

## **Testimony of the Board of Acupuncture**

**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. 2544, RELATING TO ACUPUNCTURE**

Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

My name is Relley Araceley, and I am the Executive Officer of the Board of Acupuncture (Board). The Board supports the intent of and offers comments on this bill.

The purpose of this bill is to clarify and update the scope of practice and licensure requirements for acupuncture practitioners.

At its meeting on February 6, 2020, the Board discussed this bill and supports its intent. The Board greatly appreciates and recognizes that section 2 of this bill updates the declaration of necessity for regulation and control of the profession, and that section 3 proposes to update the definition of the practice of acupuncture, which was last updated in 1985. This updated language illustrates the growing acknowledgement of acupuncture as a legitimate medical treatment system. In addition, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services published a decision in January 2020 to cover acupuncture for chronic low back pain for Medicare beneficiaries as an alternative to prescription opioids.

Although this bill gives the Board greater flexibility to determine whether an applicant's educational requirements make the applicant eligible to take the licensing examination, the Board respectfully requests amending this bill to reinsert the current language of Hawaii Revised Statutes section 436E-5(d), which addresses foreign educational programs and which page 6, lines 9 to 20 of this bill deletes. The Board believes this language should remain intact, as it provides clarity and allows applicants to continue using those programs.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

JOSH GREEN  
LT. GOVERNOR

**STATE OF HAWAII  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

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CATHERINE P. AWAKUNI COLÓN  
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**Testimony of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs**

**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. 2544, RELATING TO ACUPUNCTURE**

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 section 3 of this bill.

The purpose of this bill is to clarify and update the scope of practice and licensure requirements for acupuncture practitioners.

This measure amends the definition of the practice of acupuncture by updating and expanding the terminology to accurately reflect the profession's modalities. Specifically, section 3 of the bill adds examinations, diagnoses, and treatments (on page 2, line 12) to the practitioner's practice and responsibilities, as well as moxibustion and cupping techniques (on page 2, line 15). Delineating specific conduct encompassed within the practice of acupuncture will not only aid RICO in its

enforcement responsibilities, but more importantly, will strengthen and modernize the acupuncture industry to better serve patients with various conditions.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



# **HAWAII ACUPUNCTURE ASSOCIATION**

A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION CHARTERED BY THE STATE OF HAWAII

P.O. Box 104, Kamuela, HI 9674

## **Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health**

February 19, 2020

Tuesday, 9:00 a.m. Room 229

### **Testimony in Support SB 2544**

Relating to Acupuncture

To the Honorable Chair, Rosalyn Baker and The Honorable Vice Chair, Stanley Chang, and Members of the Senate CPH Committee:

We, the Hawai'i Acupuncture Association Board of Directors, represent our members and colleagues, as well as our patients and citizens of Hawai'i in testifying today on measure SB2544.

We are testifying in SUPPORT of updating the Scope of Practice for the Acupuncture and Chinese/Oriental medical profession.

Education, training, research, biomedical training and terminology have all grown with the education and training for the profession of acupuncture over the past twenty years. For the profession to be understood and of use in clinics and hospitals in the State of Hawaii and in our country, the Scope of Practice needs to reflect this, and changes in educational standards and the training of licensees and new licensees should be coordinated with the Board of Acupuncture. This ensures patients that the profession is putting patient care first by integrating the ancient medical system with knowledge of evidence-based, evidence-informed medicine in language that is understandable and current.

Nationally accredited institutions of higher, graduate level education, are the current standards of training for Licensed Acupuncturists (Master's and Doctoral Level) in the United States. These are standards adopted by the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (ACAOM). The National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (NCCAOM), in accordance to ACAOM standards, provides examinations and verifications of competencies for graduates.

In order to provide for Hawaii's current and future medical and social needs, statutory updates must accurately reflect the Acupuncture and Chinese/Oriental Medicine industry's education and continue to meet current best standards of practice and care to treat and solve such issues with our modalities of acupuncture and traditional Chinese medicine. We want all fields of

professional providers of medical services to offer and use their specialties for the safest medical practices for all patients in the state of Hawaii.

