

green1 - Karen

From: iwilani@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 9:57 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: SB1507

Wendy B. Crabb
5398 Papai St.
Honolulu, HI. 96821

February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

I am writing to strongly urge your opposition to SB1507 relating to acupuncture. This bill would be harmful to healthcare consumers because it would undermine the quality, safety, and integrity of acupuncture in Hawaii. It would lower professional standards and allow inadequately trained people to practice acupuncture, by giving the Board of Medical Examiners sole regulatory jurisdiction over the practice of acupuncture by physicians and physician's assistants.

The Board of Medical Examiners lacks the expertise to regulate the practice of acupuncture in this way. Only the Board of Acupuncture can appropriately do so, and their current regulatory standards are the safest approach to delivering quality acupuncture to the public.

Our current education requirements for acupuncture licensure include 3,240 hours of instruction, graduation from an accredited acupuncture college, and passage of national certification exams. With all due respect for the extensive training MD's receive, their education focuses primarily on pharmaceutical and surgical approaches to illness, and they typically receive little or no training in acupuncture and oriental medicine.

The regulation of a professional practice should be vested in the hands of senior members of that profession, who are fully qualified to set professional standards for the practice. It is clearly the responsibility of the Board of Acupuncture, not any other party, to regulate acupuncture. Just as we would not allow the Board of Acupuncture to regulate

pharmaceutical drugs or surgery, we should not place the regulation of acupuncture in the hands of those who are not adequately trained in acupuncture.

Any physician who wants to practice acupuncture currently has the same opportunity as anyone else to earn legitimate certification in a responsible manner, without loopholes or shortcuts. SB1507 would create a population of inadequately trained acupuncture practitioners.

Acupuncture licensure should not be taken lightly. It is a serious matter of public safety, medical ethics, and the health of our citizens. Please do not undermine the integrity of the acupuncture profession in our state. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

Sincerely,

green1 - Karen

From: kimberly [k1kimmi@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 9:35 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: STOP SB1507 !

Kimberly Flores
k1kimmi@yahoo.com
February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

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Sincerely,

kimberly flores

green1 - Karen

From: Donnalene Sing [donnalenes@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 10:03 AM
To: HTHTestimony

Donnalene Sing
POB 10305
Honolulu, HI 96816
February 3, 2010

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee

Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

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Sincerely,
Donnalene Sing

green1 - Karen

From: cristi@randhawaii.com
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 10:05 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Opposition to SB1507

Cristi Rasmussen
3669 Kawelolani Place
Honolulu, HI 96816

February 3, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

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Mahalo,

Cristi Rasmussen

green1 - Karen

From: alohakah@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 10:10 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Opposition to SB1507

Kimberly Howsley
1778 Ala Moana Blvd # 3401
February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**

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Sincerely,
Kimberly Howsley

green1 - Karen

From: Palmer, Liz [LPalmer@pmrg.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 10:16 AM
To: HTHTestimony

Elizabeth Palmer
3750 Kaimuki Avenue
Honolulu, HI 96816

February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

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Sincerely,

green1 - Karen

From: Nina Kapfer [ninakapfer@earthlink.net]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 10:06 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: Nina.Kapfer@us.army.mil
Subject: Bill 1507

Nina Kapfer, L.Ac.
The Lotus Clinic
Rd, Ste 201
Kailua , HI 96734
(808) 261-8621

February 3rd, 600 Kailua

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture (Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

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green1 - Karen

From: Vicki Sakoda [sakodav@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 9:56 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Opposition to SB1507

Vicki K. Sakoda
3511 Kepuhi Street
Honolulu, HI 96815
February 3, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

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Sincerely,
Vicki K. Sakoda

green1 - Karen

From: Alan Ewell [ewell@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 10:24 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture

Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee

Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee:

I am writing to urge your opposition to SB1507 relating to acupuncture. This bill would be harmful to healthcare consumers because I feel it would undermine the quality, safety, and integrity of acupuncture in Hawaii. It would lower professional standards and allow inadequately trained people to practice acupuncture, by giving the Board of Medical Examiners sole regulatory jurisdiction over the practice of acupuncture by physicians and physician's assistants.

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Sincerely,
Alan Ewell
4176 Round Top Drive
Honolulu, HI 96822

green1 - Karen

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 9:33 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: tfebus2000@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1507 on 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for HTH 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1507

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Tricia Lorie
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: tfebus2000@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/3/2011

Comments:

green1 - Karen

From: John Gabison [johngabison@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 10:40 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: SB1507

*John Gabison
98-288 Kaonohi St. # 2602
Aiea, HI 96701
February 3, 2011*

*To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)*

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

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Sincerely, John Gabison

To Senate Committee Members:

I would like to submit my support for the intent of this bill directing the Hawaii Medical Board to regulate the practice of acupuncture by its licensees for Allopathic Physicians, Osteopathic Physicians and Physician Assistants.

This would allow for appropriate credentialing and verification of training for these individuals. Currently, there are physicians practicing in the State of Hawaii that are licensed to practice acupuncture in 48 other states based on appropriate training and certification but are restricted in the State of Hawaii based on the language of HRS:

[CHAPTER 436E] ACUPUNCTURE PRACTITIONERS

Thank you for your consideration on the passage of this bill.

Guy Sugino, MD
Professional Chief, Family Medicine
Kaiser Permanente Hawaii

Robert E. Smith, Ph.D.
Professor Emeritus of Physiology
School of Medicine

University of California
Davis, California 95616

2 February 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Health Committee

Re: **Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507**
Relating to Acupuncture

It has long been a standard of professional practice that regulation of those practices (whether engineering, medicine, university accreditation, or other) should be vested in the hands of senior members of the profession itself, those trained and qualified to set the standards for professional practice. To divest the regulation of Oriental medicine from such trained professionals (the Hawaii Acupuncture Board) becomes a matter of public safety and the health of our citizens.

As a retired professor of physiology at an allopathic medical school and who, since my retirement, has been associated with Oriental medical schools, I can attest that the training received by medical doctors is qualitatively different from that provided to students of Oriental medicine. The former focuses on measurable physiology and pathology, using pharmaceuticals (or surgery or radiation) to correct chemical imbalances and manage symptoms. This approach to therapeutics is often lifesaving, but it is most effective with acute illness. Oriental medicine, in contrast, is an energy-based system of medicine that, while it can treat symptoms, focuses more on restoring balance to the patient and so assisting the patient's self-healing abilities to restore the patient to health. This is a medical approach that is not based on chemical interactions but energetic ones. As a consequence, it can address chronic degenerative problems often far more successfully than can the approach that we teach in Western medical schools.

These two approaches to health care are distinctly different. A professional trained in one discipline receives an education substantially different from that received by a student in the other. My experience suggests that, just as we would not allow the Board of Acupuncture to qualify surgeons or internists, so we should place the regulation of Oriental medicine practitioners in the hands of those qualified, by training and experience, to practice Oriental medicine themselves.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Smith, Ph.D.

green1 - Karen

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 02, 2011 12:55 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: ideal.health@earthlink.net
Subject: Testimony for SB1507 on 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for HTH 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1507

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Ernette H. Scanlan, DAC
Organization: Individual
Address: 1546 Ulupii St. Kailua, HI
Phone: 808-479-0098
E-mail: ideal.health@earthlink.net
Submitted on: 2/2/2011

Comments:

I am opposed to the bill put forth allowing medical doctors to practice acupuncture without proper training. I attended acupuncture school with a medical doctor. He eventually dropped out because he found the study of acupuncture overwhelming. He chose to hire an acupuncturist in his clinic. I would not think that I am qualified to do surgery because an acupuncturist is qualified in China or Japan. I am asking you to vote NO on SB 1507

green1 - Karen

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 02, 2011 12:52 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: Framodda@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1507 on 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM
Attachments: SB1507.doc; Amendment SB1507.doc

Testimony for HTH 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1507

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Ramoda Anand
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: Framodda@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/2/2011

Comments:

Allow medical doctors who graduated from an accredited acupuncture school to practice acupuncture if they pass the Hawaii acupuncture exam

green1 - Karen

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 02, 2011 1:34 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: mr_smeeee@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1507 on 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM
Attachments: Testimony opposing Senate Bill 1507 .pdf

Testimony for HTH 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1507

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Brandon Flewelling
Organization: Individual
Address: 45-680 Apuakea St. Kaneohe, HI
Phone: 808-255-7815
E-mail: mr_smeeee@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/2/2011

Comments:

I am a student of Acupuncture at the Institute of Clinical Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine. Giving the BME authority to allow medical doctors to legally practice acupuncture is a grave mistake. I believe the same would be true if we were to give the Board of Acupuncture the ability to give students trained in acupuncture and oriental medicine the ability to practice western medicine and/or prescribe western pharmaceuticals. One student of one school learns very different concepts than the other would learn in his/her respective training. Although I believe and hope these two medical systems can one day work together, I do not believe crossing the boundaries of practicing either one by the other would be of any benefit. In fact, the dangers and risks far outweigh the benefits. I would hope and think that any practitioner of medicine would think again before taking the kinds of risks that this bill proposes. For the integrity of acupuncture and oriental medicine, please allow those of us who are properly trained to be called upon for its practice.

Robert E. Smith, Ph.D.
Professor Emeritus of Physiology
School of Medicine

University of California
Davis, California 95616

2 February 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Health Committee

Re: **Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507**
Relating to Acupuncture

It has long been a standard of professional practice that regulation of those practices (whether engineering, medicine, university accreditation, or other) should be vested in the hands of senior members of the profession itself, those trained and qualified to set the standards for professional practice. To divest the regulation of Oriental medicine from such trained professionals (the Hawaii Acupuncture Board) becomes a matter of public safety and the health of our citizens.

As a retired professor of physiology at an allopathic medical school and who, since my retirement, has been associated with Oriental medical schools, I can attest that the training received by medical doctors is qualitatively different from that provided to students of Oriental medicine. The former focuses on measurable physiology and pathology, using pharmaceuticals (or surgery or radiation) to correct chemical imbalances and manage symptoms. This approach to therapeutics is often lifesaving, but it is most effective with acute illness. Oriental medicine, in contrast, is an energy-based system of medicine that, while it can treat symptoms, focuses more on restoring balance to the patient and so assisting the patient's self-healing abilities to restore the patient to health. This is a medical approach that is not based on chemical interactions but energetic ones. As a consequence, it can address chronic degenerative problems often far more successfully than can the approach that we teach in Western medical schools.

These two approaches to health care are distinctly different. A professional trained in one discipline receives an education substantially different from that received by a student in the other. My experience suggests that, just as we would not allow the Board of Acupuncture to qualify surgeons or internists, so we should place the regulation of Oriental medicine practitioners in the hands of those qualified, by training and experience, to practice Oriental medicine themselves.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Smith, Ph.D.

Feleai Tau

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 02, 2011 1:21 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: bota83@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1507 on 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for HTH 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1507

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Barbara Ota, D.Ac., L.Ac., MSOM
Organization: Individual
Address: Kamuela
Phone: 8088827890
E-mail: bota83@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/2/2011

Comments:

green1 - Karen

From: RD [Hi-paddler@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 9:46 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: opposing senate bill 1507 relating to accupuncture

email your messages to: HTHTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

Regina Deluca
P.O. Box 230, Kailua, HI 96734
February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

I am writing to strongly urge your opposition to SB1507 relating to acupuncture. This bill would be harmful to healthcare consumers because it would undermine the quality, safety, and integrity of acupuncture in Hawaii. It would lower professional standards and allow inadequately trained people to practice acupuncture, by giving the Board of Medical Examiners sole regulatory jurisdiction over the practice of acupuncture by physicians and physician's assistants.

The Board of Medical Examiners lacks the expertise to regulate the practice of acupuncture in this way. Only the Board of Acupuncture can appropriately do so, and their current regulatory standards are the safest approach to delivering quality acupuncture to the public.

Our current education requirements for acupuncture licensure include 3,240 hours of instruction, graduation from an accredited acupuncture college, and passage of national certification exams. With all due respect for the extensive training MDs receive, their education focuses primarily on pharmaceutical and surgical approaches to illness, and they typically receive little or no training in acupuncture and oriental medicine.

The regulation of a professional practice should be vested in the hands of senior members of that profession, who are fully qualified to set professional standards for the practice. It is clearly the responsibility of the Board of Acupuncture, not any other party, to regulate acupuncture. Just as we would not allow the Board of Acupuncture to regulate pharmaceutical drugs or surgery, we should not place the regulation of acupuncture in the hands of those who are not adequately trained in acupuncture.

Any physician who wants to practice acupuncture currently has the same opportunity as anyone else to earn legitimate certification in a responsible manner, without loopholes or shortcuts. SB1507 would create a population of inadequately trained acupuncture practitioners.

