

HB2258 HD2

Measure Title: RELATING TO PROFESSIONAL AND VOCATIONAL LICENSING.

Report Title: Professional and Vocational Licensing; Military Education, Training, and Service

Description: Requires licensing boards to consider military education, training, and service. Specifies that military training or experience satisfies a licensing authority's training or experience requirements unless it is determined that it is not substantially equivalent to the standards of the State. Allows the boards to adopt rules. Effective July 1, 2012. Sunsets June 30, 2022. (HB2258 HD2)

Companion:

Package: None

Current Referral: CPN

Introducer(s): AQUINO, CABANILLA, CHONG, CULLEN, HAR, ITO, MANAHAN, YAMANE

<u>Sort by Date</u>		Status Text
1/20/2012	H	Pending introduction.
1/23/2012	H	Introduced and Pass First Reading.
1/23/2012	H	Referred to PBM, CPC, FIN, referral sheet 6
1/30/2012	H	Bill scheduled to be heard by PBM on Thursday, 02-02-12 9:00AM in House conference room 309.
2/2/2012	H	The committees on PBM recommend that the measure be PASSED, WITH AMENDMENTS. The votes were as follows: 11 Ayes: Representative(s) Aquino, Cullen, Ichiyama, M. Lee, Saiki, Souki, Takai, Takumi, Yamashita, Fontaine, Johanson; Ayes with reservations: none; Noes: none; and 1 Excused: Representative(s) Luke.
2/8/2012	H	Reported from PBM (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 178-12) as amended in HD 1, recommending passage on Second Reading and referral to CPC.
2/8/2012	H	Passed Second Reading as amended in HD 1 and referred to the committee(s) on CPC with none voting aye with reservations; none voting no (0) and C. Lee excused (1).

2/9/2012	H	Bill scheduled to be heard by CPC on Monday, 02-13-12 2:15PM in House conference room 325.
2/13/2012	H	The committees on CPC recommend that the measure be PASSED, UNAMENDED. The votes were as follows: 10 Ayes: Herkes, Yamane, Brower, Keith-Agaran, Luke, Souki, Tsuji, Ching, Marumoto, Thielen; Ayes with reservations: none; 0 Noes: none; and 5 Excused: Cabanilla, Carroll, Coffman, Ito, McKelvey.
2/16/2012	H	Reported from CPC (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 518-12), recommending referral to FIN.
2/16/2012	H	Report adopted; referred to the committee(s) on FIN with none voting aye with reservations; none voting no (0) and M. Lee, Souki excused (2).
2/21/2012	H	Bill scheduled to be heard by FIN on Thursday, 02-23-12 10:00AM in House conference room 308.
2/21/2012	H	Broadcast of hearing/briefing available. See: www.capitoltv.org
2/23/2012	H	The committees on FIN recommend that the measure be PASSED, WITH AMENDMENTS. The votes were as follows: 17 Ayes: Representative(s) Oshiro, M. Lee, Choy, Cullen, Giugni, Har, Hashem, Ichiyama, Jordan, Kawakami, C. Lee, Morikawa, Tokioka, Yamashita, Marumoto, Riviere, Ward; Ayes with reservations: none; Noes: none; and Excused: none.
3/2/2012	H	Reported from FIN (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 737-12) as amended in HD 2, recommending passage on Third Reading.
3/2/2012	H	Forty-eight (48) hours notice Tuesday, 03-06-12.
3/6/2012	H	Passed Third Reading as amended in HD 2 with none voting aye with reservations; none voting no (0) and none excused (0). Transmitted to Senate.
3/8/2012	S	Received from House (Hse. Com. No. 161).
3/8/2012	S	Passed First Reading.
3/8/2012	S	Referred to CPN.
3/14/2012	S	The committee(s) on CPN has scheduled a public hearing on 03-29-12 9:00AM in conference room 229.



NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

BRIAN SCHATZ
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
Fax Number: 586-2856
www.hawaii.gov/dcca

KEALI'I S. LOPEZ
DIRECTOR

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

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2012

Thursday, March 29, 2012
9:00 a.m.

**TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2258, H.D. 2, RELATING TO PROFESSIONAL
AND VOCATIONAL LICENSING.**

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

My name is Celia Suzuki, Licensing Administrator for the Professional and Vocational Licensing Division ("Division"), Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department"). The Department appreciates the opportunity to offer comments on House Bill No. 2258, H.D. 2, Relating to Professional and Vocational Licensing. The companion bill, Senate Bill No. 2392, was heard by your Committee and passed with amendments.

The purpose of House Bill No. 2258, H.D. 2, is to require professional and vocational licensing authorities to consider the education, training, or service completed by an individual during the individual's tenure in the military toward the qualifications to

receive a license. The measure also specifies that the military training or experience shall satisfy a licensing authority's training or experience requirements unless the licensing authority determines that it is not substantially equivalent to the standards of the State. The bill also includes language allowing the licensing authorities to adopt rules to implement the law. In addition, the bill includes a ten-year sunset date and an effective date of July 1, 2012.

The companion bill, Senate Bill No. 2392, S.D. 1, also requires the licensing authorities to consider relevant military education, training, or service that is substantially equivalent to state standards for licensure. However, it does not address the adoption of rules to implement the measure. The Senate version includes a section requiring the Licensing Administrator of the Division to submit a report to the Legislature detailing plans for the implementation of this measure after communicating the intent and parameters to each licensing authority. The effective date of the Act in the Senate version is July 1, 2050.

We do not have a preference for either version of the measure. Thank you for the opportunity to offer comments on House Bill No. 2258, H.D. 2.



OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
(MILITARY COMMUNITY AND FAMILY POLICY)

4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-4000

DoD-State Liaison Office

Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair, Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
March 28, 2012

**HB 2258 Relating to Professional and Vocational Licensing;
Military Training, Education, and Service**

Chair Baker and members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection, on behalf of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Military Community and Family Policy, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on HB 2258, a bill relating Professional and Vocational Licensing; Military Training, Education, and Service.

Transitioning Service members leave the military with documented training and experience that can prepare them for civilian employment; however, this documentation is not always used by state entities to qualify them for licenses required for their occupation. The policies in HB2258 HD1 will allow that education and training to be applied toward requirements of state licenses.

It has never been the Department of Defense's intent that the licensing boards indiscriminately accept any military education, training, or service, without regard to whether the education, training, or service has any relevance to the specific licensing area. Nor are we asking for acceptance of the education, training and experience unless it is substantially equivalent to the requirements mandated by the state for obtaining a license.

HB2258 HD2 was amended in the House Committee on Finance to require the DCCA to consider relevant education, training, or service completed by an individual as a member of the armed forces or reserves of the United States or the National Guard, Military Reserves, or Naval Militia of any state, toward the qualifications to receive a license.

The companion bill, SB 2395, was amended in a similar fashion and also included a reporting requirement of the DCCA: *The licensing administrator of the professional and vocational licensing division of the department of commerce and consumer affairs shall communicate the intent and parameters of this Act to each licensing authority and shall submit a report detailing plans for the implementation of this Act to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2013.* We believe this additional language, which was developed collaboratively by DoD and the DCCA, will allow the implementation of this policy to be monitored, particularly since the requirement for writing rules for implementation was removed from the original bill.

Thank you for your consideration of this significant manner in which we can recognize the value of our Service members military training and experience.

Dr. Laurie Crehan
DoD State Liaison Office
858-274-3314



Hawai'i State Center for Nursing

Written Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Commerce & Consumer Protection

March 29, 2012, 2:15 p.m.

by

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

HB 2258, HD2, RELATING TO PROFESSIONAL AND VOCATIONAL LICENSING

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Taniguchi, and members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in opposition of this bill, HB 2258, HD2, to the extent that it would impact the nursing profession. This measure amends Chapter 436B which is implemented by the Professional and Vocational Licensing Division of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("PVL/DCCA"). It authorizes professional and vocational licensing boards under the auspices of the PVL/DCCA to accept military education, training, and service toward the qualifications for a license, including a nursing license. It also allows the boards to adopt rules.

The Legislature in its wisdom required that nursing programs in Hawaii meet the standards established by law and by the Hawaii State Board of Nursing¹ to ensure the safety of Hawaii consumers is not compromised. These standards are based on national accreditation and certification standards.

Accreditation is extremely important when considering a school, regardless of the degree program or field of study. If a school is not accredited, any credentials earned may not be considered to be of the same quality as if they were earned at an accredited university. The main agencies for accreditation are the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC) and the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). The list of national certifying bodies is extensive.

The two primary reasons to attend an accredited nursing program are quality and insurance. An accredited program has had its quality guaranteed by standards set into place by the Department of Education ("DOE"). Students enrolling in nursing programs also know that they are earning a high-quality degree from a program that will allow them to continue their education, something not guaranteed with unaccredited programs.

¹ Chapter 457, HRS, and Title 16, Chapter 89, Hawaii Administrative Rules

In *The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health* (2011) the Institute of Medicine key message #2 was, "Nurses should achieve higher levels of education and training through an improved education system that promotes seamless academic progression."

Future changes in the U.S. health care system and practice environments will require that nursing education at all levels to provide a greater understanding of and experience in care management and quality improvement methods. Nursing education should serve as a platform for continued lifelong learning and include opportunities for seamless transition to higher degree programs. Accrediting, licensing, and certifying organizations must continue to mandate demonstrated mastery of core skills and competencies to complement the completion of degree programs and national nurse licensure/certification examinations.

HB 2258, HD2, places the onus on the PVL/DCCA to decide whether the military education, training and experience presented by applicants meet the requirements of national accrediting and certifying organizations. It has neither the resources nor the expertise to do this. The onus should be placed on the military to work with the DOE, national accrediting and certifying organizations (including, but not limited to, the NLNAC and the CCNE) to establish equivalency. If equivalency is established, certifications of equivalency could then be reviewed by the PVL/DCCA.

Therefore, the Hawaii State Center for Nursing feels that this measure is premature and strongly recommends that HB 2258, HD2, not pass out of your Committees.

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



March 14, 2012

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 2258 HD2
RELATING TO PROFESSIONAL AND VOCATIONAL LICENSING
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION
HEARING ON THURSDAY, MARCH 29, AT 9:00AM, IN CONFERENCE ROOM
229**

Aloha Chair Baker: The Oahu Veterans Council's delegates, are honored to represent the interests of our veterans and their families. Our Legislative Committee voted unanimously to support House Bill 2258 HD2.

We are extremely grateful for your efforts to require our professional and vocational licensing boards to accept military education, training, and service towards the qualifications of a professional license.

Hawaii is proud of its largest per-capita military personnel community in the nation. They serve so selflessly and ask only for that level of recognition we would expect for ourselves.

The Oahu Veterans Council respectfully urges your committee to consider passing House Bill 2258 HD2 as written; mahalo, for allowing us to testify, regarding this extremely important issue.

Dennis Egge

Dennis Egge; Chairman, Legislative Committee



1298 Kukila Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96818
Email: sballard@oahuveternascenter.com; Phone: 808-422-4000; Fax: 808-422-4001
www.oahuveternascenter.com