

House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce
Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johanson
Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa

Hawaii Acupuncture Association

Board of Directors and Members

haamember@aol.com

Hearing Date: Tuesday, February 15, 2022, 2:00pm

Via Videoconference/online testimony

Position on HD1679, HD1: SUPPORT

Dear Honorable Chair Representative Johanson, Honorable Vice Chair Representative Kitagawa, and Honorable Members of Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce,

We, the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Acupuncture Association, represent our members and colleagues, as well as our patients and citizens of Hawaii, in testifying today in support of measure HD 1679, HD1.

Regulated medical professions require safety of the public and access to care to be of primary importance. Acupuncture has been one of the fastest growing segments in American healthcare due to increased access for the public via medical insurance and Medicare inclusion, as well as its demand as the primary alternative to opioid prescriptions and other medical conditions. The increase in scientific data has verified acupuncture medicine's efficacy in a range of health conditions. Simultaneously with increasing demand and evidence in efficacy, the educational, certification and continuing education standards have improved nationally. Since changes over the last twenty years have not been made to the Hawaii acupuncture medicine scope of practice, the statute must be updated now to represent the current state.

We want our profession to be able to serve the citizens in Hawaii safely and knowledgably. We want to integrate in hospitals, rehabilitation centers, nursing homes, hospice, and other care settings to provide the highest standard of care. As we integrate acupuncture medicine with allopathic medicine and within the health care delivery system in Hawaii, we want patients to be assured of evidence-based, evidence-informed medicine that is understandable and current.

To provide Hawaii's current and future medical and social needs, statutory updates must accurately reflect the standards of practice for our industry. Here are a few highlights from HB1679, HD1 that reflect this:

- Legacy exemptions are defined

- Expand and clarify upon the concepts of the two existing license designations: LAc, DAc in line with national trends
- Simplify and rename application for licensure to eliminate outdated requirements while implementing current national standards for education and national board certification, and continuing education
- New definitions aligned with current medical terminology, education, training, and skills practiced by acupuncturists, while maintaining and preserving the traditions of this complete medical system
- Reciprocity inclusive of applicants who have maintained licensure and certifications in other jurisdictions wanting to be licensed in the state of Hawaii

We ask for your support for HB 1679, HD 1 to provide the State of Hawaii the best and safest health care for its citizens. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in SUPPORT of HB 1679, HD1.

Respectfully,

Barbara Ota, DACM, DAc
President, Hawaii Acupuncture Association

Jeffrey A. Tice, DACM, DAc
Vice President, Hawaii Acupuncture Association



AcuPlan Hawaii

Oriental Medicine...5000 years of quality healthcare

February 12, 2022

From: Samantha Preis, L.Ac., Dipl. O.M.
President, Acuplan Hawaii
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windwardqi@gmail.com
(808) 247-9800

RE: Support of HB1679 Acupuncture Scope of Practice Update

To the Honorable Chair Representative Johnson, Vice Chair Representative Kitagawa, and members Consumer Protection and Commerce Committee,

I am writing to you on behalf of Acuplan Hawaii, an organization of over 50 acupuncturists in Hawaii that seek to promote the professional status of acupuncture by connecting with medical professionals and increasing availability of acupuncture through insurance coverage. We contract as exclusive providers for University Health Alliance (UHA) and Hawaii Medical Assurance Association (HMAA) and Hawaii-Western Management Group (HWMG). **We are in strong support of HB1679.**

The profession of acupuncture is evolving as we now have both Master's and Doctorate degrees. We must evolve along with it. Updating the scope of practice will allow acupuncturists to practice in Hawaii to our fullest potential and bring Hawaii up to the national standards of competency and safety. **It will better protect the public against unlicensed and unqualified individuals who may pose a danger to public safety by practicing without a license.** And as more insurances cover acupuncture, the language in our scope of practice becomes important in determining coverage and helps to ensure proper treatment including evaluation and treatment.

Hawaii Acupuncture Association directors have made efforts to consult with the members of the various segments of the acupuncture community in Hawaii on the wording and crafting of these changes. We have all lent our support to this update and hope it will pass this legislative session to elevate us all.

Respectfully,

Samantha Preis, L.Ac., Dipl. O.M.

Testimony of the Board of Acupuncture

Before the
House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce
Tuesday, February 15, 2022
2:00 p.m.
Via Videoconference

On the following measure:
H.B. 1679, H.D. 1, RELATING TO ACUPUNCTURE

Chair Johanson and Members of the Committee:

My name is Risé Doi, and I am the Executive Officer of the Board of Acupuncture (Board). The Board supports this bill.

The purpose of this bill is to make comprehensive updates to Hawaii Revised Statutes chapter 436E, regarding acupuncture practitioners, to reflect modernized scopes of practice, titles, and licensing and renewal requirements, including thirty hours of continuing education per licensing biennium.

The Board supports this measure because it modernizes the statutes to align with the current professional standards and activities provided by licensed acupuncturists.

In consultation with the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs' Professional and Vocational Licensing Division (Division), the Board requests the following amendments to section 10 of the bill:

(b) Beginning with the renewal for the licensing biennium commencing July 1, 2025, and every biennial renewal thereafter, all licensees shall be in compliance with continuing education requirements, as approved by the board, by obtaining at least thirty credit hours, which shall include at least two credit hours of ethics and at least two credit hours of safety. The board shall adopt rules relating to the requirements and standards that continuing education programs shall meet to obtain recognition and approval from the board.

(c) To determine compliance with the continuing education requirement under subsection (b), the board may conduct a random audit of licensees continuing education documentation. A licensee selected for audit shall be notified by the board. Within sixty

days of notification, the licensee shall provide the board documentation to verify compliance with the continuing education requirements.

(d) Licensees shall hold a current and valid cardiopulmonary resuscitation certification."

The requested amendments will allow the Board to: (1) provide ample notice to affected licensees of the CE requirement and time for licensees to meet the CE requirement prior to license renewal; (2) promulgate rules to define the parameters of the CE courses; and (3) conduct a random audit for compliance of the CE requirement.

Lastly, the Board seeks clarification regarding the amendments in section 9, powers and duties of the board. The Board notes that the additional enumerated language included in numbers (9) and (10) go beyond the typical language associated with this section. The Board believes that numbers (9) and (10) should be addressed in either a new section of the statutory chapter and/or the Board's administrative rules.

If it is the Committee's intent to create a provision to address licensure by reciprocity, then the Board requests that the following amendments be made to the bill:

"§436E- Reciprocity. (a) The board may issue a license by reciprocity to an acupuncturist if:

(1) The applicant:

- (A) Files an application and pays fees as prescribed by the board;
- (B) Holds a current, unencumbered, active license in a U.S. state or territory that requires qualifications equivalent to or greater than the qualifications for licensure in this State as specified in section 436E-A; and
- (C) Hold a current certification with the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine, or its successor entity.

(b) For applicants who graduated prior to September 1, 2000, the board may issue a license by reciprocity to an acupuncturist if:

(1) The applicant:

- (A) Files an application and pays fees as prescribed by the board;

- (B) Holds a current, unencumbered, active license in a U.S. state or territory; and
- (C) Hold a current certification with the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine, or its successor entity. "

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



Institute of Clinical Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine

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Governing Board

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COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE

Rep. Aaron Ling Johanson, Chair
Rep. Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair

February 15, 2022

Testimony Supporting HB 1679 HD1

Relating to Acupuncture

Dear Honorable Chair, Aaron Ling Johanson
and The Honorable Vice Chair, Lisa Kitagawa
and Members of the House CPC Committee:

My Name is Dr. Wai Hoa Low, President/CEO, testifying on behalf of
the Institute of Clinical Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (ICAOM).