Upon further discussion and collaboration with the Board of Acupuncture and members of our profession, we do have four further amendments we ask the committee to consider:

1. Section 436E-2 line 13 adds new language to clarify the practice of acupuncture follows:

This medical therapy includes examination, diagnosis, and treatment of a patient using the invasive procedure of piercing the skin by inserting needles into the patient. Acupuncture includes, but is not limited to, auricular therapy, scalp, dry needling acupuncture and others as described by the Board of Acupuncture. The practice of Acupuncture also includes non-invasive procedures such as acupressure, electrical, mechanical, thermal, and/or traditional therapeutic means.

2. Clarify the words “new licensure” in §436E-5 (b) so that it reads:

(b) Examinations and/or education requirements for new licensure shall be managed, verified, and administered by the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (NCCAOM) in accordance with standards adopted by the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (ACAOM), or their successor entities.

The purpose of this change is to clarify that current licensees will be able to renew their licenses based on prior requirements.

3. Clarify the language and grammar in section 436E-5(2) about internships so that it reads:

(2) One clinical year in a clinical internship program (not less than twelve months and not less than nine hundred hours) supervised by a licensed acupuncturist; provided that the nine hundred hours of the clinical internship program may be obtained from the an accredited institute or school awarding the certificate or diploma. ~~or may not be obtained under the supervision of a licensed acupuncturist not affiliated with an accredited institute or school.~~

4. Retain the portion for foreign applicants, within 436E-5(d), in lines 9-20 found on page 6 of SB2544.

This is so the foreign application process is reviewed by the Hawaii Board of Acupuncture.

We hope you will support SB 2544 with the stated amendments in helping the State of Hawaii provide the best and safest care for its citizens. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in SUPPORT of SB 2544 with the stated amendments.

We ask that the effective date for the changes to take effect be coordinated with the Board of Acupuncture.

Thank you,

Barbara Ota, DACM, DAc  
President, Hawai'i Acupuncture Association  
haamember@aol.com

Board of Directors

Barbara Ota, DACM, DAc, President  
Becky Jacobs, DACM, DAc, Vice-President  
Antonio Provencio, DACMc, LAc, Director  
Janet Boyd, DACMc, LAc, Director  
Denice Murphy, MSOM, LAc, Director  
Jeffrey Tice, DACM, LAc, Director  
Soraya Faris-Applegate, DACM, LAc, Director

Attachment: SB2544, Proposed SD1

PROPOSED S.B. NO.2544 SD1

RELATING TO ACUPUNCTURE

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that many statutes concerning the practice of acupuncture in the State have not been updated in over twenty years. To strengthen and modernize the acupuncture industry in the State to best serve patients with various conditions, existing law must be updated to accurately reflect the profession's modalities. Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to amend and update certain statutes concerning the practice of acupuncture.

SECTION 2. Section 436E-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

"~~[§436E-1]~~ **Declaration of necessity for regulation and control.** The legislature hereby finds and declares that the practice of acupuncture is a ~~[theory and method for]~~ medical treatment system supported by evidence-based medicine and evidence-informed practice. Acupuncture is used in the treatment of illness ~~[and]~~, disability, and ~~[for strengthening and invigorating the body]~~ the prevention of disease, and as such affects the public health, safety, and welfare, and therefore there is a necessity that individuals practicing acupuncture be subject to regulation and control."

SECTION 3. Section 436E-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending the definition of "practice of acupuncture" to read as follows:

"Practice of acupuncture" means stimulation of a certain acupuncture point or points or areas on the ~~[human body for the purpose of controlling and regulating]~~ patient to restore and regulate the flow and balance of energy ~~[in the body.]~~ and homeostasis in the patient. ~~The practice of acupuncture~~ This medical therapy includes [the] examination, diagnosis, and treatment of a patient using the invasive procedure of piercing the skin by the inserting needles into the patient. Acupuncture includes, but is not limited to, auricular therapy, scalp, dry needling acupuncture and others as described by the Board of Acupuncture. ~~of piercing the skin by inserting needles and point stimulation by the use of acupressure, electrical mechanical, thermal, moxibustion, cupping.~~ The practice of Acupuncture also includes non-invasive procedures such as acupressure, electrical, mechanical, thermal, and/or traditional therapeutic means."

SECTION 4. Section 436E-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

**"§436E-5 Qualifications for ~~[examination-]~~ licensure.** (a) No person shall be licensed to practice acupuncture unless the person has ~~[passed an examination and has]~~ been found to have the necessary qualifications as prescribed in the rules adopted by the board pursuant to chapter 91.



(b) Examinations and/or educational requirements for new licensure shall be managed, verified, and administered by the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine in accordance with standards adopted by the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine, or their successor entities.

~~[(b) Prior to September 1, 2000, and except as provided in subsection (c), before]~~ (c) Before any applicant shall be eligible for ~~[the examination,]~~ licensure, the applicant shall furnish satisfactory proof to the board that the applicant has received ~~[a total of not less than one thousand five hundred hours of]~~ education and training consisting of:

(1) A formal program in the science of acupuncture (traditional oriental medicine) at an institute or school approved by the board that:

- (A) Shall be for a period of hours or years not less than ~~[two academic years (not less than six hundred hours);]~~ standards acceptable by the board; and
- (B) Shall result in the award of a ~~[certificate or]~~ diploma; and

(2) One clinical year in a clinical internship program (not less than twelve months and not less than nine hundred hours) supervised by a licensed acupuncturist; provided that the

nine hundred hours of the clinical internship program may be obtained from ~~the~~ an accredited institute or school awarding the ~~[certificate or]~~ diploma. ~~[or] and may not~~ be obtained under the supervision of a licensed acupuncturist not affiliated with an accredited institute or school.

~~[(c) Students who started training prior to December 31, 1984, in a school approved by the board prior to December 31, 1984, and who complete their training by December 31, 1989, and who file an application with the board before September 1, 2000 shall:~~

~~(1) Not lose their rights of continued education, and earned or accumulated credits; and~~

~~(2) For the purposes of this chapter, meet requirements for examination and licensure as provided in chapter 436D and rules adopted by the board as they existed on December 31, 1984; provided that the school has not altered its program so as to lower the standards for completion of the program. These students may qualify for examination if they submit evidence of having completed:~~

~~(A) At least eighteen months (not less than five hundred seventy-six hours) of academic training; and~~

~~(B) At least six months (not less than four hundred eighty hours) of clinical training in the practice of acupuncture on human subjects under the supervision of a licensed acupuncturist.~~

~~(d) Notwithstanding subsections (b) and (c), effective September 1, 2000, before any applicant shall be eligible to take the licensing examination, the applicant shall furnish satisfactory proof to the board that the applicant has completed a formal acupuncture program and has received a total of at least two thousand, one hundred seventy five hours of academic and clinical training consisting of an academic program of at least one thousand, five hundred fifteen hours in the science of acupuncture (traditional oriental medicine) and a clinical training program of at least six hundred sixty hours under the supervision of a licensed acupuncturist, which shall result in the award of a certificate or diploma. For applicants who graduated from an institute, school, or college located in the United States or any territory under the jurisdiction of the United States, the institute, school, or college shall be accredited or recognized as a candidate for accreditation by any acupuncture or oriental medicine accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of Education. For applicants who graduated from a foreign institute, school, or college with a formal program in the science of acupuncture, the applicant, at the applicant's own expense, shall have the applicant's transcripts and curriculum evaluated by a board approved and designated professional evaluator who shall make a~~

determination whether the transcripts and curriculum are at least equivalent to that of the United States accredited acupuncture program, and that the foreign institute is licensed, approved, or accredited by the appropriate governmental authority or an agency recognized by a governmental authority in the respective foreign jurisdiction and whose curriculum is approved by the board.]"

SECTION 5. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.

INTRODUCED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

**Report Title:**

Acupuncture; Board of Acupuncture; Scope of Practice; Licensure

**Description:**

Clarifies and updates the scope of practice and licensure requirements for acupuncture practitioners.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*



# Institute of Clinical Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine

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## Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

February 19, 2020

Tuesday, 9:00 a.m. Room 229

### Testimony in Support SB 2544

Relating to Acupuncture

To the Honorable Chair, Rosalyn Baker and The Honorable Vice Chair, Stanley Chang, and Members of the Senate CPH Committee:

My Name is Dr. Wai Hoa Low, President/CEO, testifying on behalf of the Institute of Clinical Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (ICAOM). It has been over 20 years since our Acupuncture statutes have been updated. It is imperative that the State laws and rules governing our profession be up to par with the education and training standards set by our accreditation commissions. Though we are in **SUPPORT OF SB 2544**, we kindly ask the Committee for consideration on the following amendments to further clarify our Acupuncture statute. Please consider the following changes:

"§436E-5 **Qualifications for [~~examination.~~] licensure.**

(b)Examinations and educational requirements **for new licensure** shall be managed, verified, and administered by the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine in accordance with standards adopted by the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine, or their successor entities.

(2)One clinical year in a clinical internship program (not less than twelve months and not less than nine hundred hours) supervised by a licensed acupuncturist; provided that the nine hundred hours of the clinical internship program may be obtained from the institute or school awarding the [~~certificate or~~] diploma [~~or may be~~] **and shall be** obtained under the supervision of a licensed acupuncturist [~~not~~]affiliated with an **accredited** institute or school.

We also concur with the Acupuncture State Board and Hawaii Acupuncture Association testimonies. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Dr. Wai Hoa Low, DAOM, MBA, L.Ac.  
President/CEO of ICAOM



Dr. Joni Kroll, D.Ac.  
Mariya Gold, L.Ac.  
320 Uluniu Street Suite 2  
Kailua, Hawaii 96734  
808-262-4550  
855-594-5059 (fax)

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February 17, 2020

Hawaii State Legislature  
Consumer Protection Committee  
Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair  
Senator Stanley Change, Vice Chair

**RE: SUPPORT OF SB2544**

Dear Honorable Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Members of the Committee,

I have been a licensed acupuncturist in Hawaii for 31 years. I have been a very active member of my profession from past president of Hawaii Acupuncture Association (HAA), Co-Founder of the non-profit AcuPlan Hawaii, RICO advisor and four years on the Board of Acupuncture.

I am in full support of SB2544, with the amendments recommended by the Board of Acupuncture and HAA, which will bring our statute into alignment with current national standards in education and training as well as recognize the advancements in research and integration into medical systems that our profession has experienced over the past thirty years.

It also allows flexibility for our standards to adapt to changes in national standards by linking to standards established by the NCCAOM (National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine) and ACAOM (Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine.)

In order to provide for Hawaii's current and future medical and social needs, statutory updates must accurately reflect the AOM industry's education and continue to meet current best standards of practice and care for the safest medicine for all patients in the state of Hawaii.

Sincerely,

Dr. Joni Kroll, D.Ac., L.Ac  
Dipl Acup (NCCAOM)  
Dipl Acup Orthopedics (NBAO)



# AcuPlan Hawaii

Oriental Medicine...5000 years of quality healthcare

February 17, 2020

Dear Honorable Chair Senator Baker, Vice Chair Senator Chang and the rest of the CPH Committee,

We **SUPPORT the passage of SB2544** that will clarify the scope of practice for acupuncture.

Acuplan Hawaii is a professional organization dedicated to representing acupuncturists in the insurance industry. We feel updating the Hawaii scope of practice will allow our local acupuncture community to keep up with national standards as we progress into further integration with mainstream medicine. We must define our capabilities with regard to safe practices that include **examination, diagnosis and treatment** and maintain our standard of care. Skipping these vital foundations of our process hinders the proper and effective treatment of our patients.

Naming specific techniques such as **auricular, scalp and dry needling** further demonstrates the wide variety of styles and techniques used in the practice of acupuncture.

Acupuncture is a continually evolving profession that needs updated language and scope. As mainstream medicine discovers more and more of the capabilities of acupuncture techniques and applications the definition of acupuncture must be easy to understand and apply.

Acupuncture has grown in leaps and bounds in the world of pain management and insurance coverage. To keep up with major insurances such as the Veteran's Administration and Medicare Hawaii must have a robust regulation and understanding of acupuncture.

Thank you for hearing bill SB2544.

