

Testimony of the Hawaii Medical Board

**Before the
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
Wednesday, February 19, 2020
9:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229**

**On the following measure:
S.B. 2424, RELATING TO THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE**

Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

My name is Ahlani Quiogue, and I am the Executive Officer of the Hawaii Medical Board (Board). The Board supports this bill.

The purpose of this bill is to clarify the definition of the practice of medicine to provide uniformity of practice for both medical and osteopathic physicians.

This bill brings the definition of the practice of medicine to parity with the current practice of medicine and provides uniformity for medical doctors and osteopathic doctors. As the Committee is aware, the definition of the practice of medicine was last amended in 2008 by adding a separate, distinct definition of the practice of osteopathic. The Board notes that medical doctors and osteopathic doctors receive the same education and training and should thus be treated equally. Further, the Board believes that this definition should be updated because the practice of medicine not only includes the treatment of disease, as the current definition provides, but should also include the prevention of disease for the general health and welfare of the consumers of this state.

Lastly, the Board requests a non-substantive amendment on page 1, line 17 to read “diagnosis **of** pathology specimens,” instead of “diagnosis or pathology specimens.”

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



DAVID Y. IGE
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**STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

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Testimony of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

**Before the
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**On the following measure:
S.B. 2424, RELATING TO THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE**

Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

My name is Esther Brown, and I am the Complaints and Enforcement Officer of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs' (Department) Regulated Industries Complaints Office (RICO). RICO offers comments relating to the enforceability of this measure.

The purpose of this bill is to clarify the definition of the practice of medicine to provide uniformity of practice for both medical and osteopathic physicians.

RICO notes that in addition to achieving its stated purpose, the bill will also foster consistency in enforcement for these professions because the same scope of practice will apply to both.

The measure also expands the scope of practice beyond the treatment of disease and delineates additional services that are now common in the practice of modern medicine today, including telehealth, medical imaging, and preventing mental and physical diseases, conditions, injuries, and ailments. Expanding the scope of the

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practice of medicine beyond merely treating disease will not only assist licensee enforcement moving forward, by providing tangible grounds for evaluating physician compliance with the licensure laws, but will also enable RICO to better target and enjoin practices and behaviors as potential unlicensed activity.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



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SENATE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

Sen. Rosalyn Baker, Chair

Sen. Stanley Chang, Vice Chair

Date: February 19, 2020

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Place: Conference Room 229

From: Hawaii Medical Association

Elizabeth A. Ignacio, MD, Chair, HMA Legislative Committee

Christopher Flanders, DO, Executive Director

Re: SB 2424 Relating to the Practice of Medicine

Position: SUPPORT

The Hawaii Medical Association supports the continued refining of the definition of elements constituting the practice of medicine.

Thank you for allowing the Hawaii Medical Association to testify on this issue.

HMA OFFICERS

President – Michael Champion, MD President-Elect – Angela Pratt, MD Secretary – Thomas Kosasa, MD
Immediate Past President – Jerry Van Meter, MD Treasurer – Elizabeth A. Ignacio, MD
Executive Director – Christopher Flanders, DO