient care, including performing routine examination and review of medical histories, and they will also be increasingly involved in telephone triage, patient education, counseling and health awareness. In addition, APRNs may be utilized for pre-operative and post-operative care, assisting at surgery, hospital rounds, in-office procedures, as well as patient education and awareness.

Hospitals and other health care provider organizations are managing APRNs so that they are being used to a much greater degree than before. However, we feel that it is a management responsibility to determine how an APRN or any other employee is used. The Healthcare Association is willing to work with those who support HB 484 to develop a compromise that is acceptable to all.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on HB 484.

**PRESENTATION OF THE  
BOARD OF NURSING**

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER  
PROTECTION & COMMERCE

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE  
Regular Session of 2011

Wednesday, February 23, 2011  
2:05 p.m.

**TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL NO. 484, RELATING TO ADVANCED PRACTICE  
REGISTERED NURSES.**

TO THE HONORABLE ROBERT N. HERKES, CHAIR,  
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Lee Ann Teshima, Executive Officer for the Board of Nursing ("Board") and I appreciate the opportunity to submit testimony on House Bill No. 484, Relating to Advanced Practice Registered Nurses. This bill proposes to allow an advanced practice registered nurse ("APRN") who meets the qualifications established by the Board to function as a primary care provider. The Board supports this bill as it would require hospitals licensed in this State to recognize the APRN as a primary care provider, and allow them to receive the same benefits as other primary care providers.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on House Bill No. 484. I am available to answer any questions you may have.



**HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION**  
AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

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**The Twenty-Sixth Legislature, State of Hawaii**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce**

**Testimony by**  
**Hawaii Government Employees Association**  
**February 23, 2011**

**H.B. 484 - RELATING TO ADVANCED**  
**PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES**

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME, Local 152, AFL-CIO supports H.B. 484 - Relating to Advanced Practice Registered Nurses. The bill, as proposed, would grant advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) their full scope of practice, including prescriptive authority and the function of a primary care provider.

Considering the shortage of primary care providers in certain areas of the State, it is logical to ensure that APRNs are allowed to use their skills to the fullest extent that their practice will allow.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of H.B. 484.

Sincerely,

 **Nora A. Nomura**  
**Deputy Executive Director**



# HMSA



An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

February 23, 2011

The Honorable Robert Herkes, Chair  
The Honorable Ryan Yamane, Vice Chair  
House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

**Re: HB 484 – Relating to Advanced Practice Registered Nurses**

Dear Chair Herkes, Vice Chair Yamane and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Medical Service Association (HMSA) appreciates the opportunity to testify in support of HB 484 which would require hospitals to allow Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) to practice within the full scope of their licensure.

Hawaii as well as the rest of the nation, continues to face a shortage of qualified health professionals, especially in rural areas. While stakeholders across the health care community are working together to determine how to attract and retain qualified providers in the state, there are other steps which can be taken to fully utilize existing resources. One of those resources are the APRNs already practicing in our local health care community.

HB 484 would clarify that hospitals recognize an APRN's statutorily granted prescriptive authority and allow them to practice to the fullest extent of their licensure, including being recognized as primary care providers. We believe that ensuring providers already practicing within our community are being permitted to utilize the fullest scope of their statutorily granted authority will only serve to increase access to medical services throughout the state.

We respectfully urge the Committee see fit to pass HB 484. Thank you for the opportunity to testify today.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JD", written over a white background.

Jennifer Diesman  
Vice President  
Government Relations

Testimony of  
John M. Kirimitsu  
Legal & Government Relations Consultant

Before:  
House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce  
The Honorable Robert N. Herkes, Chair  
The Honorable Ryan I. Yamane, Vice Chair

February 23, 2011  
2:05 pm  
Conference Room 325

**Re: HB 484 Relating to Advanced Practice Registered Nurses**

Chair, Vice Chair, and committee members, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on HB 484 that would require hospitals to allow advanced practice registered nurses to practice within the full scope of the practice.

**Kaiser Permanente Hawaii does not support it in this form, but offers an amendment.**

Kaiser Permanente recognizes the high value of its advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) within its integrated healthcare delivery system, and the exceptional care they provide to Kaiser's members. However, a distinguishing factor under Kaiser's delivery system is that Kaiser's APRN's scope of practice is defined within their scope of employment.

Kaiser sometimes hires APRNs to work in positions that do not, by design, utilize their full scope but fill existing needs. The APRN who accepts such a position does so with the knowledge of the requirements and limitations outlined in their job description. We suggest the following amendment to address these circumstances:

On page 1, line 11, add to the last sentence the phrase "**unless limited by the terms of their employment.**"

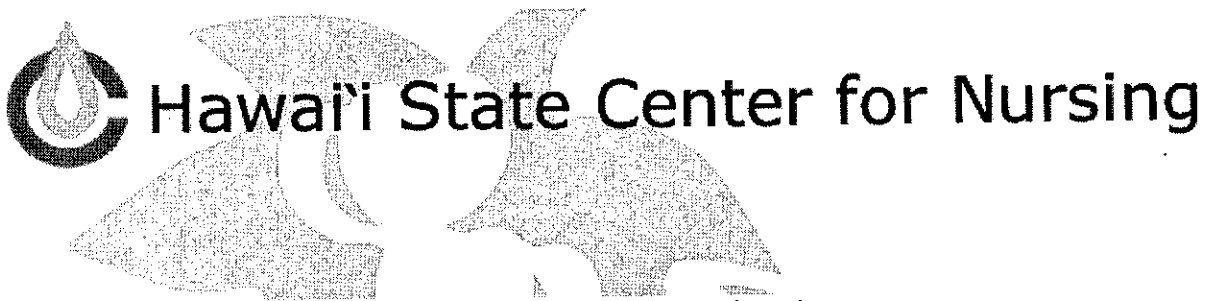
Therefore, § 323 shall now read:

**§ 3 2 3 - Practice by advanced practice registered nurses.**

Each hospital in the State licensed under section 321-14.5 shall allow an advanced practice registered nurse recognized as such under section 457-8.5 or a qualified advanced practice registered nurse granted prescriptive authority under section 457-8.6 to practice within the full

scope of the practice authorized under chapter 457, including the function of a primary care provider, unless limited by the terms of their employment.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.



Written Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce  
February 23, 2011, 2:05 p.m.

By  
Gail P. Tiwanak, MBA, RN  
Director  
Hawaii State Center for Nursing

#### HB484 RELATING TO ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES

Chair Herkes, Vice Chair Yamane, and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of this bill, HB484, requiring each hospital within the State to allow advanced practice registered nurses ("APRN") to practice within the full scope of the practice.

Two decades ago, the Legislature in its wisdom recognized that APRNs are educationally prepared to assume responsibility and accountability for health promotion and maintenance as well as the assessment, diagnosis, and management of patient problems, which includes the use and prescription of pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic interventions. APRNs have proven themselves to have clinical experience of sufficient depth and breadth to have safely practiced within their specialties. They have safely prescribed drugs appropriate to their specialties for fifteen years.

The Hawaii State Center for Nursing supports this bill to require each hospital in the State licensed under section 321-14.5 to allow an APRN recognized as such under section 457-8.5 or a qualified APRN granted prescriptive authority under section 457-8.6 to practice within the full scope of the practice authorized under chapter 457, including the function of a primary care provider.

We appreciate your continuing support of nursing and healthcare in Hawai'i. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.