

Testimony of the Board of Nursing

**Before the
Senate Committee on Judiciary
and
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Tuesday, April 5, 2022
10:05 a.m.
Conference Room 016 and Videoconference**

**On the following measure:
H.B. 1758, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, RELATING TO NURSES**

Chair Rhoads, Chair Dela Cruz, and Members of the Committees:

My name is Chelsea Fukunaga, and I am the Executive Officer of the Board of Nursing (Board). The Board appreciates the intent of and offers comments on this bill.

The purpose of this bill is to allow for temporary permits to be issued to registered nurses and licensed practical nurses from a territory or foreign country that are seeking a State license by endorsement.

The Board appreciates the bill's intent to expand the eligibility for a temporary permit to certain registered nurses and qualified licensed practical nurses from other territories and foreign jurisdictions to allow more qualified healthcare professionals to quickly find employment and enter the State's healthcare industry.

For the Committee's information, all applicants for temporary permits by endorsement are required to meet all licensing requirements, which includes, but is not limited to: (1) satisfactory evidence of passing a professional licensing examination recognized by the Board; (2) proof of authorization to work in the United States; (3) fingerprinting for criminal history checks; and (4) proof of graduation from a nursing program at an educational institution in the United States or any territory or possession under the jurisdiction of the United States, or proof of graduation from a nursing program at an educational institution in a foreign jurisdiction and have had their transcripts evaluated by professional evaluators designated by the Board, and are considered qualified as determined by the Board.

As such, the amendments proposed in this bill will expand the pool of qualified applicants without undermining the strength of the Board's current screening process.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



**Written Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Judiciary
and
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Tuesday, April 5, 2022 at 10:05 A.M.
by
Laura Reichhardt, APRN, AGPCNP-BC
Director, Hawai'i State Center for Nursing
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa**

Comments on HB 1758, HD2, SD1

Chairs Rhoads and Dela Cruz, Vice Chairs Keohokalole and Keith-Agaran, members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary, and members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, thank you for the opportunity to provide **comments on HB 1758, HD2, SD1.**

Hawai'i is currently facing a nursing workforce shortage. Improving access to care by nurses is critical to ensuring the people of Hawai'i receive healthcare when they need it, and by high-quality healthcare professionals. In 2021, the Center for Nursing reported that the current workforce shortage has several contributors including the pandemic's impact on the workforce, pre-existing challenges including our nursing faculty shortages, efforts in new-graduate nurse recruitment, as well as other factors such as difficulty in recruiting travel nurses, cost of living and housing availability in Hawai'i, and other issues. The problem is complex and there is a need to address nursing workforce supply using a multifaceted approach. The Center recognizes a long history of recruitment of internationally trained nurses. In addition, the Center acknowledges the important role of the legislature in supporting local and foreign graduates of nursing to pass the entry to practice licensing exams, as well as enabling nurses who are licensed and in good standing under the laws of another state, territory, or foreign country to become licensed by endorsement in Hawai'i.

The Center defers to the Board of Nursing and the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs as it relates to the processing and reviewing eligibility of applications by endorsement for temporary permitting.

We commend the State Legislature for identifying solutions address access to healthcare in Hawai'i. Thank you for providing opportunities to comment on this measure.

The mission of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing is that through collaborative partnerships, the Center provides accurate nursing workforce data for planning, disseminates nursing knowledge to support excellence in practice and leadership development; promotes a diverse workforce; and advocates for sound health policy to serve the changing health care needs of the people of Hawai'i.



April 1, 2022

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
The Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary

The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Re: HB 1758 HD2 SD1 – Relating to Nurses

Dear Chair Rhoads, Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and
Committee Members:

Hawaii Medical Service Association (HMSA) appreciates the opportunity to testify on HB 1758, HD2, SD1, which allows for temporary permits to be issued to registered nurses and licensed practical nurses from a territory or foreign country who are seeking a state license by endorsement.

HMSA believes in expanding access to quality health care for the people of Hawaii. Nurses provide an important key role in patient care. We support the legislature's intent to address the shortage of these invaluable health care workers in the state of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 1758, HD2, SD1.

