

**PRESENTATION OF THE
BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGY**

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2014

Thursday, February 13, 2014
9:30 a.m.

WRITTEN COMMENTS ONLY

**COMMENTS ON SENATE BILL NO. 2465, S.D. 1, RELATING TO CONTINUING
EDUCATION FOR PSYCHOLOGISTS.**

TO THE HONORABLE DAVID Y. IGE, CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Carol L. Nowak, Ph.D., Chairperson of the Hawaii Board of Psychology ("Board"). Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 2465, S.D. 1, Relating to Continuing Education for Psychologists. The Board has not had an opportunity to discuss this final version of the bill, but will do so at its February 21, 2014 meeting. This bill, however, is very similar to the proposed draft bill submitted to the Legislature on behalf of the Board and the Hawaii Psychological Association ("HPA"). Based on the similarities with the proposed draft bill, the Board's comments at this time is to submit comments in strong support of Senate Bill No. 2465, S.D. 1.

The purpose of the bill is to require licensed psychologists in Hawaii to complete a minimum of eighteen (18) continuing education credit hours beginning with the renewal for the licensing biennium July 16, 2016, through June 30, 2018.

By way of background, the Board and HPA were requested pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution No. 201, H.D.1, which was adopted by the Twenty-Seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session 2013, to submit a proposed draft for

a bill to establish, implement, and monitor continuing education requirements for all licensed psychologists in the State. As such, and after several months of discussion and compromise between the parties, a proposed bill was submitted to the State of Hawaii Legislature on December 13, 2013.

As written, the Board supports this bill as it will ensure that licensed psychologists maintain their professional competency and keep abreast of the latest developments in their profession. It is estimated that approximately nine hundred eighty-nine (989) licensed psychologists will be required to obtain continuing education credits as proposed in this bill. Similar to other professions that require continuing education, the Board, in consultation with the HPA, agreed to perform post-renewal random audits of 5% to 10% of its licensees who renew their psychology licenses biennially. By choosing to perform post-renewal random audits, there will be minimal impact on the workload of the administrative staff.

Furthermore, the bill will no longer place the program in the minority as one (1) of six (6) jurisdictions that do not require continuing education credits as part of its licensing laws.

Thank you for opportunity to submit comments in strong support of Senate Bill No. 2465, S.D. 1.



HAWAII MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

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DATE: Thursday, February 13, 2014
TIME: 9:30 a.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 211

TO:
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

FROM: Hawaii Medical Association
Dr. Walton Shim, MD, President
Dr. Linda Rasmussen, MD, Legislative Co-Chair
Dr. Ron Keinitz, DO, Legislative Co-Chair
Dr. Christopher Flanders, DO, Executive Director
Lauren Zirbel, Community and Government Relations

RE: 2465 RELATING TO CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR PSYCHOLOGISTS

Position: Strong Support.

The HMA commends the introducers of this bill.

The HMA commends the introducers of this bill.

The HMA is in strong support of continuing education for all healthcare providers. The practice of medicine changes dramatically year to year and it is of the utmost importance that providers develop life-long learning as a demonstration to the public of professional responsibility in maintaining competence, performance and improving outcomes.

The HMA would also like to offer our assistance, should it be needed, in the development of CE. The HMA accredits most of the state's CME for physicians and would be happy to assist the development of CE for psychologists.

Thank you for hearing this bill and for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Officers

*President - Walton Shim, MD President-Elect – Robert Sloan
Secretary - Thomas Kosasa, MD Immediate Past President – Stephen Kemble, MD
Treasurer – Brandon Lee, MD Executive Director – Christopher Flanders, DO*