Respectfully,

Samantha Preis, L.Ac, Dipl.O.M.  
President, AcuPlan Hawaii

**SB-2544**

Submitted on: 2/17/2020 4:27:39 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/19/2020 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Laura Michele	Testifying for Hawaii Acupuncture Association	Support	No

Comments:

**Honorable Chair Senator Rosalyn H. Baker**

**Honorable Vice Chair Senator Stanley Chang**

**CPH, Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health Committee**

Blu Jade Acupuncture, Kapaa, HI Dr. Laura Michele DAOM, Lic Ac.4569 Kukui St.  
Kapaa, HI

Kalaheo Wellness Group, 2-2527 Kaumualiee Hwy Kalaheo, HI, Dr. Zachary Young DC

Hearing Date: February 19, 2020

at 9:00am

Position on SB 2544 and proposed SD1: SUPPORT

Dear Honorable Chair Senator Baker and Vice Chair Stanley Chang and CPH Members,

Aloha, I am Dr. Laura Michele, a practicing Hawaii Licensed Acupuncturist for the last 14 years on the island of Kauai, and Dr. Zachary Young, DC at Kalaheo Wellness



integrative practice, we are both testifying today on measure SB2544 and we are in SUPPORT OF SB2544 with the amendments as stated by the Hawaii Acupuncture Association and the Hawaii Board of Acupuncture.

The current Scope of Practice is more than 20 years out of date and an updated current version that reflects how Licensed Acupuncturists are educated and trained can only help our citizens of Hawaii and their health care concerns. There is much research out there where the limited education of medical providers (not trained more than a couple weekends in acupuncture) that create pneumothorax and tissue injury including infection. This evidence has already been submitted through the HAA. Education and experience is vital to patient's safety.

I SUPPORT SB2544 and the proposed SD1 that includes the amendments as stated by the Hawaii Acupuncture Association and the Hawaii Board of Acupuncture.

Thank you for allowing me to testify,

Dr. Laura Michele, DAOM, HI Lic Ac..

Dr. Zachary Young, DC HI Lic Chiropractor

**SB-2544**

Submitted on: 2/17/2020 12:56:26 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/19/2020 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melissa L Yee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To the Honorable Rosalyn Baker of the Senate Consumer Protection and Health Committee and committee members,

My name is Dr. Melissa Yee and I have been licensed in the State of Hawaii since 1996. My patients have benefited greatly through my practice of acupuncture and Oriental Medicine and either choose to be treated exclusively with this modality or in combination with allopathic medicine. Acupuncture has finally been accepted in mainstream medicine as a valuable contribution to the wellbeing and health maintenance of patients. I look forward to the day when hospital systems and medical doctors and clinics refer more patients to acupuncturists to assist in cases where western medicine has been unable to make headway.

I strongly support the amendments to SB2544 SD1 and request that this bill be passed out of committee. As the cost of health care continues to rise, patients need to have other means of maintaining health and recovering from disease, without the side effects of pharmaceutical drugs and invasive procedures.

Thank you for your consideration.

Aloha,

Dr. Melissa L. Yee

February 17, 2020

**SB-2544**

Submitted on: 2/17/2020 3:44:52 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/19/2020 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lynn Allen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Honorable Chair Senator Baker and Vice Chair Chang and CPH Members,

My name is Lynn Allen. I am a licensed acupunctutist in Hawaii and have practiced here for 15 years. I am in SUPPORT of SB 2544 with the amendments as put forward by the Hawaii Acupuncture Association and the Hawaii Board of Acupuncture. After passing a Clean Needle Technique exam, Licensed Acupuncturists are trained for years on the proper insertion technique, including angle and depth of insertion, for each point. This time and training are critical not only for upholding the standards for the profession and ANYONE who practices needle insertion but also for the safety of each patient.

Thank you for allowing my to testify in SUPPORT of SB 2544and the associated amendments in SD1.

Lynn Allen, PhD, LAc

**SB-2544**

Submitted on: 2/17/2020 4:04:45 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/19/2020 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lyna Morimoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am fully in favor of updating our scope of practice to clarify the uniqueness of what acupuncture is all about and the amount of time and study necessary to achieve even the most basic level of competency.

