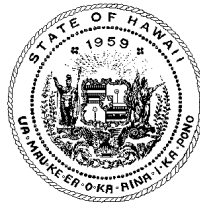


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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No. _____

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 2919
RELATING TO THE ELECTRONIC PRESCRIPTION ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM.**

by
Nolan P. Espinda, Director

Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

Monday, February 10, 2020; 9:30 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

Chairs Baker and Nishihara, Vice Chairs Chang and Wakai, and Members of
the Committees:

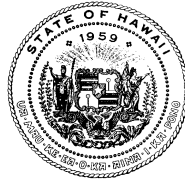
The Department of Public Safety (PSD) supports Senate Bill (SB) 2919, which proposes to amend section 329-101(b) and (d) of the Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS), to require that the dispensing of a pharmacist-prescribed opioid antagonists be reported to the State's Electronic Prescription Accountability System (EPAS), more commonly known as the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP). This measure aligns with the goals of the Hawaii Opioid Initiative.

In 2019, the Legislature passed Act 255, which allows pharmacists to issue prescriptions for opioid-antagonists, thereby increasing access to these lifesaving drugs. SB 2919 would require pharmacists to report opioid antagonist prescriptions to the PDMP using procedures that are very familiar to them. Such a reporting requirement would not substantially add to a

Testimony on SB 2919
Senate Committee on Commerce,
Consumer Protection, and Health
Senate Committee on Public Safety,
Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs
February 10, 2020
Page 2

pharmacist's workload and would allow State Department of Health (DOH) epidemiologists, who already have access to the PDMP, to efficiently measure the effectiveness of Act 255. This measure would provide DOH with additional data useful in preventing opioid overdose.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on SB 2919.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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**Testimony in SUPPORT of S.B. 2919
RELATING TO THE ELECTRONIC PRESCRIPTION ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM**

SENATOR ROSALYN BAKER, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

SENATOR CLARENCE K. NISHIHARA, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS

Hearing Date: February 10, 2020

Room Number: 229

1 **Department Position:** The Department of Health (Department) supports this measure.

2 **Department Testimony:** The subject matter of this measure intersects with the scope of the
3 Department's Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) whose statutory mandate is to assure a
4 comprehensive statewide behavioral health care system by leveraging and coordinating public,
5 private and community resources. Through the BHA, the Department is committed to carrying
6 out this mandate by reducing silos, ensuring behavioral health care is readily accessible, and
7 person-centered. The BHA's Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division (ADAD) provides the following
8 testimony on behalf of the Department.

9 The Department supports this initiative by the Department of Public Safety (PSD) to use its
10 electronic prescription accountability system (EPAS) as a centralized repository for reporting
11 opioid antagonist dispensing by pharmacists. Presently, efforts to track dispensing and
12 distribution of opioid antagonists such as naloxone are decentralized. Optimization of the EPAS
13 through additional software enhancements and personnel support is also one of the recent
14 objectives of the Hawaii Opioid Initiative on data-informed decision making. The Department
15 defers to the PSD on implementation benchmarks such as identifying which opioid antagonists to
16 track in the future, and coordinating any system enhancements to the EPAS.

- 1 ADAD is also working closely with PSD's Narcotics Enforcement Division to support the
- 2 enhancement of the EPAS to better facilitate opioid antagonist dispensing by pharmacists, as
- 3 well as provide for prescriber education on how to use the system.

- 4 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Testimony of the Board of Pharmacy

**Before the
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs
and
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health**

**Monday, February 10, 2020
9:30 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229**

**On the following measure:
S.B. 2919, RELATING TO THE ELECTRONIC PRESCRIPTION
ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM**

Chair Nishihara, Chair Baker, and Members of the Committees:

My name is Lee Ann Teshima, and I am the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy (Board). The Board will review this bill at its next publicly scheduled meeting on February 13, 2020.

The purpose of this bill is to amend Hawaii Revised Statutes section 329-101(b) and (d) to require that the dispensing of a pharmacist-prescribed opioid antagonist be reported to the State's Electronic Prescription Accountability System.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

LATE

SB-2919

Submitted on: 2/9/2020 9:13:33 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2020 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Patrick Uyemoto	Testifying for Hawaii Opioid Initiative Workgroup 5: Pharmacy Based Interventions	Support	No

Comments:

SB2919 – RELATING TO THE ELECTRONIC PRESCRIPTION ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM

To the Honorable: Senator Rosalyn Baker, Senator Clarence Nishihara, and Members of the respective Committees

The Hawaii Opioid Initiative Workgroup 5: Pharmacy Based Interventions strongly supports SB2919. We are very grateful to the legislature for passing SB2247 CD1 in 2018. With the signing of Act 154, pharmacist are now able to prescribe and dispense an opioid antagonist (naloxone) to individuals who are at risk for an opioid overdose.

Our next goal was to figure out how we could track pharmacist prescribed naloxone. After much discussion and collaboration with chain and independent pharmacies, it was decided that tracking pharmacist prescribed naloxone at the pharmacy level through voluntary reporting would be incomplete and a strain on the pharmacy workflow. Upon further research we learned that other states have utilized their electronic prescription accountability system (EPAS) to track naloxone. Prescription tracking through the EPAS is done on the backend with little to no impact on the pharmacies or their workflow so we consider it a very efficient and more complete tracking system. We humbly ask the legislature to support SB2919 so that we are able to track the utilization and success of pharmacist prescribed naloxone and so that we can continue to help the Hawaii Opioid Initiative in making data-informed decisions.