

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 19 2013

RE: H.B. No. 79
H.D. 1

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim
President of the Senate
Twenty-Seventh State Legislature
Regular Session of 2013
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred H.B. No. 79,
H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED
NURSES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to change the
degree requirements for advance practice registered nurse
recognition from a master's degree in nursing to a graduate degree
in nursing.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Hawaii Board of Nursing; University of Hawaii; Hawaii
Public Health; Hawaii State Center for Nursing; Prime Care
Services Hawaii, Inc.; American Organization of Nurse Executives;
Hawaii Association of Professional Nurses; The Queen's Health
Systems; Hawaii State Center for Nursing; American Association of
Nurse Practitioners; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Hawaii
State Center for Nursing; Blood Bank of Hawaii; and seven
individuals.

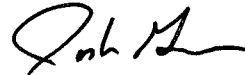
Your Committee finds that currently only nurses who have a
Master's degree in nursing can be recognized as advanced practice
registered nurses in Hawaii. This restriction absolutely bars
nurses who earn advanced nursing degrees other than a Master's
degree from being recognized as advanced practice registered
nurses in the State. Your Committee further finds that nurses who
are recognized by other states as advanced practice registered



nurses on the basis of having earned graduate degrees such as a Doctor of Nursing degree cannot be recognized as an advanced practice registered nurse in the State. Hawaii is the only remaining state in the nation whose law recognizes only those nurses achieving a Master's degree in nursing as advanced practice registered nurses. Your Committee finds it necessary to expand recognition as an advanced practice registered nurse to any nurse who has received a graduate degree in nursing.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 79, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Health,



JOSH GREEN, Chair



