



S.B. 2492

Relating to Advanced Practice Registered Nurses

Senate Committee on Health

February 5, 2014; 1:30 p.m.

My name is Cindy Kamikawa, Vice President, Nursing, Trauma, ED and Chief Nursing Officer with The Queen's Medical Center (QMC), in support of S.B. 2492, Relating to Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs).

APRNs in Hawaii are a vital part of Hawaii's healthcare landscape. APRNs are responsible in many settings for direct patient care, such as hospitals, clinics, and private offices. APRNs have advanced education, knowledge and skills to care for patients. They are fully prepared to assess, diagnose, manage patient problems, order tests, and prescribe medications. As ACA continues to come fully into effect and newly insured individuals seek medical care, many new Hawaii residents will encounter the severe physician shortage we are all already so aware of. Access to care can be increased if APRNs are allowed to practice to the full extent of their education and training. Since 2011, APRNs have been statutorily authorized with prescriptive authority in hospitals. This has positively impacted patient well-being in the hospital setting by providing more timely access to quality care.

Allowing APRNs to practice to the fullest extent of their licensure will help to increase access, productivity, and quality medical services throughout the State.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Cc: teresa.parsons@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2492 on Feb 5, 2014 13:30PM
Date: Tuesday, February 04, 2014 5:43:50 PM

SB2492

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for HTH on Feb 5, 2014 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Teresa Parsons | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: Senators, I wish to provide testimony in STRONG SUPPORT for SB 2492 which allows Advance Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) to practice at their full scope of training and license. In accordance with the Institute of Medicine's 2010 Report on the Future of Nursing and the 2010 Patient Protection, Affordable Care Act APRNs are demonstrated as well-trained and capable primary care providers. This action is necessary to support the growing primary health care needs of the people of Hawai'i. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB 2492.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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