Acupuncture licensure should not be taken lightly. It is a serious matter of public safety, medical ethics, and the health of our citizens. Please do not undermine the integrity of the acupuncture profession in our state. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

green1 - Karen

From: Suni Reedy [sunihawaii@earthlink.net]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 9:17 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: SB1507

Sonya D. Reedy
350 Ward Avenue Ste 397
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

February 3, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

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Acupuncture licensure should not be taken lightly. It is a serious matter of public safety, medical ethics, and the health of our citizens. Please do not undermine the integrity of the acupuncture profession in our state. Thank

you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

Sincerely,
Sonya D. Reedy
808-521-4377

green1 - Karen

From: Mary Sanchez [marytraveler@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 9:41 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture

February 3, 2011

Mary R. Sanchez
126 Kaiolena Drive
Kailua, HI 96734

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

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The regulation of a professional practice should be vested in the hands of senior members of that profession, who are fully qualified to set professional standards for the practice. It is clearly the responsibility of the Board of Acupuncture, not any other party, to regulate acupuncture. Just as we would not allow the Board of Acupuncture to regulate pharmaceutical drugs or surgery, we should not place the regulation of acupuncture in the hands of those who are not adequately trained in acupuncture.

Any physician who wants to practice acupuncture currently has the same opportunity as anyone else to earn legitimate certification in a responsible manner, without loopholes or shortcuts. SB1507 would create a population of inadequately trained acupuncture practitioners.

Acupuncture licensure should not be taken lightly. It is a serious matter of public safety, medical ethics, and the

health of our citizens. Please do not undermine the integrity of the acupuncture profession in our state. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

Sincerely,

Mary Sanchez

Live simply. Love generously. Care deeply. Speak kindly.

green1 - Karen

From: Susan Aono [sueaono@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 9:53 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Senate Bill 1507

Susan Aono
94-265 Awiwi Place
February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

I am writing to strongly urge your opposition to SB1507 relating to acupuncture. This bill would be harmful to healthcare consumers because it would undermine the quality, safety, and integrity of acupuncture in Hawaii. It would lower professional standards and allow inadequately trained people to practice acupuncture, by giving the Board of Medical Examiners sole regulatory jurisdiction over the practice of acupuncture by physicians and physician's assistants.

The Board of Medical Examiners lacks the expertise to regulate the practice of acupuncture in this way. Only the Board of Acupuncture can appropriately do so, and their current regulatory standards are the safest approach to delivering quality acupuncture to the public.

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Any physician who wants to practice acupuncture currently has the same opportunity as anyone else to earn legitimate certification in a responsible manner, without loopholes or shortcuts. SB1507 would create a population of inadequately trained acupuncture practitioners.

Acupuncture licensure should not be taken lightly. It is a serious matter of public safety, medical ethics, and the health of our citizens. Please do not undermine the integrity of the acupuncture profession in our state. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

Sincerely,

Bobbie Morris, Lic. Ac. MTOM
Malama Acupuncture Center
620 Ainalako Road
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
808 933 1200

February 3, 20100

Re: Senate Bill 1507 and SB 32

To Whom It May Concern:

Acupuncture is much more than inserting needles into the body or the ear. It is a complete medicine with a thorough understanding of its systems to be effective. To lesson this art and medicine to needle insertion is to not only lesson its value but to also create problems for the recipient of the needles.

There is a saying, Western Medicine is difficult to learn but easy to practice, and Chinese medicine is easy to learn but difficult to practice. That is because one size does not fit all, and EVERY patient must be evaluated for his very personal self. This does not mean antibiotics, antidepressants and an anti inflammatory for every person with an infection, mood disorder or inflammation. This means that whatever illness or disorder the patient presents with, he must be personally evaluated and assessed through the Chinese Medical model and treated accordingly. To just insert needles in an elbow of pain is to do a disservice to the patient. Western Medicine is taught very differently than Chinese medicine in their entire approach to "disease". Chinese medicine looks at the entire being in its assessment and not just the complaint. If a practitioner of acupuncture does not receive proper education they will "first, do harm".....

It is akin to an acupuncturist doing a chiropractic adjustment. Yes, we understand the body, pain, etc., but we do not have the full body of knowledge that a chiropractor has regarding the repercussion of an adjustment. We might give temporary relief to the back or neck, but cause other problems due to not understanding the complete system. The same is true for acupuncture. You cannot insert needles in a body or ear without truly understand the power of what you are doing. In auricular acupuncture, if the patient has a tendency to migraine or high blood pressure, you could create a problem. Does the person who just attended a 3 day seminar understand this totally? Can they do anything once they have triggered a headache? The answer is no, because they do not understand what they have done, they cannot "un-do" it. Because something is powerful when used correctly, it is also powerful when used incorrectly.

Community Acupuncture San Anselmo

Lumiel Kim-Hammerich, L.Ac., D.A.O.M. Acu # 5055 CA, 291 HI
415.302-8507

292 Red Hill Avenue, Suite A, San Anselmo, 94960

January 30, 2011

TO: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice-Chair
Health Committee

**RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING SENATE BILL 1507
RELATING TO ACUPUNCTURE**

As a kama`aina and acupuncturist licensed to practice in our fair state of Hawai`i nei, I would like to go on record as opposing SB 1507. Giving health practitioners who are untrained or improperly trained in the art and science of acupuncture is akin, in my opinion, to giving the task of shopping for a wedding banquet to a servant who has had no food to eat for several days. The servant will say that he is shopping for the guests, but in reality his hunger and biased judgment will cause him to make decisions to appease his own hunger, and the guests will suffer as a result.

This is not to say that medical doctors are ignorant scoundrels, but merely to point out that the welfare of the patient must be uppermost in all healthcare decision-making. MDs are generally not trained in Oriental Medicine, though some of them have made valiant efforts to inform themselves by taking classes and by traveling to China. These are the few, hardly representing the bulk of their profession, even these efforts are often not enough to qualify them as acupuncturists. By restricting acupuncture regulation to the province of acupuncture practitioners and neutral parties, there is a greater chance of avoiding corruption in decision-making, as the western medical profession not only does not fully understand the world status of acupuncture as a separate medical system, but tends to view it only as a modality, to be incorporated into their system, with which it is incompatible as well as often incomprehensible.

Passing this bill will mean the death of the acupuncture profession, as the only source of income for acupuncturists, small as it is now, will shrink even further. Acupuncturists are so few that they do not even have a profile with the U.S Board of Labor. The demise of this profession will also mean the disappearance of the old masters' teachings, and will impoverish this state greatly in a cultural as well as a medical sense.

**RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING SENATE BILL 32
RELATING TO HEALTH**

I would like to go on record here as supporting SB 32. This is not contrary to my statements above. The NADA protocol can be taught (and has been taught) to many

February 1, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Health Committee

RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING SENATE BILL 1507
RELATING TO ACUPUNCTURE

As a licensed acupuncturist in the State of Hawaii I strongly oppose Senate Bill 1507 relating to acupuncture. If the State passes this bill, it will wipe out the acupuncture profession in the State of Hawaii. The ones most affected by this will be the patients who need our help and our services. If this bill passes it will be very difficult if not impossible to actually reach them.

Acupuncture is an effective medical modality that patients should have the right to choose on her/his own.

The medical world should embrace this alternative medicine instead of being threatened by it. Please help us continue to help and heal our patients here in Hawaii.

With infinite Aloha,

Akemi Nakagawa Bischoff, L.Ac.
808-347-5243

Feleai Tau

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 02, 2011 2:05 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: renner@hawaii.edu
Subject: Testimony for SB1507 on 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for HTH 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1507

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Tanya Renner
Organization: Individual
Address: George Honolulu
Phone: 808782-6179
E-mail: renner@hawaii.edu
Submitted on: 2/2/2011

Comments:

It is very important that we not lower the educational standards for practitioners of acupuncture.

February 2, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice-Chair
Health Committee

**RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING SENATE BILL 1507
RELATING TO ACUPUNCTURE**

I am writing to oppose Senate Bill 1507 relating to the Board of Acupuncture. I strongly urge you not to pass legislation giving the Hawaii Medical Board powers to regulate the practice of acupuncture and repeal the authority of the Board of Acupuncture.

To be involved in Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine, a practitioner must be acquainted with the standards established by the profession and be trained and qualified to practice. The training involved in oriental medicine is vastly different than that of a western medical doctor. The western approach treats patients' symptoms generally from a chemical or surgical approach. Oriental medicine also treats patient's symptoms, however, through educating the patient to restore and maintain balance and self healing abilities. Each approach, be it western or oriental medicine, must be supported by a governing board that has the knowledge, understanding, and experience in the profession.

Both of these fields must be administered by the senior established professionals that they are trained to oversee. I urge you to support the continuation of the Board of Acupuncture for the field of Oriental Medicine. It is critical for the health and safety of our practitioners and patients.

Sincerely yours,

Jeanne Bernauer

Feleai Tau

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 02, 2011 2:24 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: hipster_crunch@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1507 on 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for HTH 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1507

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: angel
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: hipster_crunch@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/2/2011

Comments:

Feleai Tau

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 02, 2011 2:34 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: missaya@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1507 on 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for HTH 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1507

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Aya Nakajima
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: missaya@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/2/2011

Comments:

2/2/11

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice-Chair
Health Committee

**RE: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507
Relating to Acupuncture**

I am a licensed acupuncturist in the State of Hawaii and I strongly oppose S.B.1507. I graduated from The Institute of Clinical Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine and I am certified by the NCCAOM. I dedicated four years of my life to learn this ancient knowledge which I take very seriously. The depth of knowledge should not be taken lightly or devalued.

With all due respect, Western medicine has its place in our society in that physicians, osteopathic physicians and physician's assistants assume their duties based on their specific knowledge and training. However, those who have not met the education requirements, licensure and certifications required within current regulation of acupuncture by the BOA should not proceed as proposed. There is clearly a remarkable lack of training in comparison to one who is properly trained and licensed. I strongly urge you not to pass this bill. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Theresa Alvillar, L.Ac.

Feleai Tau

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 02, 2011 2:42 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: educated_owl@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1507 on 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for HTH 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1507

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Drew Barthlow
Organization: Individual
Address: Honolulu
Phone: 8082588269
E-mail: educated_owl@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/2/2011

Comments:

Feleai Tau

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 02, 2011 2:42 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: ciaojperry@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1507 on 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for HTH 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1507

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jennifer
Organization: Individual
Address: Honolulu, HI
Phone:
E-mail: ciaojperry@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/2/2011

Comments:

February 2, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Health Committee

Re: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507
Relating to Acupuncture

I am employed at an acupuncture clinic in Kailua and for the first time in my life am being exposed to the *innumerable* benefits and effects of Eastern Medicine, and in particular, acupuncture. I do not understand how or even why it works, but I do know that there are thousands of patients coming through this clinic each year, and almost all leave having experienced healing in some way (and in many cases complete healing) – physical or emotional (to be *very* simple).

Students of acupuncture graduating as a Licensed Acupuncturist has just undergone 3,240 hours of theory, training and practicum and are managed by the American Board of Medical Acupuncture. If this Bill passes, medical doctors will have the ability to become “certified” in acupuncture under the non-acupuncture-specific supervision of the board of medical doctors. They could then possibly be certified with *300 hours or less* of acupuncture training, but still would not even be reviewed or examined by anyone on the American Board of Medical Acupuncture. It’s not safe. Acupuncture is complicated and covers a vast range of injuries, illnesses and the like...and becoming a good, safe practitioner takes at least the required 3000+ hours of school and years of practice. The discrepancy in the amount of training should alarm you and the others on the Health Committee.

If medical doctors think they can get certified quickly in this, then what next? Chiropractic? Physical Therapy? Then we’ll have a bunch of doctors doing too many things and doing none of them well because they are spreading themselves too thin. Leave the acupuncture to those who have properly trained for it. It will likely save health care funds in the long run to not have mishaps and lawsuits.

Very sincerely,

Lia Bettag
41-363 Saddle City Rd #10, Waimanalo, HI 96795

Feleai Tau

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 02, 2011 3:26 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: viki@vndg-hawaii.com
Subject: Testimony for SB615 on 2/4/2011 3:00:00 PM

Testimony for HTH/JDL 2/4/2011 3:00:00 PM SB615

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Viki Bladet
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: viki@vndg-hawaii.com
Submitted on: 2/2/2011

Comments:

Hello,
My husband and I have been trying to have a baby for over 5 years. We have done 1 attempt with IVF. And the 2nd attempt in December 2010 was unsuccessful. We want to do a third attempt however the IVF the cost has put a burden on our financials. We are praying that this bill passes.

Thank you very much for your time.
Viki

Feleai Tau

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 02, 2011 3:53 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: haleapapane@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1507 on 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for HTH 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1507

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Debora Ciampa
Organization: Individual
Address: PO Box 2422 Kealahou, HI 96750
Phone: 808-929-7658
E-mail: haleapapane@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/2/2011

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill. It is like comparing apples and oranges. Each is good within its own right. Being employed in the health system for the past 26 years & even with insurance, I choose to be treated for health reasons by Acupuncture instead of Western medicine. Right or wrong it works for me. I would not trust a Doctor with Acupuncture as I would not trust an Acupuncturist with an emergency medical problem.

Feleai Tau

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 02, 2011 4:09 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: silent1105@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1507 on 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for HTH 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1507

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Autum Kirgan
Organization: Individual
Address: 2419 Ferdinand Ave. Honolulu, HI
Phone: 8082266484
E-mail: silent1105@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/2/2011

Comments:

Feleai Tau

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 02, 2011 4:12 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: lynn.all@maui.net
Subject: Testimony for SB1507 on 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for HTH 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1507

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Lynn Allen
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: lynn.all@maui.net
Submitted on: 2/2/2011

Comments:

I have trained and passed specific Board exams in order to practice Oriental Medicine. I strongly oppose this bill. All should be required to go through the same training in order to practice Oriental Medicine - as is the standard for all medicines.

Feleai Tau

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 02, 2011 4:24 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: Alice.Brayce@Gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB615 on 2/4/2011 3:00:00 PM

Testimony for HTH/JDL 2/4/2011 3:00:00 PM SB615

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Alice Brayce
Organization: Individual
Address: 46-314 Nahewai Street Kaneohe, HI
Phone: 808.234.6107
E-mail: Alice.Brayce@Gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/2/2011

Comments:

Feb 2, 2011

Senator Josh Green
State Capitol, Room 222
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Green,

Thank you for this opportunity to share with you my thoughts in support of SB 978, which appropriates funds for a new system for determining Medicaid eligibility.

The system currently being used to determine Medicaid eligibility is obsolete and unable to handle the high volume of applicants because it relies on paper-driven processes. As an indication of the volume, more than a quarter of a million people are enrolled in Hawaii's Medicaid program. Delays in processing applications translates to delays in obtaining access to health care.

As noted in Section 1 of the bill, the Affordable Care Act (ACA) requires each state to have a health insurance exchange by 2014. The ACA also requires each state to have a website through which individuals may apply for Medicaid or private health care insurance so that there is seamless coordination between the two. Hawaii's current Medicaid application system is not capable of performing the federally mandated functions.

Fortunately, the federal government is creating a financing program that will match state funding to establish new Medicaid eligibility systems, with the federal government providing 90% of the total funding. Federal funds will also become available to maintain the new Medicaid eligibility systems. This is an opportunity that should not be ignored.

For the foregoing reasons, I support SB 978

Sincerely,

Ms. LAURALEE KAWAMATA
128 Lehua St
Wahiawa, HI 96786-2036
(808) 621-4438

Feb 2, 2011

Senator Josh Green
State Capitol, Room 222
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Green,

Thank you for this opportunity to share with you my thoughts in support of SB 978, which appropriates funds for a new system for determining Medicaid eligibility.

I strongly support the importance of a new information technology for our Medicaid program, the following areas impact on all health care providers.

1. Current eligibility check must be real time connection allowing providers to verify eligibility and health plan to which the beneficiary is enrolled
2. Eligibility of beneficiary is critical for all health care providers to process request properly and hopefully gets paid of the services provided.
3. Eligibility is important aspect that helps provider find out if patient is currently eligible to have coverage and allow us to process claims properly to actual payor sources.

We have so much financial losses over the years due to current system not efficient in providing timely change on Med Quest recipient switching plans. Our claims are denied for we were not aware they move from one plan to another for these clients don't usually notify us until we get a denial of payment. The staff at the Medicaid program has not updated the changes in a timely manner then it affect us in many ways.

Again, we sincerely thank you for your support in this bill, so we can be part of helping provide an efficient way of doing business with the Medicaid program.

Thank you,
Violeta Arnobit RN,BSN
CEO
Ace Medical, Inc,
94 910 Moaloalo St
Waipahu, HI 96797
808 678-3600

The system currently being used to determine Medicaid eligibility is obsolete and unable to handle the high volume of applicants because it relies on paper-driven processes. As an indication of the volume, more than a quarter of a million people are enrolled in Hawaii's Medicaid program. Delays in processing applications translates to delays in obtaining access to health care.

As noted in Section 1 of the bill, the Affordable Care Act (ACA) requires each state to have a health insurance exchange by 2014. The ACA also requires each state to have a website through which individuals may apply for Medicaid or private health care insurance so that there is seamless coordination between the two. Hawaii's current Medicaid application system is not capable of performing the federally mandated functions.

Fortunately, the federal government is creating a financing program that will match state funding to establish new Medicaid eligibility systems, with the federal government providing 90% of the total funding. Federal funds will also become available to maintain the new Medicaid eligibility systems. This is an opportunity that should not be ignored.

For the foregoing reasons, I support SB 978

Sincerely,

Mrs. VIOLETA ARNOBIT

green1 - Karen

From: Sheryl Shook [shooks@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 8:58 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Opposition to SB1507

Sheryl Shook, Ph.D.
1510 Thurston, #2
Honolulu, HI 96822
February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

I am writing to strongly urge your opposition to SB1507 relating to acupuncture. This bill would be harmful to healthcare consumers because it would undermine the quality, safety, and integrity of acupuncture in Hawaii. It would lower professional standards and allow inadequately trained people to practice acupuncture, by giving the Board of Medical Examiners sole regulatory jurisdiction over the practice of acupuncture by physicians and physician's assistants.

The Board of Medical Examiners lacks the expertise to regulate the practice of acupuncture in this way. Only the Board of Acupuncture can appropriately do so, and their current regulatory standards are the safest approach to delivering quality acupuncture to the public.

Our current education requirements for acupuncture licensure include 3,240 hours of instruction, graduation from an accredited acupuncture college, and passage of national certification exams. With all due respect for the extensive training MDs receive, their education focuses primarily on pharmaceutical and surgical approaches to illness, and they typically receive little or no training in acupuncture and oriental medicine.

The regulation of a professional practice should be vested in the hands of senior members of that profession, who are fully qualified to set professional standards for the practice. It is clearly the responsibility of the Board of Acupuncture, not any other party, to regulate acupuncture. Just as we would not allow the Board of Acupuncture to regulate pharmaceutical drugs or surgery, we should not place the regulation of acupuncture in the hands of those who are not adequately trained in acupuncture.

Any physician who wants to practice acupuncture currently has the same opportunity as anyone else to earn legitimate certification in a responsible manner, without loopholes or shortcuts. SB1507 would create a population of inadequately trained acupuncture practitioners.

Acupuncture licensure should not be taken lightly. It is a serious matter of public safety, medical ethics, and the health of our citizens. Please do not undermine the integrity of the acupuncture profession in our state. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

Sincerely,

Sheryl Shook, Ph.D.

green1 - Karen

From: draj1@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 9:01 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: opposition to SB1507

From:
Dr. Anita Johnston
258 Kuukama St
Kailua, HI

February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

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pharmaceutical drugs or surgery, we should not place the regulation of acupuncture in the hands of those who are not adequately trained in acupuncture.

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Sincerely,

Anita Johnston, Ph.D.

www.DrAnitaJohnston.com

author, *Eating in the Light of the Moon*

Director, 'Ai Pono Eating Disorders Program, Hawaii 808-540-1001

Consultant, Focus Center for Eating Disorders, Tennessee

green1 - Karen

From: Marni Ellgren [marni.ellgren@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 8:56 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Opposition to SB1507!!!!!!

Marni Ellgren
4340 Sierra Drive,
Honolulu, Hawaii 96816
February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

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Acupuncture licensure should not be taken lightly. It is a serious matter of public safety, medical ethics, and the health of our citizens. Please do not undermine the integrity of the acupuncture profession in our state. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

Sincerely,

Marni Suu Ellgren

green1 - Karen

From: Italia Grasso [igrasso@eastlink.ca]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 9:06 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: igrasso
Subject: Opposition to S.B. #1507 - Acupuncture

From: Italia Grasso/Ganley
2949 Dole Street
Honolulu, HI 96816-1731

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee

Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

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Acupuncture licensure should not be taken lightly. It is a serious matter of public safety, medical ethics, and the health of our citizens. Please do not undermine the integrity of the acupuncture profession in our state. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

Sincerely,

February 1, 2011

TO: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice-Chair
Health Committee

**RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING SENATE BILL 1507
RELATING TO ACUPUNCTURE**

Dear Senator Josh Green, Senator Clarence Nishihara and Vice-Chair Health Committee:

I am Mian Long, an acupuncturist in Hawaii and certified in acupuncture and Oriental medicine by The National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine. I was trained with both West Medicinal physician and traditional Medical doctor in China, and licensed and practiced as a combined doctor medicine on WM and TCM. I also was a research scientist in the institute of Traditional Chinese medicine in China. I have worked long time in biomedical research for Traditional Chinese Medicine and acupuncture in State University of New York.

As I know, both, West and Traditional Chinese Medicine (WM, TCM) are formed in totally different system which make the diagnosis and treatment are totally different too. More than 60 year practiced in China, it shows that physicians trained by both WM and TCM are more success in their practice and research. The medical providers, who tried only WM and when they treat patients with TCM, often give incorrect diagnosis and treatment to their patients.

Why physicians without TCM training are failed in practice in TCM? As said above, WM and TCM are formed different systems, which makes the examines, diagnosis and treatment are different. The TCM diagnosis has not been included to WM education system yet. Most physicians have no knowledge of TCM. For example, they don't know how to read the tongue of patients; how to get information of total pulse examine from patients; they don't know what means the hot, cold body condition; they don't know, what means damp in the body; they don't know, why patients with disease on their organs then effects on limbs, or acu- meridians so on. If they don't know the diagnosis, therefore, do they know how do give a treatment to patients? If we only view the medicine on the way of WM, we may say that, we are able to treat the patients with standard methods based on the disease, physicians only need follow the menus to treat their patients. It sound is a good ideal method. But, TCM more considers the constitution. Patients with different constitution and symptoms, and with same disease may be diagnosis and treatment different in TCM. Patients with same constitution and symptoms and with different diseases may be treat similar in TCM. If only standard the treatment menus on WM diagnosis, the diagnosis and treatment designs are unilateral. It is why, physicians practice acupuncture have been trained by TCM.

In New York, physicians are allowed to practice acupuncture after they completed the acupuncture training for 100 hour. Form my experience and talked to some physician acupuncturists, I deeply feel 100 hour training is not enough for a physician to practice

Jennifer Benner, MSOM, L.Ac. Dipl. Ac.
Licensed Acupuncturist
PO Box 859
Holualoa, HI 96725
808.345.2599
jbennerlac@gmail.com

February 1, 2011

TO: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice-Chair
Health Committee

**RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING SENATE BILL 1507
RELATING TO ACUPUNCTURE**

I am for integrating allopathic and alternative medicine in healthcare. I am for providing options to the public when it comes to their healthcare. I am for having the different options covered by insurance. **I strongly oppose SB 1507.**

Integrating healthcare means bringing licensed acupuncturists to medical offices, hospitals, emergency rooms, etc, or referring to a licensed professional. It means validating acupuncture and Chinese Medicine as a treatment option and having it accessible to patients and covered by their insurance. A licensed acupuncturist has completed the required course of study and practice to earn the title and the right to practice acupuncture. Acupuncture is not simply sticking needles in someone. There is an art, a science and a 5,000-year-old philosophy that has been passed down and refined through generations. It is not something you learn at a weekend workshop.

I elected Senator Josh Green MD because I thought he would make positive changes for healthcare, not minimize a very important part of our healthcare system. If physicians have completed some course-work on acupuncture and want to offer it as a service in their office, the same board that oversees acupuncturists can govern that part of their service. If they truly want to help their patients with acupuncture they can hire or work with a licensed professional in the field of acupuncture.

Bill 1507 proposes the Hawaii medical board oversee physicians practicing acupuncture. What does the Hawaii medical board know about acupuncture? We have different governing boards for a reason. Acupuncture is a complex and unique system. If the physicians are truly practicing "acupuncture" then the "acupuncture" board should govern them. If they are doing something else under the scope of their practice, they should call it something else.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Benner

Sheryl Malin, RN, BS, MAcOM, LAc, CNOR

2333 Kapiolani Blvd. Unit #2909

Honolulu, HI 96826

808-222-4622

ssmalin@gmail.com

www.acupunctureinhawaii.com

February 1, 2011

TO: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice-Chair
Health Committee

**RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING SENATE BILL 1507
RELATING TO ACUPUNCTURE**

**RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING SENATE BILL 32
RELATING TO HEALTH**

I will not cut for stone, even for patients in whom the disease is manifest; I will leave this operation to be performed by practitioners, specialists in this art.

(Hippocratic Oath, 5th century BC)

“Medical acupuncture as performed by physicians is not substantially different from any other type of acupuncture, and therefore, physicians performing “medical acupuncture” should be subject to the same laws of licensure and proof of competency as everyone else”. This statement made by the Attorney General for the state of Hawaii of Hawaii on August 18, 2003 paved the way for retaining the purity of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) both in Hawaii and throughout the mainland.

Consider that the 2002 American community profile reported that an astounding 43.5%, or 526,667 Hawaiian residents, were not born in Hawaii distinguishing it as the melting pot of the Pacific. The state has prided itself on respecting, preserving and protecting the traditions of its residents. Hawaii is a model to the nation for the realization that ancient customs and practices are valid and should be retained in their purest form.

The preservation of TCM, as it should be taught and practiced, is paramount to the untainted practice of this ancient art. History texts from China tell us that the ancient way of learning Chinese medicine was to apprentice with a Master, not from a Westernized clone of ancient traditions. □ Students spent years learning about the art and application of acupuncture and herbal medicine. But they also learned something else that is not taught in modern medicine, holistic, individualized patient care. TCM is an integration of herbs, diet, and acupuncture and to practice one without the other is a travesty of this ancient medical modality. One must learn from many professors, observe with many clinical supervisors, and spend at least a few years to learn how to approach a patient in a holistic way with an entirely new set of diagnostic principles. TCM is not a “one size fits all” medicine.

In an introduction to his Medical Acupuncture course, Joseph M. Helms, M.D. □ (Course Chairman of the

least 43.5% are not Hawaiian born).

I implore you to stand by your insightful 2003 ruling and not be swayed to offer your voters -your supporters - a paradigm that falls short of what it represents.

Respectfully,

Sheryl Malin, RN, LAc

February 1, 2011

TO: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice-Chair
Health Committee

**RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING SENATE BILL 1507
RELATING TO ACUPUNCTURE**

I oppose SB1507 because I truly believe only licensed acupuncturists who have undergone intense training in acupuncture and oriental medicine as required by Board of Acupuncture license law are able to practice acupuncture and oriental medicine and able to bring benefits of acupuncture and oriental medicine to patients.

Sincerely,

Thu Woodward, L.Ac.

Shendao Acupuncture and Herbal Medicine

2733 East Manoa Rd. Ste 203

Honolulu, HI 96822

(808) 384-4577

February 1, 2011

TO: Senator Josh Green, Chair

Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice-Chair

Health Committee

RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING SENATE BILL 1507

RELATING TO ACUPUNCTURE

Dear Senator Josh Green,

I am in opposition to Senate Bill 1507 because medical doctors, osteopathic physicians, and physician assistants **do not have the extensive training required to safely practice acupuncture in any setting**. In addition, I am opposed to this bill because it would enable these novice practitioners to regulate themselves through the Hawaii Medical Board, rather than the Board of Acupuncture.

Licensed acupuncturists in the state of Hawaii are required to receive the equivalent of a Masters degree in acupuncture and Oriental medicine in order to sit for national licensing exams and apply for state licensure. The Board of Acupuncture in Hawaii has successfully regulated this health industry and protected the people of Hawaii from the potential health hazards associated with the practice of acupuncture by untrained individuals.

Judi Kawachi, Lac
1480 Ulupuni St.
Kailua, HI 96734

February 1, 2011

TO: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice-Chair
Health Committee

**RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING SENATE BILL 1507
RELATING TO ACUPUNCTURE**

The fundamentals of Oriental Medicine are not meant to be disrespected by the State of Hawaii in favor of supporting large insurance companies and the medical association that realize the successful value of our concepts. The Board of Acupuncture has preserved the professional field of acupuncture and oriental medicine on a high level of integrity, to serve the people of Hawaii.

Being a recent graduate of ICAOM, I've spent 4 years immersed in this study and am humbled by the wisdom of current practitioners of acupuncture established here in this State. Acupuncture may seem to you, to MDs, to HMSA, and to Kaiser Permanente, as placing of needles on the body similar to taking an aspirin, a pill, a vitamin. If you pass this bill, you are allowing unlicensed acupuncturists to "sell placebo pills". Don't disrespect the education, training and practice of all acupuncturists.

I most humbly ask you to please not give in to these large special interest associations that undermine 2000 years of knowledge for the sake of monetary benefits.

Sincerely,

Judi Kawachi, LAc

Ruby Jessop, LAc
1750 Kalakaua Ave., Suite 201-529
Honolulu, HI 96826

February 1, 2011

TO: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice-Chair
Health Committee

**RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING SENATE BILL 1507
RELATING TO ACUPUNCTURE**

It is of my opinion that anyone who wishes to use acupuncture needles should be duly trained in all aspects of theory and needling techniques as this is a very specialized field and that if one is not properly trained in Oriental Medical diagnosis the outcome could adversely affect the patient.

Sincerely,

Ruby Jessop, LAc, PhD

Steelsmith Natural Health Center
438 Hobron Lane, Ste. V-3
Honolulu, HI 96815
(808) 943-0330 (808) 943-0330

February 1, 2011

TO: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice-Chair
Health Committee

**RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING SENATE BILL 1507
RELATING TO ACUPUNCTURE**

Dear Senator Josh Green,

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Licensed acupuncturists in the state of Hawaii are required to receive the equivalent of a Masters degree in acupuncture and Oriental medicine in order to sit for national licensing exams and apply for state licensure. The Board of Acupuncture in Hawaii has successfully regulated this health industry and protected the people of Hawaii from the potential health hazards associated with the practice of acupuncture by untrained individuals.

Senate Bill 1507 would enable medical practitioners to practice acupuncture after taking only a short course of instruction. In addition, it would exempt them from licensure under the Board of Acupuncture, and allow them to create their own rules for practicing acupuncture in Hawaii.

Please oppose Senate Bill 1507!

Sincerely Yours,

Dr. Anne Frances Hardy
Naturopathic Physician, Licensed Acupuncturist

Victoria J. Wright, L. Ac.
Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine
401 Papaloa Rd. #407
Kapa'a, HI 96746

February 2, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice-Chair
Health Committee
RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING SENATE BILL 1507
RELATING TO ACUPUNCTURE

I oppose Senate Bill 1507. The best way to protect the interests of the public is for the practice of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine to continue under the jurisdiction of the BOA. The BOA has effectively served and protected the community since its inception.

I have practiced Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine for 28 years. I urge you to abide by the 2003 Attorney General's ruling that:

- 1) medical acupuncture is not sufficiently distinct from traditional acupuncture so as to fall outside the scope of the practice of acupuncture and
- 2) physicians licensed by the BME cannot practice medical acupuncture without being licensed by the BOA.

Respectively submitted,

Victoria J. Wright

Ellie Eich, L.Ac.
HC 2 Box 5753
Keaau, HI. 96749
(808) 982-7827
Feb. 2, 2011

TO: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice-Chair
Health Committee

Re: Testimony opposing Senate Bill 1507
regarding acupuncture

Oriental medicine and the practice of acupuncture is a medicine offered to the public after a 4 year period of intensive training, study and supervised practice. The practitioner who undertakes this study and becomes licensed is highly qualified, and has a distinctly different education than medical doctors. Physicians are very skilled in treating acute illness, symptom management and emergencies, but the energy-based discipline of acupuncture offers a completely different approach to healing. It offers help and often resolutions to chronic illness that allopathic medicine is unable to treat, mobilizing the person's innate healing abilities so that balance and harmony are restored. Physicians can refer their patients to licensed skilled acupuncturists, just as we often refer our patients to them when appropriate. These two medicines are complementary.

To allow physicians to set up their own regulations, ignoring the standards set by professionals of Oriental medicine is simply not fair to the profession and its reputation of integrity. The Hawaii Board of Acupuncture should be the sole regulating force in order to insure quality care to patients seeking help through this treatment option.

Sincerely,

Ellie Eich, L.Ac, Dipl. NCCAOM

Ken Smith, L.Ac.
128 D St Sw
Tumwater, WA 98501

February 1, 2011

TO: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice-Chair
Health Committee

RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING SENATE BILL 1507
RELATING TO ACUPUNCTURE

Senators:

I have many questions concerning this bill - which is a blatant attempt by medical doctors to bypass the present acupuncture licensing structure.

Why is the present regulatory process for acupuncturists inapplicable and unsuitable for medical doctors?

It takes thousands of hours to become an acupuncturist. Unless a medical doctor completes the same training, it is akin to me studying several hundred hours and calling myself a medical doctor.

Has a fiscal note been carried out related to the funding of SB 1507, and where would the funding originate? How many fewer hours than a licensed acupuncturist would a medical doctor be allowed to gain an acupuncture license? Will the new license be immediately and fully funded through licensing fees? What title would the new license be termed as? Will both physician assistants and medical doctors hold the same acupuncture title?

Will physician assistants be required to study more hours than medical doctors for an acupuncture license if SB 1507 is passed? How many clinical hours must the medical doctor applicants complete? How will they be tested in their competency and proficiency of acupuncture needling techniques, Chinese medical diagnosis, meridians, points, tongue and pulse diagnosis?

SB 1507 is a blank check to allow medical doctors to be licensed with as of yet unknown rules, unknown fees, unknown parameters for licensing, and no clear plan for their education in acupuncture.

Finally, I question the legislative ethics of an MD chairing discussion and or voting on a bill which both directly affects and benefits his profession, practice and colleagues.

With sincerest regards,

Ken Smith, L.Ac.
Hawaiian Licensed Acupuncturist

Leonard Jacoby, L.Ac.
P.O. Box 13190
Lahaina, Hawaii 96761
(808) 662-4808 / fax 662-4809

Acup. Lic: ACU-450

Fed. ID #: 94-3262452

February 1, 2011

TO: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice-Chair
Health Committee

**RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING SENATE BILL 1507
RELATING TO ACUPUNCTURE**

Dear Dr. Green and Mr. Nishihara,

I strongly oppose the subject proposed bill.

I believe that persons performing acupuncture should be properly trained and that this must include, at a minimum, the curriculum that is currently approved by the State of Hawaii. Even if the western medical professionals covered by this bill have extensive training in allopathic medicine, they require extensive training in the eastern paradigm that underlies acupuncture treatment in order to obtain adequate results for patients. Most western physicians know little or nothing about this and may have difficulty accepting it as a valid frame of reference. Acupuncture and Traditional Chinese Medicine have a proven record of effectiveness yet without a thorough working knowledge of the eastern theory at its core and considerable practice applying it, results obtained will be poor. I am sure that this is not what the legislature desires or what the people of Hawaii deserve.

Please do not allow this bill to proceed for if it passes the quality of Acupuncture in Hawaii will deteriorate with negative impacts on the health of Hawaii's residents and to the reputation of the profession.

Sincerely

Leonard Jacoby, L.Ac., M.S., Dipl. Acupuncture, Dipl. Herbology.

David S. Bowles LAc
3302 Tantalus Dr.
Honolulu, HI 96822
808-537-9298

February 1, 2011

TO: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice-Chair
Health Committee

**RE: TESTIMONY OPPOSING SENATE BILL 1507
RELATING TO ACUPUNCTURE**

I am writing this letter to oppose Senate Bill 1507, which I feel would put the public's health and safety at risk. It is not in the public's best interest to have the regulation of the practice of acupuncture be regulated by any other entity than regulation by Hawaii State Board of Acupuncture ("BOA").

By memorandum, dated July 9th, 2003 Attorney General Mark Bennet sought legal advice as to whether medical acupuncture was sufficiently distinct from traditional acupuncture. Deputy Attorney General James Nagel responded in a letter dated August 18th, 2003 concluding:

"In conclusion for the forgoing reasons, we reiterate that medical acupuncture is not sufficiently distinct from traditional acupuncture so as to fall outside the scope of the practice and that physicians licensed by BME cannot practice medical acupuncture absent licensure by BOA."

I am in agreement with this legal advice. Granting regulation of acupuncture by the Board of Medical Examiners as proposed by Senate Bill 1507, would put the public's health and safety at risk. The Board of Medical Examiners does not have the expertise nor do they have the knowledge of how to regulate Acupuncture.

The regulation and licensing of Acupuncture should stay solely under the authority of the Hawaii State Board of Acupuncture (where it currently resides) which has both the knowledge and the expertise to safely regulate the practice of acupuncture.