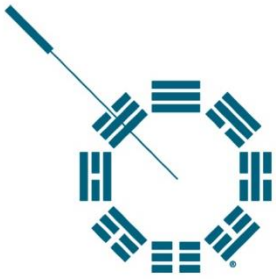
We are writing in **Support of HB 1679 HD1** that would make
comprehensive updates to chapter 436E, Hawaii Revised Statutes,
regarding acupuncture practitioners to reflect modernized scopes of
practice, titles, and licensing and renewal requirements, including thirty
hours of continuing education per licensing biennium.

Hawaii's consumers and students will appreciate the benefits and
protection from this bill that revitalizes HRS 436E which has not been
updated for over 20 years. According to World Health Organization
(WHO), Acupuncture treats numerous disorders. Our curriculum
includes both Western and Eastern internal medicine classes. Current
Acupuncture research studies at the National Institutes of Health (NIH)
and worldwide universities confirm the benefits of Acupuncture in
treating not only pain, but also internal disorders. The Acupuncture
profession is tranquil, collaborative, and seeks harmony with other
healthcare providers.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Respectfully,

Dr. Wai Hoa Low, President
DAOM, MBA, D.Ac.



AMERICAN ACADEMY OF MEDICAL ACUPUNCTURE®

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12 February 2022

House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce
Representative Aaron Johanson, Chair
Representative Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair

Re: HI HB1679 HD1
Position: OPPOSE

Dear Senator Johanson and Senator Kitagawa,

We are members of the American Academy of Medical Acupuncture (AAMA) and representatives of the organization's Legislative Committee. The AAMA opposes HB1679 for the following reasons.

1. In Section 4, subsection 1, the definitions of "acupuncture medicine" and "practice of acupuncture medicine" are extremely broad and could encompass any number of medical modalities.
2. In Section 4 the definition of "practice of advanced acupuncture medicine" includes "biomedical internal medicine training." To suggest that the time and experience required for the professional practice of internal medicine is commensurate with that required for "acupuncture medicine" is not based in fact.

An internal medicine physician, or internist, must complete 11 years of post-secondary education to become board eligible. The second biennium of medical school alone encompasses 4000 hours of clinical work. This is followed by a minimum of three years of training in an internal medicine residency program. A review of the doctoral program at the Institute of Clinical Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine shows a total of 3450 hours, a fraction of which pertains to the study of internal medicine subjects.

The proposal by the Hawaii Acupuncture Association that a health care provider with an advanced degree in "acupuncture medicine" is equipped to assume the role of an internist is clearly out of sync with the fundamental facts regarding the education, training, and experience of these practitioners.

3. Section 436E-3 is worded such that only licensed acupuncturists or licensed doctors of acupuncture may practice “acupuncture medicine.” This usurpation of practice areas to the exclusion of other health care professionals lacks any rational basis and runs contrary to public policy which favors maximal accessibility of health care services for the public.

The AAMA supports the HHH committee’s change in Section 4 to the title “doctor” for acupuncture practitioners in place of “physician” in the original bill.

While changes are being made to Hawaii’s acupuncture statutes, we request that you repeal Section 436E-3.5 which prohibits physicians and osteopaths from practicing acupuncture unless licensed as LAc’s. The majority of US medical boards accept acupuncture within the physician’s scope of practice or with the qualification of completion of a 200- or 300-hour program in medical acupuncture. The time has come for Hawaii’s unnecessary restriction on physicians to end.

We also recommend the formation of an exploratory committee of members from the Hawaii Acupuncture Association and the Hawaii Medical Association be convened to promote mutual understanding and cooperation between the organizations.

Respectfully,
Donna Pittman, MD
Gavin Elliott, MD
James Bromberg, MD

House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce
Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johanson
Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa

Denice Murphy, L.Ac, Dipl.Ac, MSOM
Malama I ke Ola Holistic Health Center
denicemurphy@mac.com

Hearing Date: February 15, 2022
Time: 2:00
Via Videoconference/online testimony
Position on HB1679, HD1: SUPPORT

Dear Honorable Chair Representative Johanson, Honorable Vice Chair Representative Kitagawa, and Committee Members,

I am a licensed Acupuncture Practitioner (L.Ac) for over 30 years, and an active member (Director), of the Hawaii Acupuncture Association. I reside in Kailua Kona and practice acupuncture medicine in Holualoa, on the Big Island of Hawaii. I am writing this testimony in SUPPORT of HB1679.

Regulated medical professions require safety of the public and access to care to be of primary importance. Acupuncture medicine has been one of the fastest growing segments in American healthcare and with this the profession has seen standardization of education, national certifications, and the formation of both Master and Doctoral degrees. Hawaii's existing statute, which hasn't been updated in over 20 years, has become outdated in its language, as well as deficient in its standards. The proposed Scope of Practice addresses these issues, while also improving the structure of the Bill for future updates. Below are the highlights:

- Expand and clarify upon the concepts of the two existing license designations (436E-3): LAc, DAC. in line with national trends.
- Simplify and rename application for licensure to eliminate outdated requirements while implementing current national standards for education and national board certification. Add continuing education requirements for license renewal.
- Legacy exemptions are defined.
- New definitions (436E-2) aligned with the current medical terminology, education, training and skills practiced by acupuncturists, while maintaining and preserving the traditions of this complete medical system.
- Expand and clarify upon the concepts of the two existing license designations (436E-3): LAc, DAC. in line with national trends

- Reciprocity inclusive of applicants who have maintained licensure and certifications in other jurisdictions wanting to be licensed in the state of Hawaii.

It is time for Hawaii, with its long history of acupuncture, along with the highest per capita Acupuncture Practitioners of any state, to integrate the profession into the modern medical establishment. I respectfully ask you to please support this HB 1679 HD1.

I extend to you and your esteemed colleagues our Aloha, and thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Denice Murphy, L.Ac, Dipl.Ac, MSOM

House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johanson

Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa

Sakiko Kobayashi

HAA

Spalacure@gmail.com

Hearing Date: February 15, 2022,

Time: 2:00 pm

Via Videoconference/online testimony

Position on HB1679, HD1: SUPPORT

Dear Honorable Chair Representative Johanson, Honorable Vice Chair Representative Kitagawa, and Committee Members,

I am a licensed Acupuncture Practitioner (LAc) and active member of the Hawaii Acupuncture Association. I reside in Honolulu and practice acupuncture medicine in Honolulu. I am writing this testimony in SUPPORT of HB1679 HD1.

Regulated medical professions require safety of the public and access to care to be of primary importance. Acupuncture medicine has been one of the fastest growing segments in American healthcare and with this the profession has seen standardization of education, national certifications, and the formation of both Master and Doctoral degrees. Hawaii's existing statute, which hasn't been updated in over 20 years, has become outdated in its language, as well as deficient in its standards. The proposed Scope of Practice addresses these issues, while also improving the structure of the Bill for future updates. Below are the highlights:

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- Legacy exemptions are defined.

- New definitions aligned with the current medical terminology, education, training and skills practiced by acupuncturists, while maintaining and preserving the traditions of this complete medical system.
- Expand and clarify upon the concepts of the two existing license designations: LAc, DAc. in line with national trends.
- Reciprocity inclusive of applicants who have maintained licensure and certifications in other jurisdictions wanting to be licensed in the state of Hawaii.

It is time for Hawaii, with its long history of acupuncture, along with the highest per capita Acupuncture Practitioners of any state, to integrate the profession into the modern medical establishment. I respectfully ask you to please support this HB1679 HD1.

