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

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE  
Regular Session of 2018

Tuesday, March 13, 2018  
8:30 a.m.

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL NO. 2647, RELATING TO MENTAL HEALTH  
COUNSELORS.**

TO THE HONORABLE JOHN M. MIZUNO, CHAIR, AND MEMBERS OF THE  
COMMITTEE:

My name is Carol Kramer, and I am the Executive Officer of the Mental Health Counselor Program ("Program"). Thank you for the opportunity to testify on S.B. 2647, Relating to Mental Health Counselors, which is a companion to H.B. 2058. The Program strongly supports this measure.

The Program concurs with generalizing the practicum experience requirement by amending the law to require a total of at least six semester hours or ten quarter hours within at least two academic terms, instead of at least three semester hours or five quarter hours per academic term. The total practicum experience hours will remain the same providing no change to consumer protection.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of S.B. 2647.

**SB-2647**

Submitted on: 3/12/2018 11:23:54 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Alan Johnson	Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition	Support	No

Comments:

The Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition supports SB2647 to improve requirements for mental health counselors to obtain licensure. Aloha, Alan Johnson

**SB-2647**

Submitted on: 3/12/2018 8:13:38 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melodie Aduja	OCC Legislative Priorities Committee, Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-2647**

Submitted on: 3/10/2018 2:41:40 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melisa Secola	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-2647**

Submitted on: 3/11/2018 8:21:47 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Stephanie Whiting	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am a Hawaii Licensed Mental Health Counselor. I support this bill.

**SB-2647**

Submitted on: 3/11/2018 8:23:00 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
john hinkle	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As a Licensed Mental Health Counselor, I STRONGLY SUPPORT SB2647. Please pass this Bill. Mahalo!

John Hinkle

LMHC #10

**SB-2647**

Submitted on: 3/12/2018 3:19:46 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sandra Joy Eastlack	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To: The Honorable Representative John M. Mizumo, Chair, The Honorable Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice-Chair and Members of the Committee on Health & Human Services

**I am testifying in strong support of SB2647**

Sb2647 does not reduce or increase the number of practicum hours the bill already requires. Rather, it provides the opportunity for otherwise qualified individuals whose universities have a different approach to how their students practicum classes have been structured to be eligible for licensure in Hawaii.

Please pass this bill out of committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

**SB-2647**

Submitted on: 3/11/2018 9:04:36 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Betty Sestak	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



**SB-2647**

Submitted on: 3/12/2018 10:48:26 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/13/2018 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
tony hunstiger	Individual	Support	No

Comments: