

SB 2489

LATE

Testimony

Measure Title: RELATING TO THE CENTER FOR NURSING.

Report Title: Center for Nursing; Advisory Board; Members; Powers and Duties

Description: Amends the composition of the center for nursing advisory board by decreasing the number of members on the center for nursing advisory board to nine; specifying the membership of the advisory board to better facilitate the center for nursing's mission; and clarifying term limits and appointments to the advisory board. Amends certain powers and duties of the advisory board.

Companion: [HB1881](#), [SB592](#)

Package: None

Current Referral: HRE, CPN

Introducer(s): BAKER, CHUN OAKLAND, GREEN, Nishihara, Taniguchi, Wakai



Thursday – February 6, 2014 – 2:45pm
Conference Room 414

The Senate Committee on Higher Education

To: Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senator Gilbert Kahele, Vice Chair

From: George Greene
President & CEO
Healthcare Association of Hawaii

Re: **Comments**
SB 2489 — Relating to the Center for Nursing

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii (HAH) is a 116 member organization that includes all of the acute care hospitals in Hawaii, the majority of long term care facilities, all the Medicare-certified home health agencies, all hospice programs, as well as other healthcare organizations including durable medical equipment, air and ground ambulance, blood bank and respiratory therapy. In addition to providing quality care to all of Hawaii's residents, our members contribute significantly to Hawaii's economy by employing nearly 20,000 people statewide.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer comments on SB 2489, which would change the composition of the advisory board of the Hawaii State Center for Nursing (HSCN) and make other changes to the board's operation.

HAH supports the intent of SB 2489, and respectfully asks for amendments to the bill. Specifically, HAH requests amendments to section 2, which amends section 304A-1404(b), HRS, on page 5, line 7 of SB 2489 as follows:

- (1) Five members who are nurses with an active Hawaii nursing license, including but not limited to:
 - (A) A nursing executive;
 - (B) An advanced practice registered nurse;
 - (C) A nurse affiliated with a nurse collective bargaining or organization;
 - (D) A doctorally-prepared nurse educator or a doctorally-prepared nurse researcher;
- (2) One member who is a representative from the board of nursing; and

- (3) Four members who have a background or experience in health care delivery, finance, representation of hospitals and acute care hospitals of the State, and community agencies or consumer groups.

The center may invite other members of the public with specific backgrounds to participate as ex officio, nonvoting members, including but not limited to, a representative from the board of nursing.

The proposed amendments would add representation from acute care providers in the healthcare community to assist the advisory board in its mission. HAH supports spirit and intent of SB 2489, which would improve the efficiency and operation of the advisory board of the HSCN to continue the development of a healthcare workforce committed to the promise of quality care for all the people of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer comments on SB 2489.