I extend to you and your esteemed colleagues my Aloha. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,



Sakiko Kobayashi



Lifestyle
Medical Center

Medical Director: Elizabeth Chen Christenson, MD. LAc

**To: The Honorable House of Representatives/Hawaii State Legislature
Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce
RE: Comment for Acupuncture Legislation (HB1679)**

What an inspiring moment in acupuncture's history over thousands of years to be recognized at a legislative level in the US and particularly in Hawaii, with the highest acupuncturists density in the nation. It is both an honor and a challenge. My position on HB 1679 regarding the future status of acupuncturists in Hawaii comes from a deeply dedicated medical experience. Having been born in Taiwan and achieving a medical degree in Italy and licensing in allopathic medicine and acupuncture in the US, I have over 45+ years of cross cultural medical education and clinical and private practice experience in both allopathic medicine and TCM (Traditional Chinese Medicine). I am a physician member of:

- **AMA** (American Medical Association)
- **HMA** (Hawaii Medical Association)
- **AAMA** (American Academy of Medical Acupuncture)
- **HAA** (Hawaii Acupuncture Association)
- **AcuPlan Hawaii**
- **ICAOM Graduate** (Institute of Clinical Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine) in Hawaii
- **Associate Clinical Professor, John A Burns School of Medicine, Univ. of HI**

I hold great respect for all of these organizations and understand the valid concerns on both sides of the aisle. While there is clear merit in advancing the status of acupuncturists in Hawaii, I chose to offer a neutral commentary based on my observations of the bill's major requests. I reserve a final opinion as I have several concerns regarding the clarity of the semantics of the bill's narrative, that I believe need to be revisited and amended, including, but not limited to:

- **Broad-based use of terminology** related directly to allopathic medicine, yet, loosely translated to acupuncture without clarification
- **Omission of liability requirements** mandated to practicing physicians/doctors, such as medical malpractice insurance
- **Non-delineation of specific diagnostics, biomedical internal medicine training, advanced acupuncture techniques, etc...**
- **Lack of designating DAc graduate requirements for establishing title of "acupuncture medicine doctor"**

Acupuncture is a major branch of TCM, whose efficacy and safety has an impressive body of evidence-based clinical studies. TCM was endorsed in 2019 by the WHO (World Health Organization) to its 129 member nations as an acknowledged and credible healthcare system. The key point, however, is acupuncture is a branch of TCM, not the entire system. To be recognized as an official doctor of TCM requires extensive training in a multi-faceted educational program. Training in allopathic medicine is equally an intense educational investment of many years with variegated advanced curricula. To compare the training of these two doctoral programs with a certification or master's degree program in acupuncture is inequitable. Assuming the title of a physician or a medical doctor is not a qualification of entitlement.

In the history of China, where TCM originated, the rank of officials and professionals was designated by their hat designs for scholars, sages, judges, doctors, etc... In the western countries, an old saying is, "that person wears many hats." Some aspects of this bill appear to be an attempt to assume an elaborate allopathic status hat that may blind the vision of what is truly actual and factual. The question is why is it necessary to redefine an already esteemed healing system such as TCM in allopathic terms? Perhaps, it would be wiser to maintain the traditional identity of TCM, including acupuncture, raise the quality of education and credentialing and increase remuneration of insurance coverage to reflect the adjudicated increased status. It is important to integrate TCM's energetic principles and practices into the allopathic educational system. This way, both retain their individuality and integrity, while learning and progressing from the shared diversity of knowledge.

The legendary symbol in TCM of the Yin/Yang represents the sun and the moon within the same sky; the night and the day, a balanced duality in nature. They remain infinitely connected but unique unto themselves. The systems of TCM and allopathy remain distinctly different in their ideologies and technologies, including the more personalized approach to the individual in TCM as compared to the disease/treatment approach favored in allopathy. They are connected in a common quest for ultimate health and healing, yet, as different as night and day. They have much to learn from each other.

A quote from the Yellow Emperor's Inner Classic from 2500 years ago states:

"The law of Yin and Yang is the natural order of the universe, the foundation of all things, the mother of all changes, the root of life and death." Let us join forces and see better how to blend the law of the universe and the legislature of Hawaii in redefining an effective acupuncture legislation, rather than redefining acupuncture. Time to put the care back into healthcare.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Chen Christenson, MD, LAc
Medical Director, CHI Lifestyle Medical Center

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Website: www.ChiLifestyleMedicine.com

HB-1679-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 1:23:23 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/15/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Brandon Flewelling	Brandon Flewelling, L. Ac	Support	No

Comments:

House Committee on Consumer Protection and
Commerce

Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling
Johanson

Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa
Kitagawa

Brandon Flewelling

Brandon Flewelling, L.Ac

acuman81@gmail.com

Hearing Date: February 15, 2022,

Time: 2:00 pm

Via Videoconference/online testimony

Position on HB1679, HD1: SUPPORT

Dear Honorable Chair Representative Johanson,
Honorable Vice Chair Representative Kitagawa,
and Committee Members,

I am a licensed Acupuncture Practitioner (LAc)
and active member of the Hawaii Acupuncture
Association. I reside in Honolulu, HI and
practice acupuncture medicine in Kahala. I am
writing this testimony in SUPPORT of HB1679
HD1.

Regulated medical professions require safety of the public and access to care to be of primary importance. Acupuncture medicine has been one of the fastest growing segments in American healthcare and with this the profession has seen standardization of education, national certifications, and the formation of both Master and Doctoral degrees. Hawaii's existing statute, which hasn't been updated in over 20 years, has become outdated in its language, as well as deficient in its standards. The proposed Scope of Practice addresses these issues, while also improving the structure of the Bill for future updates. Below are the highlights:

- Simplify and rename application for licensure to eliminate outdated requirements while implementing current national standards for education, national board certification and continuing education requirements for license renewal.
- Legacy exemptions are defined.
- New definitions aligned with the current medical terminology, education, training and skills practiced by acupuncturists, while maintaining and preserving the traditions of this complete medical system.
- Expand and clarify upon the concepts of the two existing license designations: LAc, DAc. in line with national trends.
- Reciprocity inclusive of applicants who have maintained licensure and certifications in other jurisdictions wanting to be licensed in the state of Hawaii.

It is time for Hawaii, with its long history of acupuncture, along with the highest per capita Acupuncture Practitioners of any state, to integrate the profession into the modern medical

establishment. I respectfully ask you to please support this HB1679 HD1.

I extend to you and your esteemed colleagues my Aloha. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Brandon Flewelling, L.Ac

HB-1679-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 1:25:08 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/15/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Daleth R Pyzel	Mind Balance Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

Daleth Pyzel

Mind Balance Hawaii

dali@mindbalancehawaii.com

(808) 388-5757

Hearing Date: February 15, 2022,

Time: 2:00 pm

Via Videoconference/online testimony

Position on HB1679, HD1: SUPPORT

Dear Honorable Chair Representative Johanson, Honorable Vice Chair Representative Kitagawa, and Committee Members,

I am an acupuncture student at the Institute of Clinical Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine, currently enrolled in the Doctor of Acupuncture (DAc) with a Chinese Herbal Medicine Specialization

degree program. I reside in Haleiwa and will practice acupuncture medicine on the North Shore of Oahu. I am writing this testimony in SUPPORT of HB1679 HD1.

Regulated medical professions require the safety of the public and access to care to be of primary importance. Acupuncture medicine has been one of the fastest-growing segments in American healthcare and with this, the profession has seen standardization of education, national certifications, and the formation of both Master's and Doctoral degrees. Hawaii's existing statute, which hasn't been updated in over 20 years, has become outdated in its language, as well as deficient in its standards. The proposed Scope of Practice addresses these issues, while also improving the structure of the Bill for future updates. Below are the highlights:

Simplify and rename application for licensure to eliminate outdated requirements while implementing current national standards for education, national board certification and continuing education requirements for license renewal.

Legacy exemptions are defined.

New definitions aligned with the current medical terminology, education, training and skills practiced by acupuncturists, while maintaining and preserving the traditions of this complete medical system.

Expand and clarify upon the concepts of the two existing license designations: LAc, DAc. in line with national trends.

Reciprocity is inclusive of applicants who have maintained licensure and certifications in other jurisdictions wanting to be licensed in the state of Hawaii.