Sincerely,

Matthew W. Sasaki
Assistant Vice President
Government & External Relations



HAWAI'I FRIENDS OF CIVIL RIGHTS

April 2, 2022

TO: Senator Karl Rhoads, Committee on Judiciary, Chair
Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Committee on Ways and Means, Chair

FROM: Amy Agbayani, Co-Chair & Pat McManaman, Co-Chair

SUBJECT: **HB1758, HD2, SD1 RELATED TO NURSES**

HEARING: April 4, 2022 at 10:05 AM
Conference Room 211 & Via Videoconference

The Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights submits testimony in **Support of House Bill1758, HD2, SD1** which seeks to allow temporary permits to be issued to registered nurses and licensed practical nurses from a territory or foreign country who are seeking a state license by endorsement.

Hawai'i's capacity to meet the state's demand for nursing care may already be at a critical tipping point as the pandemic extends into its third year and exhausted health care providers retire or leave the profession. According to the Hawai'i Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, almost 5,000 nurses left the field between 2019 and mid-year 2021, shrinking the total active workforce from 33,410 to 28,548 in mid-2021. Hawai'i employers have turned to traveling nurses, throughout the pandemic, to fill the gaps left by the nursing shortage and our increased pandemic-related health care needs.

An aging U.S. population will further increase the demand for nursing care across the nation and in Hawai'i. In its December 2021 report, *The Elderly Population in Hawaii: Current Living Circumstances and Housing Options*, the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism reports Hawai'i's percentage of elderly persons (ages 65 and over) at 19% in 2020 or approximately 1 in 5 persons. Accounting for aging baby boomers and increased life expectancy rates, Hawaii's percentage of elderly residents is projected to increase to 22.6% in 2030 and 23.7 % by 2040.

To obtain a work visa to enter the United States, foreign nurses must have at least a bachelor's degree from an accredited academic nursing institution and a minimum of two years of relevant work experience. They also must pass rigorous background checks by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services. The largest groups of immigrant nurses are from the Philippines, India, and Canada.

Immigrants comprise 23.4% of Hawai'i's registered nurse workforce according to a May 2021 report published by the New American Economy. Their prior work experience brings added value to hospitals and other health care providers. And multi-lingual registered nurses may also be relied upon to reliably communicate vital medical information to limited English proficient patients.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.



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hicoalitionforimmigrantrights@gmail.com

**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 1758 HD2 SD1
RELATING TO NURSES**

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair

Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair

Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: 4/5/2022

Dear Committee Members,

The Hawai`i Coalition for Immigrant Rights (HCIR) SUPPORTS HB 1758 HD2 SD1, Relating to Nurses. HB 1758 HD2 SD1 allows for temporary permits to be issued to registered nurses and licensed practical nurses from a territory or foreign country that are seeking a state license by endorsement.

First, this bill fixes the inequitable treatment between registered nurses and licensed practical nurses from a territory or foreign country and those from non-Hawai`i U.S. states. All nurses without a Hawai`i-based license must obtain one to practice nursing in Hawai`i. Currently, for nurses who are licensed in other U.S. states, certain qualified applicants for licensure by endorsement are eligible for a temporary permit. This allows these nurses to begin practicing immediately as their application undergoes the verification and review process. For nurses licensed in a U.S. territory or foreign country, however, the otherwise similarly-situated qualified applicants for licensure by endorsement do not currently have this option for a temporary permit. There is no reason for the discrepancy in treatment of these experienced, qualified nurses.

Second, this bill is an important step in lowering the barriers for immigrant professionals to contribute to our economy and our community. Many immigrants end up leaving behind their professional careers when they come to the United States in search of a better life for their families. One HCIR member shares that her mother was a health care professional in their country of origin. When they moved to the United States, her mother gave up that career because of the practical and economic barriers in obtaining a new license. Immigrants should not be made to choose between their profession and their communities in the United States. Hawai`i is worse off if experienced, highly qualified nurses are unable to use their skills due to bureaucratic barriers. The passage of this bill will allow nurses to quickly find employment with the temporary permit while they wait for their permanent licenses to process, thus lowering the economic barriers to entering the nursing profession here in Hawai`i.

