

# SB3041

Measure Title:	RELATING TO HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS.
Report Title:	Health Care Professionals; Continuing Medical Education
Description:	Requires health care professionals to take a continuing medical education course in health issues unique to Hawaii. Requires the DOH to develop the course, in consultation with the Hawaii medical board.
Companion:	<a href="#">HB2233</a>
Package:	None
Current Referral:	CPH, WAM
Introducer(s):	GREEN, CHUN OAKLAND, Baker, English, Espero, Gabbard



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

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER  
PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE  
Regular Session of 2016

Friday, February 5, 2016  
9:00 a.m.

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL NO. 3041, RELATING TO HEALTH CARE  
PROFESSIONALS.**

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

My name is Charlene Tamanaha, Supervising Executive Officer, Professional and Vocational Licensing Division, Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (“Department”). The Department appreciates the opportunity to submit testimony in opposition to Senate Bill No. 3041, Relating to Health Care Professionals.

The purpose of Senate Bill No. 3041 is to require health care professionals to take an annual continuing medical education (“CME”) course in health issues that are unique to the State; and requires the Department of Health (“DOH”), in consultation with the Hawaii Medical Board, to review and recommend any changes or updates to the course content.

The Department opposes this measure for the following reasons:

- The requirement of annual CME would be overly burdensome on the Department if it were not tied to the licensee's renewal.
- The requirement of annual CME, in addition to already established CME requirements for most health care professionals, would cause an undue burden on the licensees and boards/programs.
- With regard to setting content standards for CME requirements, we feel that health care professionals should obtain CME within their specialty or area of focus. As such, we prefer to give health care professionals the latitude to determine what those CME would be. Requiring content-specific CME would also be burdensome, especially in light of the fact that the proposed CME would be in addition to the CME required by the health care professionals' boards.
- The measure mandates that the DOH develop and update the course content of CME in consultation with the Hawaii Medical Board. The measure fails to provide for input from the other health care related professions addressed in Hawaii Revised Statutes Chapter 451D. Furthermore, the measure also fails to address the potential that the DOH and Hawaii Medical Board may not have recommendations or changes. If this is the case, licensees could potentially take the same course each year which would not benefit the licensee nor the consuming public in anyway.
- The proposed language seems to imply that the board/program shall offer the course to its licensees and may also determine the mode of its delivery. As

this Committee may be aware, it is totally out of the jurisdiction of the regulatory boards/programs to be in the business of providing CME courses. Boards/programs may approve other organizations to provide the CME, but in no instance has any board/program provided or delivered the CME course.

- This measure fails to provide a delayed implementation date so that the Department, relevant regulatory boards/programs, and licensees can prepare for such an undertaking.

Based on the above concerns, the Department respectfully requests that this bill be held in Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 3041, Relating to Health Care Professionals.