It is time for Hawaii, with its long history of acupuncture, along with the highest per capita Acupuncture Practitioners of any state, to integrate the profession into the modern medical establishment. I respectfully ask you to please support this HB1679 HD1.

I extend to you and your esteemed colleagues my Aloha. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Daleth Pyzel

HB-1679-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/13/2022 8:54:05 AM

Testimony for CPC on 2/15/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Grady Reaves	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johanson

Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa

Grady Reaves

wreaves123@gmail.com

Position on HB1679, HD1: SUPPORT

Dear Honorable Chair Representative Johanson, Honorable Vice Chair Representative Kitagawa, and Committee Members,

I am a licensed Acupuncture Practitioner (LAc) and active member of the Hawaii Acupuncture Association. I reside in Kihei, on Maui and practice acupuncture medicine in Kihei. . I am writing this testimony in SUPPORT of HB1679 HD1.

Regulated medical professions require safety of the public and access to care to be of primary importance. Acupuncture medicine has been one of the fastest growing segments in American healthcare and with this the profession has seen standardization of education, national certifications, and the formation of both Master and Doctoral degrees. Hawaii's existing statute, which hasn't been updated in over 20 years, has become outdated in its language, as well as deficient in its standards. The proposed Scope of Practice addresses these issues, while also improving the structure of the Bill for future updates. Below are the highlights:

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It is time for Hawaii, with its long history of acupuncture, along with the highest per capita Acupuncture Practitioners of any state, to integrate the profession into the modern medical establishment. I respectfully ask you to please support this HB1679 HD1.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

_____ Grady Whitfield Reaves _____

HB-1679-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 1:04:53 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/15/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Heather Block	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce
Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johanson
Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa

Heather Block
hblock.acu@gmail.com

Hearing Date: February 15, 2022,
Time: 2:00 pm
Via Videoconference/online testimony
Position on HB1679, HD1: SUPPORT

Aloha Honorable Chair Representative Johanson, Honorable Vice Chair Representative Kitagawa, and Committee Members,

I am a licensed Acupuncture Practitioner and active member of the Hawaii Acupuncture Association. I reside in Pahoia and practice acupuncture medicine there. I am writing this testimony in SUPPORT of HB1679 HD1.

Regulated medical professions require safety of the public and access to care to be of primary importance. Acupuncture medicine has been one of the fastest growing segments in American healthcare and with this, the profession has seen standardization of education, national certifications, and the formation of both Master and Doctoral degrees. Hawaii’s existing statute, which hasn’t been updated in over 20 years, has become outdated in its language, as well as deficient in its standards. The proposed Scope of Practice addresses these issues, while also improving the structure of the Bill for future updates. Below are the highlights:

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- Legacy exemptions are defined.
- New definitions aligned with the current medical terminology, education, training and skills practiced by acupuncturists, while maintaining and preserving the traditions of this complete medical system.

- Expand and clarify upon the concepts of the two existing license designations: LAc, DAc. in line with national trends.
- Reciprocity inclusive of applicants who have maintained licensure and certifications in other jurisdictions wanting to be licensed in the state of Hawaii.

It is time for Hawaii, with its long history of acupuncture, along with the highest per capita Acupuncture Practitioners of any state, to integrate the profession into the modern medical establishment. I respectfully ask you to please support this HB1679 HD1.

I extend to you and your esteemed colleagues my Aloha. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Heather Block, LAc

HB-1679-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/13/2022 9:12:57 AM

Testimony for CPC on 2/15/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Darby Sherman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johanson

Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa

Darby Sherman

Institute of Clinical Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine

darby.sherman@gmail.com (808) 765-9123

Hearing Date: February 15, 2022,

Time: 2:00 pm

Via Videoconference/online testimony

Position on HB1679, HD1: SUPPORT

Dear Honorable Chair Representative Johanson, Honorable Vice Chair Representative Kitagawa, and Committee Members,

I am a second year student at the Institute of Clinical Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine. I reside in Hilo, Hawaii on the Big Island where I study acupuncture through my school clinic. I am writing this testimony in SUPPORT of HB1679 HD1.

Regulated medical professions require safety of the public and access to care to be of primary importance. Acupuncture medicine has been one of the fastest growing segments in American healthcare and with this the profession has seen standardization of education, national certifications, and the formation of both Master and Doctoral degrees. Hawaii's existing statute, which hasn't been updated in over 20 years, has become outdated in its language, as well as deficient in its standards. The proposed Scope of Practice addresses

these issues, while also improving the structure of the Bill for future updates. Below are the highlights:

- Simplify and rename application for licensure to eliminate outdated requirements while implementing current national standards for education, national board certification and continuing education requirements for license renewal.
- Legacy exemptions are defined.
- New definitions aligned with the current medical terminology, education, training and skills practiced by acupuncturists, while maintaining and preserving the traditions of this complete medical system.
- Expand and clarify upon the concepts of the two existing license designations: LAc, DAc. in line with national trends.
- Reciprocity inclusive of applicants who have maintained licensure and certifications in other jurisdictions wanting to be licensed in the state of Hawaii.

It is time for Hawaii, with its long history of acupuncture, along with the highest per capita Acupuncture Practitioners of any state, to integrate the profession into the modern medical establishment. I respectfully ask you to please support this HB1679 HD1.

I extend to you and your esteemed colleagues my Aloha. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Darby Sherman

HB-1679-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/13/2022 11:58:18 AM

Testimony for CPC on 2/15/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Renata Lloyd	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johanson

Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa

Renata Lloyd

renatalloyd@gmail.com

Hearing Date: February 15, 2022,

Time: 2:00 pm

Via Videoconference/online testimony

Position on HB1679, HD1: SUPPORT

Dear Honorable Chair Representative Johanson, Honorable Vice Chair Representative Kitagawa, and Committee Members,

I am a student of acupuncture at the Institute for Clinical Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine. I live in Lahaina, Maui and I am writing this testimony in SUPPORT of HB1679 HD1.

Regulated medical professions require safety of the public and access to care to be of primary importance. Acupuncture medicine has been one of the fastest growing segments in American healthcare and with this the profession has seen standardization of education, national certifications, and the formation of both Master and Doctoral degrees. Hawaii's existing statute, which hasn't been updated in over 20 years, has become outdated in its language, as well as deficient in its standards. The proposed Scope of Practice addresses these issues, while also improving the structure of the Bill for future updates. Below are the highlights:

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- Legacy exemptions are defined.
- New definitions aligned with the current medical terminology, education, training and skills practiced by acupuncturists, while maintaining and preserving the traditions of this complete medical system.
- Expand and clarify upon the concepts of the two existing license designations: LAc, DAc. in line with national trends.
- Reciprocity inclusive of applicants who have maintained licensure and certifications in other jurisdictions wanting to be licensed in the state of Hawaii.

It is time for Hawaii, with its long history of acupuncture, along with the highest per capita Acupuncture Practitioners of any state, to integrate the profession into the modern medical establishment. I respectfully ask you to please support this HB1679 HD1.

I extend to you and your esteemed colleagues my Aloha. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Renata Lloyd



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

February 13, 2022

House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce
Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johanson
Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa

Hearing Date: February 15, 2022, 2:00pm

RE: SUPPORT OF HB1679

Dear Honorable Chair Representative Johanson, Honorable Vice Chair Representative Kitagawa, and Committee Members,

I have been a licensed acupuncturist in Hawaii for 32 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 six years on the Board of Acupuncture, serving as the Chair for the past two years.

I am in full support of HB1679 as it comprehensively updates and modernizes our statute, bringing it into alignment with current national standards in education and training as well as recognizing the advancements in research and integration into medical systems that our profession has experienced over the past thirty years.

