

**From:** GARLA ROY [GROY@queens.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 16, 2009 12:54 PM  
**To:** HTHTestimony  
**Subject:** testimony against the bill

LATE

**Categories:** Green Category, Blue Category

HB 811, HD2 RELATING TO REGISTERED NURSES. HTH, CPN

(HSCR793) Removes, for a foreign nursing school graduate

Testimony applying for licensure by examination for

Status registered nurses in Hawaii, the requirement to

obtain certification from the Commission on

Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools. Requires

the Board of Nursing to adopt rules requiring

submission of the Breakdown of Educational

Program for International Nursing Programs form

My name is Garla Souza Roy. I am a nurse at Queen's Medical Center and have been a nurse since 1985. When I graduated from school, I came to Queen's to apply for my first nursing job. I was so lucky that it took them only 1 day to get back to me and when I was told that I was hired and when could I start, I couldn't believe it. I was one of the chosen to be in the next new grad class.

Over the years I have done many different nursing jobs and I have never felt that nursing was a poor career choice. I have been a staff nurse, a referral nurse, a detention home nurse, a case manager with home care and in the hospital, a utilization nurse, a transfer coordinator, and now a manager. Nursing has offered me many experiences and I wouldn't trade it for anything else.

I learned about this bill on Friday and I can't understand why would this bill even be presented. Nationally we may have a nursing shortage, but locally our new grads can't even get a job. They are all moving to the mainland because no one will hire them. Our new grad class in the hospital is only down to a few a year. When I graduated we had 20-25 of us. Why would we allow foreign nurses to gain access to practice in Hawaii and avoid the rules of licensure that our own nurses have to abide by. When I graduated with my BS in nursing, I was really proud of my accomplishments. I was not only a nurse but a nurse with a degree in science. Everyone that took the same path with me, were told that if we wanted to be a professional nurse that our degree will help us get there. By allowing this proposed bill to pass, it will lower any standards imposed on our education. Instead of allowing the foreign nurses to practice in Hawaii and the rest of the US, let us concentrate on our new grads and offer them the same sort of training and assistance to gain licensure to practice. We would then be able to retain our own nurses and not lose them to the mainland.

Aloha,

Garla Souza Roy RN, BSN, CCMC  
Manager  
Transfer Hotline, Bed Control and Off Island Referral