Sincerely,

David S. Bowles LAc

Hearing Date: February 4, 2011

Time: 4 pm

Room: 229

Honorable Member of the Senate
Health Committee
State of Hawaii

RE: Senate Bill 1507 –OPPOSE
Regulation of the Practice of Acupuncture

Dear Senator Green, Chair

On behalf of all licensed practitioners of acupuncture, I am writing to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 1507, which would repeal the authority of the Board of Acupuncture to regulate the practice of acupuncture by physicians, osteopathic physicians, and physician's assistants.


I am concerned about protecting my profession and my patients from allowing physicians to practice acupuncture with 300 hours of training in contrast to the 3,240 hours required of licensed acupuncturists. In order to be licensed and competently practice acupuncture, I dedicated myself to a four-year, full-time accredited Master of Science program and invested over \$50,000 in tuition.

Additionally, the creation of a separate board to oversee the practice of "medical acupuncture" is a double standard. In 2003, the Hawaii Attorney General deemed that "medical acupuncture is not sufficiently distinct from traditional acupuncture so as to fall outside the scope of practice of acupuncture and physicians licensed by the Board of Medical Examiners cannot practice medical acupuncture absent licensure by the Board of Acupuncture."

Please preserve this separation to ensure that patients receive the unique care and experience of acupuncture from traditionally trained practitioners. Please help all the dedicated licensed acupuncturists maintain our value in the medical field in Hawaii.

It is for these reasons that the state of Hawaii must respectfully oppose SB 1507.

Sincerely,


Print Name


Signature

green1 - Karen

From: Michelle Mitchell [michelle@yogaofhawaii.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 8:34 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: opposition to SB1507

Michelle Mitchell
55-164 Kokoiki Rd
Hawi, HI 96755

February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

I am writing to strongly urge your opposition to SB1507 relating to acupuncture. This bill would be harmful to healthcare consumers because it would undermine the quality, safety, and integrity of acupuncture in Hawaii. It would lower professional standards and allow inadequately trained people to practice acupuncture, by giving the Board of Medical Examiners sole regulatory jurisdiction over the practice of acupuncture by physicians and physician's assistants.

The Board of Medical Examiners lacks the expertise to regulate the practice of acupuncture in this way. Only the Board of Acupuncture can appropriately do so, and their current regulatory standards are the safest approach to delivering quality acupuncture to the public.

Our current education requirements for acupuncture licensure include 3,240 hours of instruction, graduation from an accredited acupuncture college, and passage of national certification exams. With all due respect for the extensive training MDs receive, their education focuses primarily on pharmaceutical and surgical approaches to illness, and they typically receive little or no training in acupuncture and oriental medicine.

The regulation of a professional practice should be vested in the hands of senior members of that profession, who are fully qualified to set professional standards for the practice. It is clearly the responsibility of the Board of Acupuncture, not any other party, to regulate acupuncture. Just as we would not allow the Board of Acupuncture to regulate pharmaceutical drugs or surgery, we should not place the regulation of acupuncture in the hands of those who are not adequately trained in acupuncture.

Any physician who wants to practice acupuncture currently has the same opportunity as anyone else to earn legitimate certification in a responsible manner, without loopholes or shortcuts. SB1507 would create a population of inadequately trained acupuncture practitioners.

Acupuncture licensure should not be taken lightly. It is a serious matter of public safety, medical ethics, and the health of our citizens. Please do not undermine the integrity of the acupuncture profession in our state. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

Sincerely,

Michelle Mitchell

From: Debra Duggan-Takagi [taeat@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 8:36 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Opposition to SB1507

Debra Duggan-Takagi
135 Forest Ridge Way
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

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Sincerely,

Debra Duggan-Takagi

This email was sent to tateat@aol.com. To ensure that you can

green1 - Karen

From: Rebecca Doescher [bexter1966@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 8:30 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Opposition to SB1507

Rebecca Doescher
1471 Pueo St
Honolulu, HI 96816

February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

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Acupuncture licensure should not be taken lightly. It is a serious matter of public safety, medical ethics, and the health of our citizens. Please do not undermine the integrity of the acupuncture profession in our state. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

Sincerely,
Rebecca Doescher

As a student of acupuncture at ICAOM, I am familiar with SB1507, which would grant the Hawaii Board of Medical Examiners sole regulatory jurisdiction over the practice of acupuncture by physicians, osteopathic physicians and physician's assistants, instead of being certified by the Board of Acupuncture.

SB1507 should not be passed. The schooling I receive is far more extensive than an M.D. would in the Oriental healing arts. Acupuncture is a skill that requires many layers of training which addresses the patient's physical, emotional, and mental health, as well as examining a person's diet, lifestyle and ways in which they deal with stress. The choosing of acupuncture points in formulating a treatment specific to a patient's needs requires a comprehensive understanding of their physical, mental and emotional state.

Really I don't have issue with a medical doctor being trained in acupuncture, as long as they understand Chinese medical theory and the application of it clearly. But SB1507 will create a population of poorly trained acupuncture practitioners, allowing them to perform acupuncture without extensive education and training. While the reductionist approach that a 200 hour crash course physicians would receive in acupuncture might offer patients in some situations an effective treatment, overall it will be like sticking a Band-Aid on a five inch cut. This approach undermines what acupuncture is about.

I am a licensed massage therapist since 2007 (850 hours training), certified herbalist/aromatherapist since 2005 (232 hours of training), and graduated from college in 2003 with a BA in sociology and minor in psychology (over 3000 hours). Perhaps I should begin to petition the Senate that I, with all of my background in alternative healing, could become a medical doctor competent enough to dole out advice about pacemakers and oxygen tanks if I just took a few extra classes. Clearly, the medical establishment would pass me off.

There is no debate that acupuncture is an effective medicine. At least we don't have to argue about that any longer, but I feel we are still wasting each other's time. The real issue is offering the best care to our patients, isn't it? If it truly is, then let's allow real, licensed, and trained acupuncturists into hospitals and doctor clinics. Until then, please leave acupuncture where it should be, in the hands of strongly educated and trained professionals.

Thank you,

Andrea Ipsaro, BA, CMT

green1 - Karen

From: Gerry Fey [Gerry@AkamaiPM.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 8:52 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture

Senator Josh Green
Senator Clarence Nishihara and other Committee members.

I do not want the Board of Medical Examiners to have sole regulatory jurisdiction over the practice of acupuncture by physicians and physicians assistants. I am happy with the requirements for Acupuncturists now..

MD's receive very little or no training in acupuncture.

PLEASE VOTE NO ON THIS BILL....

Gerry Fey
7112 Pilaa Pl
Honolulu, Hi 96825

Feb 3, 2011

green1 - Karen

From: AJones4554@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 8:49 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture

From: Beverly Ana Jones
PO Box 1553
45-3684 Mamane Street
Honokaa, HI 96727

February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

I am writing to **strongly urge your opposition to SB1507 relating to acupuncture**. This bill would be harmful to healthcare consumers because it would undermine the quality, safety, and integrity of acupuncture in Hawaii. It would lower professional standards and allow inadequately trained people to practice acupuncture, by giving the Board of Medical Examiners sole regulatory jurisdiction over the practice of acupuncture by physicians and physician's assistants.

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Acupuncture licensure should not be taken lightly. It is a serious matter of public safety, medical ethics, and the health of our citizens. Please do not undermine the integrity of the acupuncture profession in our state. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

Sincerely,
Beverly Ana Jones

green1 - Karen

From: Melissa O'Sullivan [mjosullivan@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 8:49 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Opposition to SB1507

Melissa O'Sullivan
86854 F Lualualei Hmstd Rd
Waianae, Hawaii 96792
February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

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Acupuncture licensure should not be taken lightly. It is a serious matter of public safety, medical ethics, and the health of our citizens. Please do not undermine the integrity of the acupuncture profession in our state. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

Sincerely,
Melissa O'Sullivan

green1 - Karen

From: Cliff Montgomery [cliffmontgomery@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 8:49 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: Tammy Montgomery
Subject: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture

Cliff Montgomery
958 Kailiu Place
Honolulu, Hawaii 96825

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

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Acupuncture licensure should not be taken lightly. It is a serious matter of public safety, medical ethics, and the health of our citizens. Please do not undermine the integrity of the acupuncture profession in our state. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

Sincerely,
Cliff Montgomery

green1 - Karen

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 8:50 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: gbmhart@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1507 on 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for HTH 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1507

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: gina hart
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: gbmhart@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/3/2011

Comments:

green1 - Karen

From: corinne fujimoto [chunfujimoto@mac.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 8:50 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Opposition to SB 1507

Corinne Chun Fujimoto
P.O. Box 208
Kaaawa, HI 96730

February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and honorable members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. I strongly urge your opposition to SB1507 relating to acupuncture.

This bill undermines the current quality, safety, and integrity of acupuncture in Hawaii. It would lower professional standards and allow inadequately trained people to practice acupuncture.

The Board of Medical Examiners lacks the expertise to regulate the practice of acupuncture. Only the Board of Acupuncture can appropriately regulate this specialized field. Their current regulatory standards are the safest approach to delivering quality acupuncture to the public.

The current educational requirements for acupuncture licensure include 3,240 hours of instruction, graduation from an accredited acupuncture college, and passage of national certification exams. The educational training of medical doctors focuses primarily on pharmaceutical and surgical approaches to illness, and they typically receive little or no training in acupuncture and oriental medicine.

The regulation of a professional practice should be vested in the hands of senior members of that profession, who are fully qualified to set professional standards for the practice. It is clear that the responsibility to regulate acupuncture should rest with the Board of Acupuncture, not with an entity that is not adequately trained in this discipline.

SB1507 would create a population of inadequately trained acupuncture practitioners.

Acupuncture licensure is a serious matter of public safety, medical ethics, and the health of our citizens.

Please do not undermine the integrity of the acupuncture profession in Hawai'i. As a concerned citizen for the wellbeing of other citizens of this State, I encourage your opposition to SB1507.

Sincerely,

Corinne Chun Fujimoto

green1 - Karen

From: melvuchida@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 8:50 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Oppose Senate Bill 1507 Re: Acupuncture

The Board of Acupuncture helps maintain standards and quality of acupuncture professionals. Transferring regulatory jurisdiction of this field to the Board of Medical Examiners will be detrimental, as those members will lack the years of training and experience necessary to administer this very narrow field of medical practice.

Sincerely,

Mel Uchida
3511 Kepuhi St.
Honolulu, HI 96815

green1 - Karen

From: Lisa Scontras [lisascontras@mac.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 8:53 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Acupuncture bill
Attachments: 2x4.tiff; ATT00001..txt

Lisa Scontras
6226 Keokea Place
Honolulu, HI 96825
February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture (Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

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Sincerely,
Lisa Scontras

green1 - Karen

From: Gayle Tate [gtate420@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 8:54 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Opposition to SB1507

Gayle J. Tate
160B Hookea Dr.
Kailua, HI 96734

February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

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Sincerely,

Gayle Tate

438 Hobron Lane, Suite V-6 | Honolulu, Hawaii USA 96815

green1 - Karen

From: Melissa Yee [drmlsukyo@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 8:48 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Testimony in Opposition SB 1507, Senate Hearing Jan 4, 4:00, Room 229, Chairperson Senator Josh Green

Senate Health Hearing Friday, January 4, 4:00 pm, Room 229
Honorable Senator Josh Green, Health Committee
Testimony in Opposition to SB 1507

I have been a licensed acupuncturist since 1996 and have been able to help many people with my profession. I have always believed that complementary therapies were a better way to treat patients with less side effects and personally do not go to conventional therapy even when I had two car accidents. My health is good, and my network of competent alternative practitioners has brought me this far.

I know that doctors in their desire to help patients feel that they are qualified to do "medical" acupuncture on their patients. However, it has been my experience that simply jabbing a needle into the body does not mean that one is doing acupuncture. It takes years of practice to know which points to use relative to the patient's condition. I know specifically of one medical doctor who was doing acupuncture in a local medical facility, before the doctors were not allowed to treat with acupuncture, who injured numerous patients with his lack of skill and expertise. Patients who came to see me told me that they had seen this doctor and had suffered various side effects and had not been helped by his treatments. Although this is only one case, I would strongly discourage this committee from allowing this to occur again if medical doctors would be permitted to treat with acupuncture.

Acupuncture is an art and science and is beginning to be proven to be effective for a wide range of medical conditions. It has existed for 4000 years and is still a mystery to most doctors who are skeptical of its benefits.

This committee would do a great disfavor to the community if this bill is allowed to pass. Let the specialists, acupuncturists with their years of training and practice, be the ones to administer acupuncture and not medical doctors unless they have the qualifications to do so. If the conventional means of treating patients are not working, then doctors should learn what we have learned in order to practice what we do. The doctors should not be allowed to do acupuncture unless approved by our present board according to the laws and rules which have already been accepted by the legislature.

Sincerely, Dr. Melissa L. Yee
1480 Kinau Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814
Phone 292-1179

green1 - Karen

From: Geraldine Green [gzemail927@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 9:13 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Opposition to SB1507

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

I am writing to strongly urge your opposition to SB1507 relating to acupuncture. This bill would be harmful to healthcare consumers because it would undermine the quality, safety, and integrity of acupuncture in Hawaii. It would lower professional standards and allow inadequately trained people to practice acupuncture, by giving the Board of Medical Examiners sole regulatory jurisdiction over the practice of acupuncture by physicians and physician's assistants.

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Acupuncture licensure should not be taken lightly. It is a serious matter of public safety, medical ethics, and the health of our citizens. Please do not undermine the integrity of the acupuncture profession in our state. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

Sincerely,

Geraldine Green
1630 Liholiho St. #1210
Honolulu HI 96822

green1 - Karen

From: Maria Palompo [liriopal@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 9:16 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture

February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee

Re: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

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Sincerely,

Maria Palompo

95-957 Ukuwai Street, #1807
Mililani, HI 96789

"For I know the things that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace & not of evil, to give you a future & a hope." Jer 29.11

green1 - Karen

From: Junko Lowry [julowry@ksbe.edu]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 9:18 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Opposition to SB1507

Junko Lowry
1477 Halekoa Dr., Hon., HI. 96821
February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

I am writing to strongly urge your opposition to SB1507 relating to acupuncture. This bill would be harmful to healthcare consumers because it would undermine the quality, safety, and integrity of acupuncture in Hawaii. It would lower professional standards and allow inadequately trained people to practice acupuncture, by giving the Board of Medical Examiners sole regulatory jurisdiction over the practice of acupuncture by physicians and physician's assistants.

The Board of Medical Examiners lacks the expertise to regulate the practice of acupuncture in this way. Only the Board of Acupuncture can appropriately do so, and their current regulatory standards are the safest approach to delivering quality acupuncture to the public.

Our current education requirements for acupuncture licensure include 3,240 hours of instruction, graduation from an accredited acupuncture college, and passage of national certification exams. With all due respect for the extensive training MDs receive, their education focuses primarily on pharmaceutical and surgical approaches to illness, and they typically receive little or no training in acupuncture and oriental medicine.

The regulation of a professional practice should be vested in the hands of senior members of that profession, who are fully qualified to set professional standards for the practice. It is clearly the responsibility of the Board of Acupuncture, not any other party, to regulate acupuncture. Just as we would not allow the Board of Acupuncture to regulate pharmaceutical drugs or surgery, we should not place the regulation of acupuncture in the hands of those who are not adequately trained in acupuncture.

Any physician who wants to practice acupuncture currently has the same opportunity as anyone else to earn legitimate certification in a responsible manner, without loopholes or shortcuts. SB1507 would create a population of inadequately trained acupuncture practitioners.

Acupuncture licensure should not be taken lightly. It is a serious matter of public safety, medical ethics, and the health of our citizens. Please do not undermine the integrity of the acupuncture profession in our state. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

Sincerely,

Junko Lowry

This message is the property of Kamehameha Schools and any attachments are confidential to the intended recipient at the e-mail address to which it has been addressed. If you are not the intended recipient, you may not copy, forward, disclose or use any part of this message or its attachments. If you received this transmission in error please notify the sender immediately by e-mail or contact Kamehameha Schools at 808 523 6200 and then delete this message from your system.

green1 - Karen

From: Ruth Uy [ruthuy@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 9:17 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture

Ruth Mills
PO Box 2687
Honolulu, HI 96803

February 3, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

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Sincerely,
Ruth Mills

Hearing Date: February 4, 2011

Time: 4 pm

Room: 229

Honorable Member of the Senate
Health Committee
State of Hawaii

**RE: Senate Bill 1507 –OPPOSE
Regulation of the Practice of Acupuncture**

Dear Senator Green, Chair

On behalf of all licensed practitioners of acupuncture, I am writing to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 1507, which would repeal the authority of the Board of Acupuncture to regulate the practice of acupuncture by physicians, osteopathic physicians, and physician's assistants.

I am concerned about protecting my profession and my patients from allowing physicians to practice acupuncture with 300 hours of training in contrast to the 3,240 hours required of licensed acupuncturists. In order to be licensed and competently practice acupuncture, I dedicated myself to a four-year, full-time accredited Master of Science program and invested over \$50,000 in tuition.

Additionally, the creation of a separate board to oversee the practice of "medical acupuncture" is a double standard. In 2003, the Hawaii Attorney General deemed that "medical acupuncture is not sufficiently distinct from traditional acupuncture so as to fall outside the scope of practice of acupuncture and physicians licensed by the Board of Medical Examiners cannot practice medical acupuncture absent licensure by the Board of Acupuncture."

Please preserve this separation to ensure that patients receive the unique care and experience of acupuncture from traditionally trained practitioners. Please help all the dedicated licensed acupuncturists maintain our value in the medical field in Hawaii.

It is for these reasons that the state of Hawaii must respectfully oppose SB 1507.

Sincerely,

Sandra L. Huff, L.Ac.
Print Name


Signature

Hearing Date: February 4, 2011

Senate Sgt-of-Arms Fax #: 586-6659

Time: 4 pm

Room: 229

Honorable Members of the Senate Health Committee
State of Hawaii

RE: Senate Bill 1507 –OPPOSE
Regulation of the Practice of Acupuncture

Dear Senator Green, Chair

On behalf of all licensed practitioners of acupuncture, I am writing to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 1507, which would repeal the authority of the Board of Acupuncture to regulate the practice of acupuncture by physicians, osteopathic physicians, and physician's assistants.

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It is for these reasons that the state of Hawaii must respectfully oppose SB 1507.

Sincerely,

Yu-Ling Low
Print Name

[Handwritten Signature]
Signature

Hearing Date: February 4, 2011

Senate Sgt-of-Arms Fax #: 586-6659

Time: 4 pm

Room: 229

Honorable Members of the Senate Health Committee
State of Hawaii

RE: Senate Bill 1507 –OPPOSE
Regulation of the Practice of Acupuncture

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On behalf of all licensed practitioners of acupuncture, I am writing to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 1507, which would repeal the authority of the Board of Acupuncture to regulate the practice of acupuncture by physicians, osteopathic physicians, and physician's assistants.

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It is for these reasons that the state of Hawaii must respectfully oppose SB 1507.

Sincerely,

Tommy Lee

Print Name



Signature

green1 - Karen

From: Gary Bell [doctorspa@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 9:46 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Opposing Senate Bill 1507

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

I am writing to strongly urge your opposition to SB1507 relating to acupuncture.

I have been a licensed Chiropractor and Diplomate of Neurology in the State of Hawaii since 1990. I have worked at the Prestigious Honolulu Medical Group and have worked side by side with the Medical Profession over the years.

This bill undermines not only the integrity of the Acupuncture profession but will only open the door for MD's to abuse and misuse an entire healthcare field. The introduction of this Bill and Support by the HMA only serves to belittle an entire healthcare profession and may cause unskilled professionals to luer the unsuspecting public into receiving services that would have been better performed by a properly trained Acupuncture Specialist. You put the public safety at risk by even entertaining this bill. Acupuncture is a lot more than sticking needles into someone.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

Sincerely,

--

Kind Regards,

Dr. Gary Bell
President: Spinal Dynamics Hawaii, Inc.
2875 S. King St. Suite #205
Honolulu, Hawaii. 96826
Ofc: 808-942-1144
Fax: 808-942-1142
Cell: 808-382-0911

green1 - Karen

From: Melissa Scharl [melissa.scharl@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 9:37 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture

Melissa Scharl
98-890 Kuhao Pl.
Aiea, HI 96701
February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

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green1 - Karen

From: MARLO MYERS [marlomyers@msn.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 9:33 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture

Marlo Myers, L.Ac. #608
67-381 Farrington Highway
Waialua, HI 96791
February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

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Sincerely,
Marlo Myers, L.Ac. #608

green1 - Karen

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 9:33 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: pcpinc@ilhawaii.net
Subject: Testimony for SB1507 on 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for HTH 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1507

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Paul K. Takamatsu
Organization: Individual
Address: 45-3456 Koa St. Honokaa, Hawaii
Phone: (808)775-9255
E-mail: pcpinc@ilhawaii.net
Submitted on: 2/3/2011

Comments:

TCM is a practice on it's own not to be allowed to other practitioners without adequate knowledge. To do so would be a disservice to both the practitioner and his/her patient.

Hearing Date: February 4, 2011

Senate Sgt-of-Arms Fax #: 586-6659

Time: 4 pm

Room: 229

Honorable Members of the Senate Health Committee
State of Hawaii

RE: Senate Bill 1507 -OPPOSE
Regulation of the Practice of Acupuncture

Dear Senator Green, Chair

On behalf of all licensed practitioners of acupuncture, I am writing to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 1507, which would repeal the authority of the Board of Acupuncture to regulate the practice of acupuncture by physicians, osteopathic physicians, and physician's assistants.

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Please preserve this separation to ensure that patients receive the unique care and experience of acupuncture from traditionally trained practitioners. Please help all the dedicated licensed acupuncturists maintain our value in the medical field in Hawaii.

It is for these reasons that the state of Hawaii must respectfully oppose SB 1507.

Sincerely,

Sumiko Ikeda
Print Name


Signature

Hearing Date: February 4, 2011

Time: 4 pm

Room: 229

Honorable Member of the Senate
Health Committee
State of Hawaii

RE: Senate Bill 1507 -OPPOSE
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Sincerely,



Print Name



Signature

Hearing Date: February 4, 2011

Senate Sgt-of-Arms Fax #: 586-6659

Time: 4 pm

Room: 229

Honorable Members of the Senate Health Committee
State of Hawaii

RE: Senate Bill 1507 –OPPOSE
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Print Name


Signature

Hearing Date: February 4, 2011

Senate Sgt-of-Arms Fax #: 586-6659

Time: 4 pm

Room: 229

Honorable Members of the Senate Health Committee
State of Hawaii

RE: Senate Bill 1507 –OPPOSE
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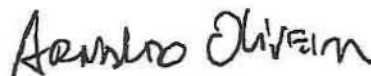
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It is for these reasons that the state of Hawaii must respectfully oppose SB 1507.

Sincerely,



Print Name


Signature

Hearing Date: February 4, 2011

Senate Sgt-of-Arms Fax #: 586-6659

Time: 4 pm

Room: 229

Honorable Members of the Senate Health Committee
State of Hawaii

RE: Senate Bill 1507 --OPPOSE
Regulation of the Practice of Acupuncture

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It is for these reasons that the state of Hawaii must respectfully oppose SB 1507.

Sincerely,

Kai Hung Tseng
Print Name

Kai Hung Tseng
Signature

Hearing Date: February 4, 2011 Time: 4 pm Room: 229

Fax: 586-6659

Honorable Member of the Senate
Health Committee
State of Hawaii

RE: Senate Bill 1507
Regulation of the Practice of Acupuncture

Dear Senator Green, Chair

I am a licensed medical doctor and acupuncturist in the State of Hawaii. I graduated from medical school in 1981. My medical specialty is family medicine. I have completed Joseph Helm, MD's Medical Acupuncture via UCLA extension program in 1996 and many hours of acupuncture CME workshops after that (the list of the courses are documented in my web www.chimedicalcenter.com in CV page). I have been a fellow of American Board of Medical Acupuncturs since 2001.

I practiced acupuncture with my Family Medicine specialty for 13 years in Ohio prior to move to Hawaii. The State of Hawaii failed to accept my medical acupuncture training despite my 13 years of successful acupuncture practice. I took 2.5 years off from my family medicine practice and enroll into an acupuncture school in Hawaii in 2004 and graduated in December 2006 from the Institute of Clinical Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine where I received total 151 credits / 2715 hours (Didactic 1815 hours, clinical 900 hours) among which 555 didactic hours and 90 clinical hours (20%) were transferred from my previous medical training. The requirement for taking acupuncture licensing exam is minimum 1,515 didactic hours and 660 clinical hours. The credits I have received from ICAOM enabled me take the national acupuncture license via National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine.

I appreciate all these educational opportunities in both medical acupuncture and Traditional Chinese Medicine school (TCM). My personal experience is that TCM school failed to teach me how to integrate allopathic medicine into Chinese medicine with obvious reason that they were not medical doctors. So my need of this part of education has not met by the TCM school. This valuable integrative skill came from Dr. Helm's Medical acupuncture course.

Being bilingual in Chinese and English and boarded by both Medical acupuncture and TCM I feel that it is important to have TCM work with Medical Acupuncture in order to bring this ancient medical wisdom into the highest use in 21st century. I will be happy to facilitate this process so this bill become a win-win resolution.