I also fully support the addition of minimal Continuing Education Standards and find that 30 hours every two years is necessary, in line with national standards, and not a burden given how many courses can be taken online at very little cost.

To provide for Hawaii's current and future medical and social needs, statutory updates must accurately reflect the Acupuncture Medicine 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)
Chair, Hawaii Board of Acupuncture

House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johanson

Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa

Barbara Ota, DACM, DAc

Otab83@gmail.com

Hearing Date: February 15, 2022,

Time: 2:00 pm

Via Videoconference/online testimony

Position on HB1679, HD1: SUPPORT

Dear Honorable Chair Representative Johanson, Honorable Vice Chair Representative Kitagawa, and Committee Members,

I am Barbara Ota, a Doctor of Acupuncture and Chinese Medicine and licensed in the state of Hawaii as a DAc, Doctore of Acupuncture, and active member of the Hawaii Acupuncture Association. I reside on the Kohala Coast of the Big Island, and practice acupuncture medicine in the here in the state of Hawaii. I am writing this testimony in SUPPORT of HB1679 HD1.

Regulated medical professions require safety of the public and access to care to be of primary importance. Acupuncture medicine has been one of the fastest growing segments in American healthcare and with this the profession has seen standardization of education, national certifications, and the formation of both Master and Doctoral degrees. Hawaii's existing statute, which hasn't been updated in over 20 years, has become outdated in its language, as well as deficient in its standards. The proposed Scope of Practice addresses these issues, while also improving the structure of the Bill for future updates. Below are the highlights:

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- Legacy exemptions are defined.
- New definitions aligned with the current medical terminology, education, training and skills practiced by acupuncturists, while maintaining and preserving the traditions of this complete medical system.
- Expand and clarify upon the concepts of the two existing license designations: LAc, DAc. in line with national trends.
- Reciprocity inclusive of applicants who have maintained licensure and certifications in other jurisdictions wanting to be licensed in the state of Hawaii.

Providing the highest standards of care and safety in the healthcare delivery system for its citizens, is a goal that I think is reasonable and achievable. I respectfully ask you to please support this HB1679 HD1.

I extend to you and your esteemed colleagues my Aloha. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Barbara Ota, DACM, DAc

HB-1679-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/13/2022 5:12:06 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/15/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Lynn Allen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Acupuncture has been a Medical Practice for thousands of years. Traditional Chinese reached the Western world and has been integrated into our society. Requirements to practice this medicine, including continuing education units, scopes of practice, licensing, etc., must also evolve as the scope of this practice does. I am in support of HB 1679.

HB-1679-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/13/2022 6:36:05 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/15/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Courtney Wexler	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johanson

Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa

Courtney Wexler

courtneywexler@hotmail.com

Hearing Date: February 15, 2022,

Time: 2:00 pm

Via Videoconference/online testimony

Position on HB1679, HD1: SUPPORT

Dear Honorable Chair Representative Johanson, Honorable Vice Chair Representative Kitagawa, and Committee Members,

I am an Acupuncture Intern and I reside Honolulu, Hawaii and practice acupuncture medicine and go to school at ICAOM. I am writing this testimony in SUPPORT of HB1679 HD1.

Regulated medical professions require safety of the public and access to care to be of primary importance. Acupuncture medicine has been one of the fastest growing segments in American healthcare and with this the profession has seen standardization of education, national certifications, and the formation of both Master and Doctoral degrees. Hawaii's existing statute, which hasn't been updated in over 20 years, has become outdated in its language, as well as deficient in its standards. The proposed Scope of Practice addresses these issues, while also improving the structure of the Bill for future updates. Below are the highlights:

- Simplify and rename application for licensure to eliminate outdated requirements while implementing current national standards for education, national board certification and continuing education requirements for license renewal.

- Legacy exemptions are defined.
- New definitions aligned with the current medical terminology, education, training and skills practiced by acupuncturists, while maintaining and preserving the traditions of this complete medical system.
- Expand and clarify upon the concepts of the two existing license designations: LAc, DAc. in line with national trends.
- Reciprocity inclusive of applicants who have maintained licensure and certifications in other jurisdictions wanting to be licensed in the state of Hawaii.

It is time for Hawaii, with its long history of acupuncture, along with the highest per capita Acupuncture Practitioners of any state, to integrate the profession into the modern medical establishment. I respectfully ask you to please support this HB1679 HD1.

I extend to you and your esteemed colleagues my Aloha. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Courtney Wexler

HB-1679-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/13/2022 7:01:37 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/15/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Steven Rosenblatt, MD, PhD	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am a licensed and practicing medical doctor in the state of Hawaii. I am also national board certified in Acupuncture and also certified in Oriental medicine. I served six years as a commissioner on the national Accreditation Commission for Schools of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine.

I strongly support HB 1679 HD1.

This bill will not only strengthen the Acupuncture profession and bring it up to national standards, but will also serve to protect the citizens of the state of Hawaii by assuring high levels of professional medical care and adding important resources to the health care delivery system of the entire state.

HB-1679-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/13/2022 8:11:57 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/15/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Gloria Wong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I write in support of the Bill and in support of the acupuncture practitioners of Hawaii. I support the integration of this profession into the modern medical establishment and I respectfully ask you to support this HB1679 HD1.

Respectfully,

Gloria Wong

HB-1679-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/13/2022 9:32:25 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/15/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
jenica springer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johanson

Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa

Jenica Springer

jenicaegspringer@gmail.com

Hearing Date: February 15, 2022,

Time: 2:00 pm

Via Videoconference/online testimony

Position on HB1679, HD1: SUPPORT

Dear Honorable Chair Representative Johanson, Honorable Vice Chair Representative Kitagawa, and Committee Members,

I am a licensed Acupuncture Practitioner (LAc) and active member of the Hawaii Acupuncture Association. I reside [in__Kauai_____] and practice acupuncture medicine [in _ICAOM_____]. I am writing this testimony in SUPPORT of HB1679 HD1.

Regulated medical professions require safety of the public and access to care to be of primary importance. Acupuncture medicine has been one of the fastest growing segments in American healthcare and with this the profession has seen standardization of education, national certifications, and the formation of both Master and Doctoral degrees. Hawaii's

existing statute, which hasn't been updated in over 20 years, has become outdated in its language, as well as deficient in its standards. The proposed Scope of Practice addresses these issues, while also improving the structure of the Bill for future updates. Below are the highlights:

- Simplify and rename application for licensure to eliminate outdated requirements while implementing current national standards for education, national board certification and continuing education requirements for license renewal.
- Legacy exemptions are defined.
- New definitions aligned with the current medical terminology, education, training and skills practiced by acupuncturists, while maintaining and preserving the traditions of this complete medical system.
- Expand and clarify upon the concepts of the two existing license designations: LAc, DAc. in line with national trends.
- Reciprocity inclusive of applicants who have maintained licensure and certifications in other jurisdictions wanting to be licensed in the state of Hawaii.

It is time for Hawaii, with its long history of acupuncture, along with the highest per capita Acupuncture Practitioners of any state, to integrate the profession into the modern medical establishment. I respectfully ask you to please support this HB1679 HD1.

I extend to you and your esteemed colleagues my Aloha. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Jenica Springer



Liberata J. Orallo

DACM, Dipl. Ac (NCCAOM) DAc, LMT
444 Nahua Street Suite 1805 Honolulu, Hawaii 96815
ljorallo@gmail.com (808) 429-4000
Hawaii License Acu 666 NPI 1003406059

House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

February 15, 2022

Tuesday, 2:00 p.m. Via Videoconference (Written Testimony Only)

Testimony in Support of HB 1679 HD1

Relating to Acupuncture

To the Honorable Chair, Aaron Ling Johanson and The Honorable Vice Chair, Lisa Kitagawa and Members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce:

My name is Dr. Liberata J. Orallo, a licensed Doctor of Acupuncture in private practice in Honolulu, a Clinic Supervisor for Acupuncture Interns from the Institute of Clinical Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (ICAOM) at the Acupuncture Clinic of the Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific, a member of the Governing Board of ICAOM, and an active member of the Hawai'i Acupuncture Association (HAA).