Finally, this bill is a critical piece in addressing Hawai`i's well-documented nursing shortage. It will allow qualified nurses to tackle Hawai`i's critical health care needs immediately. Even



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before COVID-19, the nursing shortage in Hawai`i was a prominent problem, and COVID-19 exacerbated that problem, straining Hawai`i's health care system to unprecedented levels.¹ The shortage leaves Hawai`i particularly vulnerable due to the remote location. This month, the effects of the shortages were acutely felt, as significant numbers were unable to work due to COVID-19 infections or exposures, with one day seeing 1,500 frontline caregivers out of work (10% of the workforce).²

As many have noted, we are heading into the next chapter of the fight to end COVID-19 and recover economically. This bill will allow registered nurses and licensed practical nurses from a territory or foreign country to more quickly and easily join that fight. That would be to the benefit of the whole Hawai`i community. We support HB 1758 HD2 SD1.

Thank you for your support and consideration,

Catherine Chen, Co-chair, Hawai`i Coalition for Immigrant Rights
Liza Ryan Gill, Co-chair, Hawai`i Coalition for Immigrant Rights

¹ Kirstin Downey, *Pandemic Hardships Have Made Hawaii's Nursing Shortage Even Worse*, HONOLULU CIVIL BEAT (Oct. 6, 2021), <https://www.civilbeat.org/2021/10/pandemic-hardships-have-made-hawaiis-nursing-shortage-even-worse/>.

² Allyson Blair, *Head of nurses union: Severe staffing shortage at hospitals is impacting patient care*, Hawaii News Now (Jan. 12, 2022), <https://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/2022/01/13/head-nurses-union-severe-staffing-shortage-is-impacting-patient-care/>.

Tuesday, April 5, 2022 at 10:05 AM
Conference Room 016 & Via Video Conference

Senate Committee on Judiciary

To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

To: Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

From: Michael Robinson
Vice President, Government Relations & Community Affairs

**Re: HB 1758, HD2, SD1 – Testimony In Support
Relating to Nurses**

My name is Michael Robinson, and I am the Vice President of Government Relations & Community Affairs at Hawai'i Pacific Health. Hawai'i Pacific Health is a not-for-profit health care system comprised of its four medical centers – Kapi'olani, Pali Momi, Straub and Wilcox and over 70 locations statewide with a mission of creating a healthier Hawai'i.

I am writing in SUPPORT of HB 1758, HD2, SD1 which would allow temporary permits to be issued to registered nurses and licensed practical nurses from a territory or foreign country who are seeking a state license by endorsement.

Under the licensing statutes, licensure by endorsement is available to licensed practical nurses who are licensed and in good standing in other states, territories, or foreign countries. Certain qualified applicants for licensure by endorsement who are licensed in another state are eligible for a temporary permit to practice in the State while their applications are verified and reviewed. Making it possible for qualified nurses from another territory or foreign country to be eligible for a temporary permit would create a pathway for more nurses to enter the workforce quickly. This process may encourage nurses from another state, a territory or foreign country to relocate to Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



THE QUEEN'S HEALTH SYSTEMS

To: The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
The Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair
Members, Senate Committee on Judiciary

The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
Members, Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: Jace Mikulanec, Director, Government Relations, The Queen's Health Systems

Date: April 5, 2022

Re: Support for HB1758, HD2, SD1: Relating to Nurses

The Queen's Health Systems (Queen's) is a nonprofit corporation that provides expanded health care capabilities to the people of Hawai'i and the Pacific Basin. Since the founding of the first Queen's hospital in 1859 by Queen Emma and King Kamehameha IV, it has been our mission to provide quality health care services in perpetuity for Native Hawaiians and all of the people of Hawai'i. Over the years, the organization has grown to four hospitals, and more than 1,500 affiliated physicians and providers statewide. As the preeminent health care system in Hawai'i, Queen's strives to provide superior patient care that is constantly advancing through education and research.

Queen's appreciates the opportunity to provide comments in support of HB1758, HD2, SD1, which would allow for temporary permits to be issued to registered nurses and licensed practical nurses from a territory or foreign country that are seeking a state license by endorsement. Queen's appreciates the intent of this measure which seeks to address the ongoing shortage of licensed nurses in Hawai'i. We are also optimistic that proactive efforts of the legislature to address workforce shortages in the healthcare industry will have a combined beneficial impact this Session.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this measure.

The mission of The Queen's Health Systems is to fulfill the intent of Queen Emma and King Kamehameha IV to provide in perpetuity quality health care services to improve the well-being of Native Hawaiians and all of the people of Hawai'i.



April 5, 2022

Senate Committee on Judiciary
Chair Karl Rhoads,
Vice Chair Jarrett Keohokalole, and
Members of the Committee

Senate Committee on Ways & Means
Chair Donovan Dela Cruz
Vice Chair Gilbert Keith-Agaran, and
Members of the Committee

Re: HB1758, HD2, SD1, Relating to Nurses

Aloha Chairs Rhoads and Dela Cruz, Vice-Chairs Keohokalole and Keith-Agaran, and members of the committees:

On behalf of the Hawaii Association of Nurse Anesthetists, we are writing in **support** of HB1758, HD2, SD1, relating to nurses. This bill allows for temporary permits to be issued to registered nurses and licensed practical nurses from a territory or foreign country who are seeking a state license by endorsement.

According to the state Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, almost 5,000 nurses left the field between 2019 and mid-year 2021, shrinking the total active workforce from 33,410 in 2019 to 28,548 now. The number of registered nurses and licensed practical nurses fell sharply. Our organization is deeply involved in and concerned about the education and training of nurses, as well as the development of the future nursing workforce. We believe that this bill is an important part of a comprehensive strategy to address the state's shortage of qualified nursing professionals.

The Hawaii Association of Nurse Anesthetists is a professional organization for Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) in the state of Hawaii. It is affiliated with the American Association of Nurse Anesthesiology (AANA) and is dedicated to promoting the CRNA profession and advancing the art and science of anesthesia by:

- Developing and promoting educational and practice standards that support and enhance cost-effective, quality anesthesia care for the patients, payers, and physicians we serve.
- Providing patient education and information about anesthesia and related healthcare services.
- Monitoring and maintaining active presence in state and national CRNA practice and healthcare legislative issues by working with lawmakers, regulatory agencies, and those who shape healthcare policy.
- Promoting partnerships with the community and liaisons with other healthcare professions to integrate and promote practice and healthcare quality issues.
- Providing continuing education information for our members and other CRNAs.

Page Two
April 5, 2022

We wish to serve as a resource to policy leaders and look forward to working with legislators to understanding issues related to nurse anesthesia during the legislative session and the interim.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB1758, HD2, SD1,



April 5, 2022 at 10:05 am
Via Videoconference

Senate Committee on Judiciary

To: Chair Karl Rhoads
Vice Chair Jarrett Keohokalole

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

To: Chair Donovan M. Dela Cruz
Vice Chair Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran

From: Paige Heckathorn Choy
Associate Vice President, Government Affairs
Healthcare Association of Hawaii

Re: Testimony in Support
HB 1758 HD 2 SD 1, Relating to Nurses

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii (HAH), established in 1939, serves as the leading voice of healthcare on behalf of 170 member organizations who represent almost every aspect of the health care continuum in Hawaii. Members include acute care hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, home health agencies, hospices, assisted living facilities and durable medical equipment suppliers. In addition to providing access to appropriate, affordable, high-quality care to all of Hawaii's residents, our members contribute significantly to Hawaii's economy by employing over 20,000 people statewide.

We write today in **support** of this measure, which seeks to allow temporary permits for licensed practical nurses (LPNs) and registered nurses (RNs) that are seeking a state licensure in Hawaii by endorsement. Staffing shortages have become a major issue for our healthcare providers due to the pandemic. Many staff are retiring or leaving the healthcare profession due to burnout, and the increasing contagiousness of variants of COVID-19 have caused massive staff absences during community outbreaks. This affects all types of healthcare organizations, from the state's largest hospitals, to long-term care facilities caring for vulnerable residents, to small hospice agencies providing compassionate care at the end of life.

We appreciate any efforts to expand the pool of potential qualified workers to help rebuilt and reinforce the pipeline of essential healthcare workers in the state. Creative solutions, systemic investments, and continued focus on promoting the healthcare sector's workforce pipeline will be needed to ensure that Hawaii residents continue to have access to high-quality, affordable care. We look forward to continuing our collaborations with many different community partners on a long-term solution for this staffing crisis, and appreciate the opportunity to support this measure.

HB-1758-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2022 12:15:44 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/5/2022 10:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christy MacPherson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the Senate Committees on Judiciary and Ways and Means,

I am in strong support of HB1758 HD2 SD1. Hawai`i is in real need of more nurses and this bill makes total sense.

