

## **Testimony of the Board of Nursing**

**Before the  
House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce  
Friday, March 19, 2021  
2:00 p.m.  
Via Videoconference**

**On the following measure:  
H.R. 100, REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU  
TO CONDUCT AN ANALYSIS OF ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES  
AND PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS**

Chair Johanson and Members of the Committee:

My name is Lee Ann Teshima, and I am the Executive Officer of the Board of Nursing (Board). The Board appreciates the intent of and offers comments on this resolution.

The purposes of this resolution are to request that the Legislative Reference Bureau (LRB) conduct an analysis of: (1) the full scope of practice for advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) and physician assistants based on national professional guidelines; (2) the distinctions between the educational training and scope of practice between physicians, APRNs, and physician assistants; and (3) how Hawaii differs from other states regarding the scope of practice for APRNs and physician assistants.

The Board appreciates the intent of this measure because it proposes to have the LRB analyze issues that could assist the Board in addressing prospective changes to its statutes, administrative rules, and policies.

Lastly, the Board requests amending this resolution to request that the LRB also perform an analysis of state and local laws and regulations and identify “gaps and limitations” that exist in providing access to health care due to the physician shortfall, especially on the neighbor islands and in rural communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this resolution.

**Testimony of the Hawaii Medical Board**

**Before the  
House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce  
Friday, March 19, 2021  
2:00 p.m.  
Via Videoconference**

**On the following measure:  
H.R. 100, REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU  
TO CONDUCT AN ANALYSIS OF ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES  
AND PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS.**

Chair Johanson and Members of the Committee:

My name is Ahlani Quiogue, and I am the Executive Officer of the Hawaii Medical Board (Board). The Board appreciates the intent of and offers comments on this resolution.

The purposes of this resolution are to request that the Legislative Reference Bureau (LRB) conduct an analysis of: (1) the full scope of practice for advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) and physician assistants based on national professional guidelines; (2) the distinctions between the educational training and scope of practice between physicians, APRNs, and physician assistants; and (3) how Hawaii differs from other states regarding the scope of practice for APRNs and physician assistants.

The Board appreciates the intent of this measure because it proposes to have the LRB analyze very important matters that could ultimately result in the Board updating its statutes, rules, and policies to bring it to parity with the current practice of physician assistants.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this resolution.



**Written Testimony Presented Before the  
COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE**

**DATE: Friday March 19, 2021**

**TIME: 2:00 PM**

**PLACE: VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE**

**By**

**Laura Reichhardt, APRN, AGPCNP-BC  
Director, Hawai'i State Center for Nursing  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa**

**Comments on HR100/HCR124**

Chair Johanson, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on HR100/HCR 124. These resolutions request the Legislative Reference Bureau conduct an analysis of advanced practice registered nurses and physician assistants and to include the following: (1) the full scope of practice for advanced practice registered nurses and physician assistants based on national professional guidelines; (2) the distinctions between the educational training and scope of practice between physicians, advanced practice registered nurses, and physician assistants; (3) a comparative study of how Hawai'i differs from other states regarding the scope of practice for advanced practice registered nurses and physician assistants; and (4) submit a report of its findings and recommendations from the analysis, including any proposed legislation.

The Hawai'i State Center for Nursing (Center) commends the holistic approach of the Legislature to ensure access to care through identifying and amending scope of practice limitations that exist in state statute. Further, the Center applauds the Legislature for seeking opportunities to update the Hawai'i Revised Statutes using a provider-neutral approach (i.e. using "provider" or "prescriber") when appropriate. This would expand access to care for people in Hawai'i by enabling a qualified and licensed provider who has the education, training, and regulatory authorization to provide such service. Further, the Center asks the Committee to expand the practice limitation review to include Hawai'i Administrative Rules, so that all state regulatory barriers are identified and solutions to the barriers are proposed.

The Hawai'i State Center for Nursing supports the opportunity for the Legislative Reference Bureau, an independent third-party, to review the laws and rules and engage with state departments to determine the feasibility and legislative approach to address outdated regulations that restrict providers from practicing to the full scope of their education and license. The Center asks for your consideration to move the APRN scope of practice review from HR99/HCR123 into HR100/HCR124 to ensure the intent of these resolutions is achieved

*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.*

through the independent, third party review by the LRB. Thank you for the dedication and care for healthcare workers and for the people of Hawai'i.

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