I stand in support of HB 1679 HD1 which amends Hawaii Revised Statutes 436E, Acupuncture Practitioners. Our current statute is in dire need of being updated to not only reflect our profession's graduate level education and training in the formation of both Master and Doctoral degrees as set forth by the nationally accredited commissions, but also to designate licensing requirements to be in line with stringent national credentialing standards and implement continuing education for renewal. Our standards of practice and current modalities of care must also be addressed while still maintaining and preserving the traditions of our unique medical system.

The Hawai'i Acupuncture Association (HAA) and the Hawai'i State Board of Acupuncture (BOA) have worked tirelessly to clarify those parameters in the revision of HRS 436E. Hawai'i has the highest per capita of Acupuncture Practitioners of any State. 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 the passage HB 1679 HD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure and for your time and consideration.



DR. JAYNE

Jayne Tsuchiyama, D.Ac., D.A.O.M., Dipl. O.M.

Queen's Medical Center, 1301 Punchbowl, Honolulu, HI 96813
808-946-9400 jt@dr-jayne.com

Feb 14, 2022

House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, Honorable Chair Aaron Ling Johanson,
Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa

HB1679 Hearing Date: February 15, 2022 2PM

Position on HD1679 HD1: SUPPORT

Dear Honorable Chair Aaron Ling Johanson, Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa, and committee members,

I am a nationally board certified, licensed Acupuncture Practitioner (LAc) in Hawaii and New York and active member of the Hawaii Acupuncture Association. I also sit on the Board of Commissioners for the NCCAOM, the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine. I reside in Honolulu and practice acupuncture medicine at the Queen's Medical Center.

I have been practicing acupuncture medicine since 2004, focusing my efforts on the integration of western and eastern medicine within hospitals and research institutions. I have worked side by side with institutions such as the Queen's Medical Center, UH Cancer Research, MD Anderson, Susan G Komen Hawaii and Memorial Sloan Kettering. Working with academic and medical institutions requires stringent safety and credentialing standards, and is key to advancing healthcare integration - which is why I am writing this testimony in SUPPORT of: HD1679 HD1

Regulated medical professions require safety of the public and access to care to be of primary importance. Acupuncture medicine has been one of the fastest growing segments in American healthcare and with this the profession has seen standardization of education, national certifications, and the formation of both Master and Doctoral degrees. Hawaii's existing statute has not been updated in over 20 years and is outdated in its language, and deficient in its standards. The proposed Scope of Practice addresses these issues, while also improving the structure of the Bill for future updates.

- Legacy exemptions are defined.
- New definitions reflect current medical terminology, education, training and skills practiced by acupuncturists today.
- Simplify and rename application for licensure to eliminate outdated requirements while implementing current national standards for education, national board certification and continuing education requirements for license renewal.

Hawaii has a long history of its support for acupuncture medicine, as well as the highest per capita Acupuncture Practitioners of any state. I respectfully ask you to please support HD1679 HD1.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Dr. Jayne Tsuchiyama, D.Ac. DAOM, Dipl. OM (NCCAOM)

HB-1679-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 8:47:04 AM

Testimony for CPC on 2/15/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
David Langfelder	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To:

House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johanson

Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa

From:

David Langfelder

Email:

Info@solfit.org

Hearing Date: February 15, 2022, Time: 2:00 pm, Via Videoconference/online testimony

Position on HB1679, HD1: SUPPORT

Dear Honorable Chair Representative Johanson, Honorable Vice Chair Representative Kitagawa, and Committee Members,

I am a licensed Acupuncture Practitioner (LAc) and active member of the Hawaii Acupuncture Association. I reside and practice acupuncture medicine in Ewa Beach. I am writing this testimony in SUPPORT of HB1679 HD1.

Regulated medical professions require safety of the public and access to care to be of primary importance. Acupuncture medicine has been one of the fastest growing segments in American healthcare and with this the profession has seen standardization of education, national certifications, and the formation of both Master and Doctoral degrees. Hawaii's existing statute, which hasn't been updated in over 20 years, has become outdated in its language, as well as deficient in its standards. The proposed Scope of Practice addresses these issues, while also improving the structure of the Bill for future updates. Below are the highlights:

Simplify and rename application for licensure to eliminate outdated requirements while implementing current national standards for education, national board certification and continuing education requirements for license renewal.

Legacy exemptions are defined.

New definitions aligned with the current medical terminology, education, training and skills practiced by acupuncturists, while maintaining and preserving the traditions of this complete medical system.

Expand and clarify upon the concepts of the two existing license designations: LAc, DAc. in line with national trends.

Reciprocity inclusive of applicants who have maintained licensure and certifications in other jurisdictions wanting to be licensed in the state of Hawaii.

It is time for Hawaii, with its long history of acupuncture, along with the highest per capita Acupuncture Practitioners of any state, to integrate the profession into the modern medical establishment. I respectfully ask you to please support this HB1679 HD1.

I extend to you and your esteemed colleagues my thanks for your time and consideration of my testimony.

Respectfully,

David Langfelder

HB-1679-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 9:02:48 AM

Testimony for CPC on 2/15/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
brandi koalska	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

House Committee on Consumer Protection and
Commerce

Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling
Johanson

Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa
Kitagawa

Brandi Koalska

brandko88@gmail.com

Hearing Date: February 15, 2022,

Time: 2:00 pm

Via Videoconference/online testimony

Position on HB 1679, HD1: SUPPORT

Dear Honorable Chair Representative Johanson,
Honorable Vice Chair Representative Kitagawa,
and Committee Members,

I am a licensed Acupuncture Practitioner (LAc)
and active member of the Hawaii Acupuncture
Association. I reside in Maui and practice
acupuncture medicine in Hawai'i. I am writing
this testimony in SUPPORT of HB1679 HD1.

Regulated medical professions require safety of
the public and access to care to be of primary
importance. Acupuncture medicine has been one

of the fastest growing segments in American healthcare and with this the profession has seen standardization of education, national certifications, and the formation of both Master and Doctoral degrees. Hawaii's existing statute, which hasn't been updated in over 20 years, has become outdated in its language, as well as deficient in its standards. The proposed Scope of Practice addresses these issues, while also improving the structure of the Bill for future updates. Below are the highlights:

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- Legacy exemptions are defined.
- New definitions aligned with the current medical terminology, education, training and skills practiced by acupuncturists, while maintaining and preserving the traditions of this complete medical system.
- Expand and clarify upon the concepts of the two existing license designations: LAc, DAc. in line with national trends.
- Reciprocity inclusive of applicants who have maintained licensure and certifications in other jurisdictions wanting to be licensed in the state of Hawaii.

It is time for Hawaii, with its long history of acupunctuure, along with the highest per capita Acupuncture Practitioners of any state, to integrate the profession into the modern medical establishment. I respectfully ask you to please support this HB1679 HD1.

I extend to you and your esteemed colleagues my Aloha. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Brandi Koalska



**House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce
Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johanson
Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa**

Tuesday February 15, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.

Jeffrey A Tice, DACM, DAc
Longevity Health Center
2045 Main St
Wailuku, HI 96793
T (808) 242-8844
F (808) 244-7414
jeff@longevityhealthmaui.com
LongevityHealthMaui.com

Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 1679 HD 1

To the Honorable Chair Johanson, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and Committee Members,

My name is Jeffrey Tice, and am a Doctor of Acupuncture in the state of Hawaii (#732). My practice is in Wailuku, Maui where I co-own Longevity Health Center with my wife, Joyce Tamori. I am also vice president of Hawaii Acupuncture Association.