**SB-2544**

Submitted on: 2/17/2020 3:47:01 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/19/2020 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sue Neyens	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

The current scope of practice is more than 20 years out of date. For reason of safety and continuity, it is imperative to regulate those practicing acupuncture and ensure they are properly educated, vetted and qualified.

**Honorable Chair Senator Rosalyn H. Baker**

**Honorable Vice Chair Senator Stanley Chang**

**CPH, Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health Committee**

Denice Murphy, LAc, DiplAc, MSOM  
Director, Hawaii Acupuncture Association  
Malama i ka Ola Holistic Health Care Center  
76-5914 Mamalahoa Hwy.  
Holualoa, Hawaii 96725

Hearing Date: February 19, 2020 at 9:00am

Position on SB 2544 and proposed SD1: SUPPORT

Dear Honorable Chair Senator Baker and Vice Chair Stanley Chang and CPH Members,

My name is Denice Murphy, and I've been practicing as a Licensed, nationally board certified Diplomate in Acupuncture (NCCAOM) in Hawaii for over 28 years. I have also taught Traditional Oriental Medical curriculum at the Traditional Chinese Medical College of Hawaii for over 5 years during this time. Currently, I have a busy private practice and holistic clinic here in Kona, on the big island of Hawaii.

I am testifying today on measure SB2544 and I am in SUPPORT OF SB2544 with the amendments as stated by the Hawaii Acupuncture Association and the Hawaii Board of Acupuncture.

Considering the many changes, additions, updated & expanded curriculum, and of course, additional hours required for Acupuncturist's licensure in Hawaii, the current descriptive language doesn't adequately describe the current learning requirements or plethora of methods and techniques taught and learned in the educational body of training used today.

I urge you to consider the importance of updating the verbiage of our profession's licensure, describing real time training that is actually required for licensure and practice. I SUPPORT SB2544 and the proposed SD1 that includes the amendments as stated by the Hawaii Acupuncture Association and the Hawaii Board of Acupuncture.

Thank you for allowing me to testify,

Denice Murphy, LAc, DiplAc, MSOM  
808.937.8008

**LIBERATA J. ORALLO, DACMc, LAc**  
[ljorallo@gmail.com](mailto:ljorallo@gmail.com)

**Submitting**  
**Testimony Supporting SB 2544**  
Relating to Acupuncture

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

To the Honorable Chair, Rosalyn Baker and The Honorable Vice Chair, Stanley Chang, and Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health:

My name is Liberata J. Orallo and I am a Licensed Acupuncturist in private practice and a Clinic Supervisor for interns from the Institute Of Clinical Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (ICAOM) at the Acupuncture Clinic of the Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific.

I stand in support of SB 2544 which amends Hawaii Revised Statutes 436E, Acupuncture Practitioners. Our current statute is in dire need of being updated to reflect our profession's graduate level education and training as set forth by the nationally accredited commissions. Our standards of practice and current modalities of care must also be addressed.

Be that as it may, the Hawaii Acupuncture Association (HAA) in collaboration with the Hawaii State Board of Acupuncture (BOA) have worked tirelessly to further clarify those parameters in the statutes. Therefore, I fully support the passage of SB 2544 with the amendments proposed by HAA and the State BOA.

What is paramount in this measure is ensuring that the health, safety and welfare of the public has been met. The public deserves no less than competent practitioners.

I kindly ask the Committee for their consideration on the amendments made to SB 2544 and support its passage with the proposed SD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

**Honorable Chair Senator Rosalyn H. Baker**  
**Honorable Vice Chair Senator Stanley Chang**  
**CPH, Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health Committee**

Janet H Boyd  
PO Box 977 Koloa, HI 96756

Hearing Date: February 19, 2020 at 9:00am

Position on SB 2544 and proposed SD1: SUPPORT

Dear Honorable Chair Senator Baker and Vice Chair Stanley Chang and CPH Members,

I am a Licensed acupuncturist, and a supporter of Acupuncture and Chinese/Oriental medicine. I am testifying today on measure SB2544 and I am in SUPPORT OF SB2544 with the amendments as stated by the Hawaii Acupuncture Association and the Hawaii Board of Acupuncture.