Elizabeth Chen Christenson, MD, LAc.
Associate Clinical Professor
Department of Complementary & Alternative Medicine
John A. Burns School of Medicine University of Hawaii

Associate Professor
Institute of Clinical Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine, Honolulu, Hawaii

Director, CHI (Comprehensive Health Innovations) Medical Center LL, Kailua, Hawaii

www.chimedicalcenter.com
808-261-7801

green1 - Karen

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 9:12 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: dillberghealth@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1507 on 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for HTH 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1507

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Dustin Dillberg
Organization: Dillberg Intergrated Healthcare
Address: 2711 Ala Kinoiki St HI
Phone: 808 742-9326
E-mail: dillberghealth@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/3/2011

Comments:

We strongly oppose this bill. The Board of Acupuncture does a wonderful job and looks after the proper use of this medical technique.

green1 - Karen

From: Julia Myers [jlw.myers@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 9:13 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Opposition to SB1507

Please oppose the bill SB1507 that would permit physicians and physician assistants with little or no training to use acupuncture.

Qualified acupuncturists receive extensive training and are licensed by a board of highly qualified professional practitioners. Physicians receive extensive health care training but NOT in acupuncture.

It makes no sense to strip the regulation of this professional practice from the Board of Acupuncture and give it to the Board of Medical Examiners who would have no expertise. This may endanger public health.

Thank you,

Julia Myers
950 Laki Road
Honolulu 96817
(808) 440-4232 (work)

green1 - Karen

From: mateos@katewwdb.com on behalf of KEITH MATEO [mateos@katewwdb.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 12:33 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Opposing Bill 1507 Acupuncture

Nikki Mateo

91-1109 Hoowalea St. Ewa Beach 96706

February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair

Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair

Senate Health Committee

Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**

(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

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Sincerely,

Nikki Mateo

green1 - Karen

From: kauakea@gmail.com on behalf of Photo Resource Hawaii [prh@photoresourcehawaii.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 1:49 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Stop SB1507

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

I am totally opposed the bill SB1507

I have been getting acupuncture from numerous practitioners in the state of Hawaii since 1983. These health care professionals who have trained deserve our support during these trying economic times. We cannot lower the standards to allow inadequately trained people to practice acupuncture, by giving the Board of Medical Examiners sole regulatory jurisdiction over the practice of acupuncture by physicians and physician's assistants.

Our current education requirements for acupuncture licensure include 3,240 hours of instruction, graduation from an accredited acupuncture college, and passage of national certification exams. With all due respect for the extensive training MDs receive, their education focuses primarily on pharmaceutical and surgical approaches to illness, and they typically receive little or no training in acupuncture and oriental medicine.

The regulation of a professional practice should be vested in the hands of senior members of that profession, who are fully qualified to set professional standards for the practice. It is clearly the responsibility of the Board of Acupuncture, not any other party, to regulate acupuncture. Just as we would not allow the Board of Acupuncture to regulate pharmaceutical drugs or surgery, we should not place the regulation of acupuncture in the hands of those who are not adequately trained in acupuncture.

Any physician who wants to practice acupuncture currently has the same opportunity as anyone else to earn legitimate certification in a responsible manner, without loopholes or shortcuts. SB1507 would create a population of inadequately trained acupuncture practitioners.

Acupuncture licensure should not be taken lightly. It is a serious matter of public safety, medical ethics, and the health of our citizens. Please do not undermine the integrity of the acupuncture profession in our state. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

Sincerely,

Tami Winston

--

808-599-7773

<http://www.PhotoResourceHawaii.com>

or visit us at [facebook.com/PhotoResourceHawaii](https://www.facebook.com/PhotoResourceHawaii)

green1 - Karen

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 1:41 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: christina.sohriakoff@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1507 on 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for HTH 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1507

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Christina Sohriakoff
Organization: Individual
Address: 66-1326 Ahuli Circle Kamuela
Phone: 8089879556
E-mail: christina.sohriakoff@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/3/2011

Comments:

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice-Chair
Health Committee

RE: Testimony Opposing State Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture

I write in strong opposition to SB1507 as it deregulates the practice of acupuncture and essentially eliminates the professional status of Acupuncturists in the state of Hawaii. In addition it jeopardizes the public safety by placing a regulatory committee of untrained and thus unqualified individuals in charge of overseeing individuals who are minimally trained at best. There are no qualification requirements outlined for the practice of acupuncture under HRS 453 - a practice which requires thousands of hours of didactic and clinical training as well as the passage of national board exams to gain professional status.

Without a doubt, Medical Doctors, et. All mentioned in the bill have undergone specialized training and possess skills within their designated professions. But to allow these professionals the ability to practice acupuncture without the due training would compromise acupuncture and Oriental Medicine and safety of the public. Proper didactic and clinical experience are absolutely non-negotiable. The treatment principles used in Oriental Medicine are completely different and a thorough understanding is necessary practice safely and effectively.

Had I had more opportunity to respond to this matter (as opposed to less than 15 hours since first notification), I would have drafted a much more thorough response..

Sincerely,

Christina Sohriakoff
Kamuela, Hawaii

808-987-9556

green1 - Karen

From: Alaya DeNoyelles [alayaden@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 1:37 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Opposition to SB1507

Alaya DeNoyelles
PO Box 1792
Kapaa, HI 96746
February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

I am writing to strongly urge your opposition to SB1507 relating to acupuncture. This bill would be harmful to healthcare consumers because it would undermine the quality, safety, and integrity of acupuncture in Hawaii. It would lower professional standards and allow inadequately trained people to practice acupuncture, by giving the Board of Medical Examiners sole regulatory jurisdiction over the practice of acupuncture by physicians and physician's assistants.

The Board of Medical Examiners lacks the expertise to regulate the practice of acupuncture in this way. Only the Board of Acupuncture can appropriately do so, and their current regulatory standards are the safest approach to delivering quality acupuncture to the public.

Our current education requirements for acupuncture licensure include 3,240 hours of instruction, graduation from an accredited acupuncture college, and passage of national certification exams. With all due respect for the extensive training MDs receive, their education focuses primarily on pharmaceutical and surgical approaches to illness, and they typically receive little or no training in acupuncture and oriental medicine.

The regulation of a professional practice should be vested in the hands of senior members of that profession, who are fully qualified to set professional standards for the practice. It is clearly the responsibility of the Board of Acupuncture, not any other party, to regulate acupuncture. Just as we would not allow the Board of Acupuncture to regulate pharmaceutical drugs or surgery, we should not place the regulation of acupuncture in the hands of those who are not adequately trained in acupuncture.

Any physician who wants to practice acupuncture currently has the same opportunity as anyone else to earn legitimate certification in a responsible manner, without loopholes or shortcuts. SB1507 would create a population of inadequately trained acupuncture practitioners.

Acupuncture licensure should not be taken lightly. It is a serious matter of public safety, medical ethics, and the health of our citizens. Please do not undermine the integrity of the acupuncture profession in our state. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

green1 - Karen

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 1:37 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: soulfullee@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1507 on 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for HTH 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1507

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Lisa Lee
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: soulfullee@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/3/2011

Comments:

green1 - Karen

From: Louisa (Lu) DiGrazia [yogakailua@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 1:36 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture

L. DiGrazia
Kailua, Oahu
February 4th, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

This bill, which was introduced with the support of an MD and backed by the Hawaii Medical Association, could undermine my access to safe, quality acupuncture. We are currently protected by the Hawaii Board of Acupuncture against the potential health hazards of acupuncture in the hands of untrained individuals. Licensed acupuncturists in Hawaii are required to earn the equivalent of a Masters degree, complete 3,240 hours of instruction at accredited colleges, and pass rigorous national certification exams. The proposed bill, SB1507, could deprive us of this protection and lower the standard of care citizens may receive by giving the Board of Medical Examiners sole regulatory jurisdiction over the practice of acupuncture by physicians and physician's assistants. This would exempt MDs, and others without adequate training in acupuncture, from licensure by the Board of Acupuncture. It would allow them to create their own rules for practicing acupuncture, and to do so after receiving only brief instruction.

I am writing to strongly urge your opposition to SB1507 relating to acupuncture. This bill would be harmful to healthcare consumers because it would undermine the quality, safety, and integrity of acupuncture in Hawaii. It would lower professional standards and allow inadequately trained people to practice acupuncture, by giving the Board of Medical Examiners sole regulatory jurisdiction over the practice of acupuncture by physicians and physician's assistants.

The Board of Medical Examiners lacks the expertise to regulate the practice of acupuncture in this way. Only the Board of Acupuncture can appropriately do so, and their current regulatory standards are the safest approach to delivering quality acupuncture to the public.

Our current education requirements for acupuncture licensure include 3,240 hours of instruction, graduation from an accredited acupuncture college, and passage of national certification exams. With all due respect for the extensive training MDs receive, their education focuses primarily on pharmaceutical and surgical approaches to illness, and they typically receive little or no training in acupuncture and oriental medicine.

The regulation of a professional practice should be vested in the hands of senior members of that profession, who are fully qualified to set professional standards for the practice. It is clearly the responsibility of the Board of Acupuncture, not any other party, to regulate acupuncture. Just as we would not allow the Board of

Acupuncture to regulate pharmaceutical drugs or surgery, we should not place the regulation of acupuncture in the hands of those who are not adequately trained in acupuncture.

Any physician who wants to practice acupuncture currently has the same opportunity as anyone else to earn legitimate certification in a responsible manner, without loopholes or shortcuts. SB1507 would create a population of inadequately trained acupuncture practitioners.

Acupuncture licensure should not be taken lightly. It is a serious matter of public safety, medical ethics, and the health of our citizens. Please do not undermine the integrity of the acupuncture profession in our state. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

Sincerely, L. DiGrazia
Kailua

green1 - Karen

From: Akana, Arlene E. [Arlene.Akana@doh.hawaii.gov]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 3:54 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: Aquino, Julie A.
Subject: SB0705_HTH_02-04-11_HTH.doc
Attachments: SB0705_HTH_02-04-11_HTH.doc

Attached is the testimony for SB0705, Relating to Health, for the Department of Health.

Arlene Akana
Office of Health Care Assurance
Department of Health
1250 Punchbowl Street, Room 340
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Phone: (808) 586-4080
Fax: (808) 586-4090
E-mail: arlene.akana@doh.hawaii.gov

February 3, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice-Chair
Health Committee

RE: Testimony Opposing State Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture

I write in strong opposition to SB1507 as it deregulates the practice of acupuncture and essentially eliminates the professional status of Acupuncturists in the state of Hawaii. In addition it jeopardizes the public safety by placing a regulatory committee of untrained and thus unqualified individuals in charge of overseeing individuals who are minimally trained at best. There are no qualification requirements outlined for the practice of acupuncture under HRS 453 – a practice which requires thousands of hours of didactic and clinical training as well as the passage of national board exams to gain professional status. Please do not minimize nor disrespect this ancient and valuable medicine and its practitioners.

Having had the opportunity to spend my career in healthcare, both with physicians, surgeons and acupuncturists, it is clear to me and evident through patient response that each profession has a place and a tradition to be respected. Each profession offers its unique contribution to health and wellness and should never be compromised nor disrespected by the professionals from other sciences.

Had I had more opportunity to respond to this matter (as opposed to less than 15 hours since first notification), I would have drafted a much more thorough response..

Sincerely,

Teresa Lever
PO Box 437321
Kamuela, HI 96743
801.661.1556

Hearing Date: February 4, 2011

Senate Sgt-of-Arms Fax #: 586-6659

Time: 4 pm

Room: 229

Honorable Members of the Senate Health Committee
State of Hawaii

RE: Senate Bill 1507 -OPPOSE
Regulation of the Practice of Acupuncture

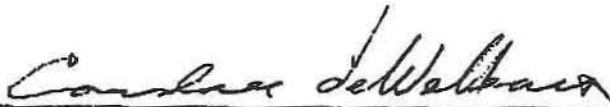
Dear Senator Green, Chair

I have received medical and therapeutic care from Lin, Chin-Yueh,
a licensed acupuncturist and have had wonderful results in managing my
Stress, depression. I hope that many others may experience the same benefits
from acupuncture treatments as well. Therefore, I am writing to express my strong
opposition to Senate Bill 1507, which would repeal the authority of the Board of
Acupuncture to regulate the practice of acupuncture by physicians, osteopathic
physicians, and physician's assistants.

The unique experience and care I benefited from during my treatments were the
result of the extensive training undergone by my acupuncturist. I feel that this bill
will mislead patients to choose a physician for acupuncture care as they will
assume that a medical doctor would have had undergone more training. In reality,
this bill will allow physicians to practice acupuncture after 200-300 hours of non-
accredited training where as licensed acupuncturists are required over 3,240 hours
of training in an accredited Master of Science program.