Mahalo for your consideration.

HB-1758-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2022 8:37:51 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/5/2022 10:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gerard Silva	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This should not be allowed you could be endagering Someone Life or Health !!

LATE

FOR: HB 1758, Nurses; Registered Nurses; Licensed Practical Nurses; License;
Endorsement; Temporary Permits
DATE: April 5th, 2022, at 10:05 PM
FROM: Selwyne Jei Matillano, SN, University of Hawai'i Maui College Nursing
Program

Aloha Honorable Chair, Vice-Chair, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Selwyne Jei Matillano and I am a nursing student at The University of Hawaii Maui College. I am writing in **strong support of HB1758**, which allows for temporary permits to be issued to registered nurses and licensed practical nurses from a territory or foreign country who are seeking a state license by endorsement.

During my clinical rotation at multiple units at the hospital, I have seen the difficulties and the stress nurses go through during times when they are short staffed. As a current hospital employee, I can see this first hand. Working in the emergency department, sometimes we are short nurses because they are burnt out or sick due to being overworked. Being overworked, and burnt out poses a major risk for multiple “near-miss” incidents. Having these extra staffing available in our local hospitals could help alleviate some of the emotional and physiological strain that comes with being short staffed.

Having this bill passed, will allow for nurses from other states to be licensed temporarily in the states that need the most nursing help. Once we get the help and the sufficient staffing that we need, the risk for “near-miss” incidents will decrease, the retention rate for local nurses practicing in their home states will increase, and nurses will be able to provide better quality care not only for our local residents, but to our visitors as well. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Mahalo,
Selwyne Jei Matillano, SN

LATE

HB-1758-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2022 1:13:05 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/5/2022 10:05:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Liza Ryan Gill	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1758 HD2 SD1, RELATING TO NURSES

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES, & HOMELESSNESS

Senator Rhoads, Chair

Senator Dela Cruz, Chair

Hearing Date: 4/5/2022

Chair Dela Cruz and Chair Rhoads,

I write in strong SUPPORT of HB 1758 HD2 SD1, Relating to Nurses, which allows for temporary permits to be issued to registered nurses and licensed practical nurses from a territory or foreign country that are seeking a state license by endorsement.

This bill allows immigrant nurses and nurses from the territories to have the same opportunities as nurses from non-Hawai`i U.S. states. Currently, qualified applicants for licensure by endorsement who are licensed in another U.S. state are eligible for a temporary permit, while their counterparts licensed in a territory or foreign country are not. Expanding the eligibility would fix this unequal treatment and lower barriers for these nurses to enter the health care profession in Hawai`i.

Hawai`i is lucky to have many Filipino and Filipina nurses that have immigrated to the state and are currently under-employed. Many of them are working within the healthcare or elder care system but at lower levels than their capacity or training. This bill would help address Hawai`i's nursing shortage, which was already a long-standing problem and has been exacerbated by COVID-19. It would also mean that we have more bilingual and culturally-competent nurses, which has been shown to improve healthcare outcomes.

I SUPPORT HB 1758 so that experienced, highly qualified nurses can tackle Hawai'i's critical health care needs immediately while they wait for their permanent licenses to process. This is important not only to Hawai'i's immigrant communities but to its economy and public health.

Thank you for your support and consideration,

Liza Ryan Gill

Co-coordinator

HI Coalition for Immigrant Rights

808-498-8832

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO NURSES.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that there is a nurse
2 shortage in the State that has been exacerbated by the
3 coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic. According to the department
4 of commerce and consumer affairs, almost five thousand nurses
5 left the field between 2019 and mid-year 2021, shrinking the
6 total active workforce from 33,410 in 2019 to 28,548 in 2021.

7 The legislature further finds that experienced, highly
8 qualified nurses from other states, territories, or foreign
9 countries may wish to relocate to Hawaii. Certain qualified
10 applicants for licensure by endorsement who are licensed in
11 another state are eligible for a temporary permit to practice in
12 the State while their applications are verified and reviewed.

13 Expanding the eligibility for a temporary permit to certain
14 registered nurses and qualified licensed practical nurses from
15 other territories and foreign jurisdictions will enable more
16 qualified health care professionals to quickly find employment
17 and enter into the State's health care field.