I fully support HB1679 HD 1 to improve the language in the scope of practice for acupuncture medicine in the State of Hawaii and to elevate the licensure requirements for future generations of Licensed Acupuncturists to serve the people safely and effectively.

Acupuncture and associated modalities historically termed Traditional Chinese Medicine or Oriental medicine, is the oldest continuous, documented medicine on the planet, yet also one of the fastest growing today. It has a long history in Asia (4000+ years) yet is relatively new to the rest of the world (100 years). Hawaii was an early adopter of licensing acupuncture in the United States, predating formal accredited schools and national board certifications. Much has changed in the profession over the last four decades and especially in the last twenty plus years since the current statute, 436E was updated.

Acupuncturists licensed to practice in Hawaii practice under two titles, Licensed Acupuncturist (LAc) and Doctor of Acupuncture (DAc). Although two licenses are uncommon in the United States, the current trend is towards a two-tiered profession with Masters level education as the entry point, often specializing in acupuncture while the accredited Doctoral level for Doctors of Acupuncture Medicine to use a more complete practice of the medicine formerly known as Traditional Chinese Medicine or Traditional Oriental Medicine. Both of these education and scope of practice levels are justified with education and national certification in HB 1679 HD 1. The updated nomenclature, Acupuncture Medicine, preserves this historically significant practice of medicine and helps it smoothly integrate into the modern healthcare system in Hawaii.



Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 1679 HD 1,

Jeffrey A Tice, DACM, DAc

Jeffrey A Tice, DACM, DAc
Longevity Health Center
2045 Main St
Wailuku, HI 96793
T (808) 242-8844
F (808) 244-7414
jeff@longevityhealthmaui.com
LongevityHealthMaui.com

HB-1679-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 10:43:15 AM

Testimony for CPC on 2/15/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
TEREZA RAPOZA	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I have been an employee with Longevity Health Center for the past four years, and have worked in in medical offices that offered Acupuncture medicine for over twenty years. I have experienced for myself, as well as witnessed many individuals in our community that have benefited favorably from Acupuncture medicine, wellness advice and health regimens.

I support House Bill 1679.

Thank you for this opportunity.

Aloha,

Tereza Rapoza

P.O. Box 1017

Puunene, HI 96784

808-216-3792

HB-1679-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 11:22:51 AM

Testimony for CPC on 2/15/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Faith Tengan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I respectfully submit written testimony in support of HB 1679. Having sustained injuries in a head on collision, having been both rear ended and struck on the side by a vehicle running a red light; I can honestly attribute my recovery from these accidents due to the expertise of licenced acupuncturists. Both of them lead the acupuncture association at one point and I believe that approving licensing standards can only gain both support and acceptance of utilizing acupuncture for health purposes. I would not seek treatment from practitioners that have not kept up with the newest standards nor had refresher courses to keep on top of their practice. Please consider adopting HB 1679.

Thank your time and for the opportunity to provide you with this testimony.

Faith N Tengan

HB-1679-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 11:44:49 AM

Testimony for CPC on 2/15/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Tamara Evans	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha:

As a retired Naturopathic physician and resident of Maui I strongly support HB1679 relating to Acupuncture licensure. It is incredibly important for the health and safety of the public to create a proper designation of various types of Acupuncture providers. Allowing providers with additional education and expertise to be designated as Acupuncture physicians (DAc licensure), providing Acupuncture Medicine services, gives the public a distinct understanding of what they can expect when they seek patient care. Patients will respect and appreciate the role of the State of Hawaii in eliminating the guesswork from their search for appropriate and anticipated care.

Thank you for your consideration of support of HB1679.

Tamara Evans, ND

HB-1679-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 1:24:07 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/15/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Emily Thomas	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I would like to testify that I am in favor of HB1679 and I urge you to pass this Bill. I believe it will enhance the practice of Acupuncture in the state of Hawaii.

Thank you for your attention.

HB-1679-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 11:59:00 AM

Testimony for CPC on 2/15/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Janet H. Boyd	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johanson

Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa

Janet Hayden Boyd

7seasacupuncture@gmail.com

Hearing Date: February 15, 2022,

Time: 2:00 pm

Via Videoconference/online testimony

Position on HB1679, HD1: SUPPORT

Dear Honorable Chair Representative Johanson, Honorable Vice Chair Representative Kitagawa, and Honorable Committee Members,

I am a licensed Acupuncture Practitioner (LAc) and active member of the Hawaii Acupuncture Association. I reside in Koloa and practice acupuncture medicine in Koloa, Lihue, and Kapaa. I am writing this testimony in SUPPORT of HB1679 HD1.

Regulated medical professions require safety of the public and access to care to be of primary importance. Acupuncture medicine has been one of the fastest growing segments in American healthcare and with this the profession has seen standardization of education, national certifications, and the formation of both Master and Doctoral degrees. Hawaii's existing statute, which hasn't been updated in over 20 years, has become outdated in its language, as well as deficient in its standards. The proposed Scope of Practice addresses these issues, while also improving the structure of the Bill for future updates. Below are the highlights:

Simplify and rename application for licensure to eliminate outdated requirements while implementing current national standards for education, national board certification and continuing education requirements for license renewal.

Legacy exemptions are defined.

New definitions aligned with the current medical terminology, education, training and skills

practiced by acupuncturists, while maintaining and preserving the traditions of this complete medical system.

Expand and clarify upon the concepts of the two existing license designations: LAc, DAc. in line with national trends.

Reciprocity inclusive of applicants who have maintained licensure and certifications in other jurisdictions wanting to be licensed in the state of Hawaii.

It is time for Hawaii, with its long history of acupuncture, along with the highest per capita Acupuncture Practitioners of any state, to integrate the profession into the modern medical establishment. I respectfully ask you to please support this HB1679 HD1.

I extend to you and your esteemed colleagues my Aloha. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Janet Hayden Boyd D.A.C.M., L.Ac.

HB-1679-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 12:45:19 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/15/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
DIANA HO	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johanson

Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa

Diana Ho

info@dianahoyoga.com

808-600-4333

Hearing Date: February 15, 2022,

Time: 2:00 pm

Via Videoconference/online testimony

Position on HB1679, HD1: SUPPORT

Dear Honorable Chair Representative Johanson, Honorable Vice Chair Representative Kitagawa, and Committee Members,

I am a licensed Acupuncture Practitioner (LAc) and active member of the Hawaii Acupuncture Association. I reside Honolulu, Oahu, HI and practice acupuncture medicine at Institute of Clinical Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine. I am writing this testimony in SUPPORT of HB1679 HD1.

Regulated medical professions require safety of the public and access to care to be of primary importance. Acupuncture medicine has been one of the fastest growing segments in American healthcare and with this the profession has seen standardization of education, national certifications, and the formation of both Master and Doctoral degrees. Hawaii's existing statute, which hasn't been updated in over 20 years, has become outdated in its language, as well as deficient in its standards. The proposed Scope of Practice addresses

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- Simplify and rename application for licensure to eliminate outdated requirements while implementing current national standards for education, national board certification and continuing education requirements for license renewal.
- Legacy exemptions are defined.
- New definitions aligned with the current medical terminology, education, training and skills practiced by acupuncturists, while maintaining and preserving the traditions of this complete medical system.
- Expand and clarify upon the concepts of the two existing license designations: LAc, DAc. in line with national trends.
- Reciprocity inclusive of applicants who have maintained licensure and certifications in other jurisdictions wanting to be licensed in the state of Hawaii.

It is time for Hawaii, with its long history of acupuncture, along with the highest per capita Acupuncture Practitioners of any state, to integrate the profession into the modern medical establishment. I respectfully ask you to please support this HB1679 HD1.