The current Scope of Practice is more than 20 years out of date and an updated current version that reflects how Licensed Acupuncturists are educated and trained can only help our citizens of Hawaii and their health care concerns. WHAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SAY

I SUPPORT SB2544 and the proposed SD1 that includes the amendments as stated by the Hawaii Acupuncture Association and the Hawaii Board of Acupuncture.

Thank you for allowing me to testify,

Janet Boyd L. Ac.



**SB-2544**

Submitted on: 2/18/2020 8:30:54 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/19/2020 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Becky Jacobs	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Honorable Chair Senator Rosalyn H. Baker

Honorable Vice Chair Senator Stanley Chang

Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health Committee

Dr. Becky Jacobs DAc., DACM

PO Box 44372, Kamuela, Hawaii 96743

Hearing Date: February 19, 2020 at 9:00am

Position on SB 2544 and proposed SD1: SUPPORT

Dear Honorable Chair Senator Baker, Vice Chair Stanley Chang and Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health Committee Members,

My name is Dr. Becky Jacobs. I'm a Doctor of Acupuncture & Chinese Medicine and a Licensed Acupuncturist in Hawaii. I SUPPORT SB2544 with the amendments as stated by the Hawaii Acupuncture Association and the Hawaii Board of Acupuncture.

The existing acupuncture scope of practice in Hawaii needs to be updated. It is outdated and does not reflect the latest educational and clinical training standards for Licensed Acupuncturists. An updated Scope of Practice along with the Board of Acupuncture's proposed modifications to the Rules and Regulations will benefit the health and safety of the citizens of Hawaii by requiring licensed acupuncturists in Hawaii to meet the most current requirements for licensure and continuing education.

Your vote in support of SB2544 will assist the acupuncture profession in Hawaii to maintain the most current standards of education and training. I SUPPORT SB2544 and the proposed SD1 that includes the amendments as stated by the Hawaii Acupuncture Association and the Hawaii Board of Acupuncture.

Thank you for allowing me to testify,

Dr. Becky Jacobs, DAc., DACM

Vice President, Hawaii Acupuncture Association

**SB-2544**

Submitted on: 2/18/2020 8:42:26 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/19/2020 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mariya Gold	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I have been an acupuncturist in Kailua since 2011. I support the suggested changes to the scope of practice of acupuncture in Hawaii with SB2544.

Mahalo for your support of this bill.

**SB-2544**

Submitted on: 2/18/2020 8:42:53 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/19/2020 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Camille	Testifying for Institute of Clinical Acupuncture and Oriental Med	Support	No

Comments:

**Honorable Chair Senator Rosalyn H. Baker**

**Honorable Vice Chair Senator Stanley Chang**

**CPH, Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health Committee**

**Camille Zapanta**

**American Society of Acupuncturists**

**Institute of Clinical Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine**

**100 N Beretania St # 203B, Honolulu, HI 96817**

**Hearing Date: February 19, 2020 at**

**9:00am**

**Position on SB 2544 and proposed SD1: SUPPORT**

**Dear Honorable Chair Senator Baker and Vice Chair Stanley Chang and CPH Members,**

**My name is Camille Zapanta, student of the Institute of Clinical Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine and supporter of Acupuncture and Chinese/Oriental Medicine. I am testifying today on measure SB2544 and I am in SUPPORT OF SB2544 with the amendments as stated by the Hawaii Acupuncture Association and the Hawaii Board of Acupuncture.**

**The proposed amendments have been designed to maintain the integrity of medicine, and will help to further integrate the practice of Chinese/Oriental Medicine with that of Western Medicine. In the end, it is the citizens of Hawaii who will be affected most by the future of this bill. By supporting SB 2544 and proposed SD1, future Licensed Acupuncturists will receive the necessary education and training to provide optimal care for their patients and improve healthcare in the state of Hawaii.**

**To confirm, I SUPPORT SB2544 and the proposed SD1 that includes the amendments as stated by the Hawaii Acupuncture Association and the Hawaii Board of Acupuncture.**

**Thank you for allowing me to testify,**

**Camille Zapanta**