1 The purpose of this Act is to allow for temporary permits
2 to be issued to registered nurses and licensed practical nurses
3 from a territory or foreign country that are seeking a state
4 license by endorsement.

5 SECTION 2. Section 457-7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
6 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

7 "(b) Licenses shall be granted either by:

- 8 (1) Examination: The applicant shall be required to pass
9 a written examination in nursing subjects as
10 determined by the board. Upon the applicant's passage
11 of the examination and compliance with the applicable
12 requirements of this chapter and the rules of the
13 board, the board shall issue to the applicant a
14 license to practice nursing as a registered nurse; or
- 15 (2) Endorsement: The board may issue a license to
16 practice nursing as a registered nurse by endorsement
17 to an applicant who has been licensed as a registered
18 nurse under the laws of another state, territory, or
19 foreign country if the applicant has an unencumbered
20 license and, in the opinion of the board, the
21 applicant meets the qualifications required of



1 registered nurses in this State at the time of
2 graduation. Pending verification of a valid,
3 unencumbered license from another state, territory, or
4 foreign country, a temporary permit may be issued for
5 employment with a Hawaii employer."

6 SECTION 3. Section 457-8, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
7 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

8 "(b) Licenses shall be granted either by:

9 (1) Examination: The applicant shall be required to pass
10 a written examination in nursing subjects as
11 determined by the board. Upon the applicant's passage
12 of the examination and compliance with the applicable
13 requirements of this chapter and the rules of the
14 board, the board shall issue to the applicant a
15 license to practice nursing as a licensed practical
16 nurse; or

17 (2) Endorsement: The board may issue a license to
18 practice nursing as a licensed practical nurse by
19 endorsement to any applicant who has been licensed as
20 a licensed practical nurse, or a person entitled to
21 perform similar services under a different title,



1 under the laws of another state, territory, or foreign
2 country if the applicant has an unencumbered license
3 and, in the opinion of the board, the applicant meets
4 the requirements for licensed practical nurses in this
5 State at the time of graduation. Pending verification
6 of a valid, unencumbered license from another state,
7 territory, or foreign country, a temporary permit may
8 be issued for employment with a Hawaii employer."

9 SECTION 4. Section 457-13, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
10 amended to read as follows:

11 "**§457-13 Exceptions.** This chapter does not prohibit:

12 (1) The furnishing of nursing assistance in an emergency;

13 (2) The practice of nursing [~~which~~] that is incidental to
14 [~~their~~] the program of study engaged in by students
15 enrolled in nursing education programs accredited by
16 the board;

17 (3) The practice of nursing under a nonrenewable permit
18 by:

19 (A) A graduate of; or

20 (B) An applicant who has provided proof that the
21 applicant has completed the entire educational



1 curriculum required for graduation for a nursing
2 license from,
3 a school [~~which~~] that is in or under the jurisdiction
4 of the United States, a territory, or a foreign
5 jurisdiction, and whose accreditation is recognized by
6 the board; provided that following completion of (A)
7 or (B), the candidate takes the first licensing
8 examination scheduled by any board of nursing
9 recognized by the board and has submitted to the board
10 an application for a license to practice nursing in
11 this State; and provided further that the permit shall
12 be valid for three months or until the results of the
13 licensing examination are received by the board;

14 (4) The practice of any legally qualified nurse of another
15 state who is employed by the United States or any
16 bureau, division, or agency thereof, while in the
17 discharge of the nurse's official duties;

18 (5) The practice of nursing in connection with healing by
19 prayer or spiritual means alone in accordance with the
20 tenets and practice of any well recognized church or
21 religious denomination, provided that no person



1 practicing such nursing claims to practice as a
2 registered nurse or a licensed practical nurse; or
3 (6) The administration of oral and topical medication and
4 in emergency situations, other premeasured medication,
5 by school health aides as provided in section [~~321-~~
6 ~~242-~~] 302A-853."

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

9 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:

Nurses; Registered Nurses; Licensed Practical Nurses; License;
Endorsement; Temporary Permits

Description:

Allows for temporary permits to be issued to registered nurses
and licensed practical nurses from a territory or foreign
country who are seeking a state license by endorsement. (SD1)

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