I extend to you and your esteemed colleagues my Aloha. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

HB-1679-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 1:20:10 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/15/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Becky Jacobs	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johanson

Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa

Becky Jacobs, DACM, DAc.

drbeckyjacobs@gmail.com

Hearing Date: February 15, 2022,

Time: 2:00 pm

Position on HB1679, HD1: **SUPPORT**

Dear Honorable Chair Representative Johanson, Honorable Vice Chair Representative Kitagawa, and Committee Members,

I am a licensed Acupuncture Practitioner (LAc) and an active member of the Hawaii Acupuncture Association. I reside on Hawaii island and practice acupuncture medicine in Kamuela. I am writing this testimony in SUPPORT of HB1679 HD1.

Regulated medical professions require safety of the public and access to care to be of primary importance. Acupuncture medicine has been one of the fastest growing segments in American healthcare and with this the profession has seen standardization of education, national certifications, and the formation of both Master and Doctoral degrees. Hawaii’s existing statute, which hasn’t been updated in over 20 years, has become outdated in its language, as well as deficient in its standards. The proposed Scope of Practice addresses these issues, while also improving the structure of the Bill for future updates. Below are the highlights:

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- New definitions aligned with the current medical terminology, education, training and skills practiced by acupuncturists, while maintaining and preserving the traditions of this complete medical system.
- Expand and clarify upon the concepts of the two existing license designations: LAc, DAc. in line with national trends.
- Reciprocity inclusive of applicants who have maintained licensure and certifications in other jurisdictions wanting to be licensed in the state of Hawaii.

It is time for Hawaii, with its long history of acupuncture, along with the highest per capita Acupuncture Practitioners of any state, to integrate the profession into the modern medical establishment. I respectfully ask you to please support this HB1679 HD1.

I extend to you and your esteemed colleagues my Aloha. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Becky Jacobs, DACM, DAc.

TO: House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce
Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johanson
Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa

FROM: B. Regina Taylor, bregina.taylor@comcast.net

RE: Hearing Date: February 15, 2022, Time: 2:00 pm

Via Videoconference/online testimony

Position on HB1679, HD1: SUPPORT

Dear Honorable Chair Representative Johanson, Honorable Vice Chair Representative Kitagawa, and Committee Members,

I am student of acupuncture at the Institute of Clinical Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine in Honolulu, Hawaii, seeking a doctorate degree. I am also a long-standing patient of acupuncture and oriental medicine. I am writing this testimony in SUPPORT of HB1679 HD1.


Regulated medical professions require safety of the public and access to care to be of primary importance. Acupuncture medicine has been one of the fastest growing segments in American healthcare and with this the profession has seen standardization of education, national certifications, and the formation of both Master and Doctoral degrees. Hawaii's existing statute, which hasn't been updated in over 20 years, has become outdated in its language, as well as deficient in its standards. The proposed Scope of Practice addresses these issues, while also improving the structure of the Bill for future updates. Below are the highlights:

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- Expand and clarify upon the concepts of the two existing license designations: LAc, DAc. in line with national trends.
- Reciprocity inclusive of applicants who have maintained licensure and certifications in other jurisdictions wanting to be licensed in the state of Hawaii.

It is time for Hawaii, with its long history of acupuncture, along with the highest per capita Acupuncture Practitioners of any state, to integrate the profession into the modern medical establishment. I respectfully ask you to please support this HB1679 HD1.

I extend to you and your esteemed colleagues my Aloha. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "B. Regina Taylor". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

B. REGINA TAYLOR

HB-1679-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 1:44:39 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/15/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Jason D Hunt	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I'm a licensed chiropractor at Longevity Health Center, Wailuku. I support improving of acupuncture licensure standards, as well as continuation education for renew requirements. Working alongside licensed acupuncturist has allowed me to begin to understand the in-depth knowledge that is required, aquired through extensive acupuncture education, in order to effectively treat patients.



HAWAII MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

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www.hawaiimedicalassociation.org

LATE

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION AND COMMERCE

Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Chair

Representative Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair

Date: February 15, 2022

From: Hawaii Medical Association

Roger Kimura MD, AMA Delegate for Hawaii

Bernard Robinson MD, AMA Delegate for Hawaii

Elizabeth Ann Ignacio MD, Chair, HMA Legislative Committee

Re: HB 1679 HD 1 Acupuncture; Licensure; Continuing Education

Position: OPPOSE

HMA has reviewed the HHH committee report and appreciates the amendment "Changing references from "acupuncture medicine physician" to "acupuncture medicine doctor". However, HMA has continued concerns regarding internal medicine training that is still included in the "Practice of advanced acupuncture medicine" definition in Section 4

"Practice of advanced acupuncture medicine" means the practice of acupuncture medicine and the use of advanced diagnostics, specialties, and therapeutics, based on additional traditional and biomedical internal medicine training, as further determined by rules adopted by the board."

An Internal Medicine residency program requires a minimum of three years of intensive training, easily involving 8,000 hours of training, to qualify for the certification examination as an Internal Medicine physician. It is unlikely that training and licensure requirements for acupuncturists, as specified in the proposed amendments, will be satisfactory as equivalent training. The inclusion of the language regarding the use of internal medicine training may have the unintended consequences of exposing the consumer/public to harm and the certified acupuncturist to legal exposure. The ultimate consequence of the proposed comprehensive update may be a decrease access to acupuncture services for consumers.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. HMA recommends removal of the language in HRS436 E-1, Section 4 regarding internal medicine training.

"...and the use of advanced diagnostics, specialties, and therapeutics, based on additional traditional and biomedical internal medicine training..." so that the proposed language reads:

"Practice of advanced acupuncture medicine" means the practice of acupuncture medicine ~~and the use of advanced diagnostics, specialties, and therapeutics, based on additional traditional and biomedical internal medicine training, as~~

HMA OFFICERS

President – Angela Pratt, MD President-Elect – Elizabeth Ann Ignacio, MD
Immediate Past President – Michael Champion, MD Treasurer – Nadine Tenn Salle, MD
Secretary – Thomas Kosasa, MD Executive Director – Marc Alexander



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further determined by administrative rules.”

2. The HMA kindly requests review and/or collaboration with the Acupuncture Board and the Hawaii Medical Board which may be impacted by this language.

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

REFERENCES AND QUICK LINKS:

<https://policysearch.ama-assn.org/policyfinder/detail/definition%20of%20Physicians?uri=%2FAMADoc%2FHOD.xml-H-405.951.xml>

<https://policysearch.ama-assn.org/policyfinder/detail/Acupuncture?uri=%2FAMADoc%2FHOD.xml-0-1869.xml>

<https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/acupuncture>

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Immediate Past President – Michael Champion, MD Treasurer – Nadine Tenn Salle, MD
Secretary – Thomas Kosasa, MD Executive Director – Marc Alexander

LATE

HB-1679-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/15/2022 4:10:49 AM

Testimony for CPC on 2/15/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Joyce Tamori	Longevity Health Center	Support	No

Comments:

I support HB1679 HD1

HB-1679-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 4:20:43 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/15/2022 2:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Clara Wong	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I am the sole member of Acupuncture and Herbs from China LLC and have been licensed to practice acupuncture in the State of Hawaii since 1993. Prior to 1993, I practiced acupuncture in the People's Republic of China for 7 years. In total, I have been practicing acupuncture for over 36 years. I oppose the changes to Chapter 436E of the Hawaii Revised Statutes, as amended, embodied in HB1679 on the grounds that (1) the proposed changes are draconian and severely excessive and will interfere with the practice of acupuncture and (2) no informed survey and impact study has been conducted to assess the many effects of all such embodied changes to practitioners (like me), patients and administrators of acupuncture. The proposers of HB1679 and the companion Senate bill did not contact me or any the many colleagues whom I have spoken to about this proposal before proceeding to attempt to impose these problems on acupuncture practitioners, patients and administrations. My colleagues were completely surprised when I told them about this problem, as they had no notice of such proposal. I strongly object to both bills.