As a patient, I value the right to make informed decisions about my healthcare. It is
for this reason that the state of Hawaii must respectfully oppose SB 1507.

Sincerely,



Signature

Candace deWelleaux
Print Full Name

Hearing Date: February 4, 2011

Senate Sgt-of-Arms Fax #: 586-6659

Time: 4 pm

Room: 229

Honorable Members of the Senate Health Committee
State of Hawaii

RE: Senate Bill 1507 -OPPOSE
Regulation of the Practice of Acupuncture

Dear Senator Green, Chair

I have received medical and therapeutic care from Dr. Craig Twentymann
a licensed acupuncturist and have had wonderful results in managing my
high blood pressure. I hope that many others may experience the same benefits
from acupuncture treatments as well. Therefore, I am writing to express my strong
opposition to Senate Bill 1507, which would repeal the authority of the Board of
Acupuncture to regulate the practice of acupuncture by physicians, osteopathic
physicians, and physician's assistants.

The unique experience and care I benefited from during my treatments were the
result of the extensive training undergone by my acupuncturist. I feel that this bill
will mislead patients to choose a physician for acupuncture care as they will
assume that a medical doctor would have had undergone more training. In reality,
this bill will allow physicians to practice acupuncture after 200-300 hours of non-
accredited training where as licensed acupuncturists are required over 3,240 hours
of training in an accredited Master of Science program.

As a patient, I value the right to make informed decisions about my healthcare. It is
for this reason that the state of Hawaii must respectfully oppose SB 1507.

Sincerely,

IRMA YAMADA

Signature

Irma E. Yamada
Print Full Name

Hearing Date: February 4, 2011

Senate Sgt-of-Arms Fax #: 586-6659

Time: 4 pm

Room: 229

Honorable Members of the Senate Health Committee
State of Hawaii

RE: Senate Bill 1507 -OPPOSE
Regulation of the Practice of Acupuncture

Dear Senator Green, Chair

I have received medical and therapeutic care from Dr. Craig Twentyman a licensed acupuncturist and have had wonderful results in managing my heart disease. I hope that many others may experience the same benefits from acupuncture treatments as well. Therefore, I am writing to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 1507, which would repeal the authority of the Board of Acupuncture to regulate the practice of acupuncture by physicians, osteopathic physicians, and physician's assistants.

The unique experience and care I benefited from during my treatments were the result of the extensive training undergone by my acupuncturist. I feel that this bill will mislead patients to choose a physician for acupuncture care as they will assume that a medical doctor would have had undergone more training. In reality, this bill will allow physicians to practice acupuncture after 200-300 hours of non-accredited training where as licensed acupuncturists are required over 3,240 hours of training in an accredited Master of Science program.

As a patient, I value the right to make informed decisions about my healthcare. It is for this reason that the state of Hawaii must respectfully oppose SB 1507.

Sincerely,

SAMUEL Yamada

Signature

Samuel Yamada

Print Full Name

Hearing Date: February 4, 2011

Senate Sgt-of-Arms Fax #: 586-6659

Time: 4 pm

Room: 229

Honorable Members of the Senate Health Committee
State of Hawaii

RE: Senate Bill 1507 -OPPOSE
Regulation of the Practice of Acupuncture

Dear Senator Green, Chair

I have received medical and therapeutic care from DR Twentyman,
a licensed acupuncturist and have had wonderful results in managing my
Substance abuse. I hope that many others may experience the same benefits
from acupuncture treatments as well. Therefore, I am writing to express my strong
opposition to Senate Bill 1507, which would repeal the authority of the Board of
Acupuncture to regulate the practice of acupuncture by physicians, osteopathic
physicians, and physician's assistants.

The unique experience and care I benefited from during my treatments were the
result of the extensive training undergone by my acupuncturist. I feel that this bill
will mislead patients to choose a physician for acupuncture care as they will
assume that a medical doctor would have had undergone more training. In reality,
this bill will allow physicians to practice acupuncture after 200-300 hours of non-
accredited training where as licensed acupuncturists are required over 3,240 hours
of training in an accredited Master of Science program.

As a patient, I value the right to make informed decisions about my healthcare. It is
for this reason that the state of Hawaii must respectfully oppose SB 1507.

Sincerely,


Signature

Joseph Sullivan
Print Full Name

Hearing Date: February 4, 2011

Senate Sgt-of-Arms Fax #: 586-6659

Time: 4 pm

Room: 229

Honorable Members of the Senate Health Committee
State of Hawaii

RE: Senate Bill 1507 -OPPOSE
Regulation of the Practice of Acupuncture

Dear Senator Green, Chair

I have received medical and therapeutic care from Dr. Twentyman, a licensed acupuncturist and have had wonderful results in managing my anxiety/depression hope that many others may experience the same benefits from acupuncture treatments as well. Therefore, I am writing to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 1507, which would repeal the authority of the Board of Acupuncture to regulate the practice of acupuncture by physicians, osteopathic physicians, and physician's assistants.

The unique experience and care I benefited from during my treatments were the result of the extensive training undergone by my acupuncturist. I feel that this bill will mislead patients to choose a physician for acupuncture care as they will assume that a medical doctor would have had undergone more training. In reality, this bill will allow physicians to practice acupuncture after 200-300 hours of non-accredited training where as licensed acupuncturists are required over 3,240 hours of training in an accredited Master of Science program.

As a patient, I value the right to make informed decisions about my healthcare. It is for this reason that the state of Hawaii must respectfully oppose SB 1507.

Sincerely,

Jodi L. Tells
Signature

Jodi L. Tells
Print Full Name

Hearing Date: February 4, 2011

Senate Sgt-of-Arms Fax #: 586-6659

Time: 4 pm

Room: 229

Honorable Members of the Senate Health Committee
State of Hawaii

RE: Senate Bill 1507 -OPPOSE
Regulation of the Practice of Acupuncture

Dear Senator Green, Chair

I have received medical and therapeutic care from Dr. Lin,
a licensed acupuncturist and have had wonderful results in managing my
STRESS. I hope that many others may experience the same benefits
from acupuncture treatments as well. Therefore, I am writing to express my strong
opposition to Senate Bill 1507, which would repeal the authority of the Board of
Acupuncture to regulate the practice of acupuncture by physicians, osteopathic
physicians, and physician's assistants.

The unique experience and care I benefited from during my treatments were the
result of the extensive training undergone by my acupuncturist. I feel that this bill
will mislead patients to choose a physician for acupuncture care as they will
assume that a medical doctor would have had undergone more training. In reality,
this bill will allow physicians to practice acupuncture after 200-300 hours of non-
accredited training where as licensed acupuncturists are required over 3,240 hours
of training in an accredited Master of Science program.

As a patient, I value the right to make informed decisions about my healthcare. It is
for this reason that the state of Hawaii must respectfully oppose SB 1507.

Sincerely,

Linda M. Kinoshita

Signature

LINDA M. KINOSHITA

Print Full Name

Hearing Date: February 4, 2011

Senate Sgt-of-Arms Fax #: 586-6659

Time: 4 pm

Room: 229

Honorable Members of the Senate Health Committee
State of Hawaii

RE: Senate Bill 1507 -OPPOSE
Regulation of the Practice of Acupuncture

Dear Senator Green, Chair

I have received medical and therapeutic care from Dir. LIN,
a licensed acupuncturist and have had wonderful results in managing my
anxiety. I hope that many others may experience the same benefits
from acupuncture treatments as well. Therefore, I am writing to express my strong
opposition to Senate Bill 1507, which would repeal the authority of the Board of
Acupuncture to regulate the practice of acupuncture by physicians, osteopathic
physicians, and physician's assistants.

The unique experience and care I benefited from during my treatments were the
result of the extensive training undergone by my acupuncturist. I feel that this bill
will mislead patients to choose a physician for acupuncture care as they will
assume that a medical doctor would have had undergone more training. In reality,
this bill will allow physicians to practice acupuncture after 200-300 hours of non-
accredited training where as licensed acupuncturists are required over 3,240 hours
of training in an accredited Master of Science program.

As a patient, I value the right to make informed decisions about my healthcare. It is
for this reason that the state of Hawaii must respectfully oppose SB 1507.

Sincerely,

Pearl M. Barr

Signature

PEARL M BARR

Print Full Name

Hearing Date: February 4, 2011

Senate Sgt-of-Arms Fax #: 586-6659

Time: 4 pm

Room: 229

Honorable Members of the Senate Health Committee
State of Hawaii

RE: Senate Bill 1507 –OPPOSE
Regulation of the Practice of Acupuncture

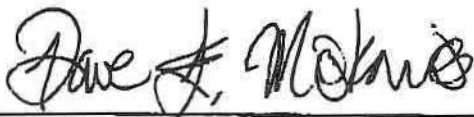
Dear Senator Green, Chair

I have received medical and therapeutic care from Craig Twentymann,
a licensed acupuncturist and have had wonderful results in managing my
ED. I hope that many others may experience the same benefits
from acupuncture treatments as well. Therefore, I am writing to express my strong
opposition to Senate Bill 1507, which would repeal the authority of the Board of
Acupuncture to regulate the practice of acupuncture by physicians, osteopathic
physicians, and physician's assistants.

The unique experience and care I benefited from during my treatments were the
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this bill will allow physicians to practice acupuncture after 200-300 hours of non-
accredited training where as licensed acupuncturists are required over 3,240 hours
of training in an accredited Master of Science program.

As a patient, I value the right to make informed decisions about my healthcare. It is
for this reason that the state of Hawaii must respectfully oppose SB 1507.

Sincerely,



Signature



Print Full Name

Hearing Date: February 4, 2011

Senate Sgt-of-Arms Fax #: 586-6659

Time: 4 pm

Room: 229

Honorable Members of the Senate Health Committee
State of Hawaii

RE: Senate Bill 1507 –OPPOSE
Regulation of the Practice of Acupuncture

Dear Senator Green, Chair

I have received medical and therapeutic care from DR. Twentyman
a licensed acupuncturist and have had wonderful results in managing my
mental health issues. I hope that many others may experience the same benefits
from acupuncture treatments as well. Therefore, I am writing to express my strong
opposition to Senate Bill 1507, which would repeal the authority of the Board of
Acupuncture to regulate the practice of acupuncture by physicians, osteopathic
physicians, and physician's assistants.

The unique experience and care I benefited from during my treatments were the
result of the extensive training undergone by my acupuncturist. I feel that this bill
will mislead patients to choose a physician for acupuncture care as they will
assume that a medical doctor would have had undergone more training. In reality,
this bill will allow physicians to practice acupuncture after 200-300 hours of non-
accredited training where as licensed acupuncturists are required over 3,240 hours
of training in an accredited Master of Science program.

As a patient, I value the right to make informed decisions about my healthcare. It is
for this reason that the state of Hawaii must respectfully oppose SB 1507.

Sincerely,



Signature

FRANCES GONZALEZ

Print Full Name

Hearing Date: February 4, 2011

Senate Sgt-of-Arms Fax #: 586-6659

Time: 4 pm

Room: 229

Honorable Members of the Senate Health Committee
State of Hawaii

RE: Senate Bill 1507 -OPPOSE
Regulation of the Practice of Acupuncture

Dear Senator Green, Chair

I have received medical and therapeutic care from DR. Twentyman,
a licensed acupuncturist and have had wonderful results in managing my
PTSD. I hope that many others may experience the same benefits
from acupuncture treatments as well. Therefore, I am writing to express my strong
opposition to Senate Bill 1507, which would repeal the authority of the Board of
Acupuncture to regulate the practice of acupuncture by physicians, osteopathic
physicians, and physician's assistants.

The unique experience and care I benefited from during my treatments were the
result of the extensive training undergone by my acupuncturist. I feel that this bill
will mislead patients to choose a physician for acupuncture care as they will
assume that a medical doctor would have had undergone more training. In reality,
this bill will allow physicians to practice acupuncture after 200-300 hours of non-
accredited training where as licensed acupuncturists are required over 3,240 hours
of training in an accredited Master of Science program.

As a patient, I value the right to make informed decisions about my healthcare. It is
for this reason that the state of Hawaii must respectfully oppose SB 1507.

Sincerely,


Signature

MARK A. KORBAR
Print Full Name

Hearing Date: February 4, 2011

Senate Sgt-of-Arms Fax #: 586-6659

Time: 4 pm

Room: 229

Honorable Members of the Senate Health Committee
State of Hawaii

RE: Senate Bill 1507 -OPPOSE
Regulation of the Practice of Acupuncture

Dear Senator Green, Chair

I have received medical and therapeutic care from DR Twentyman,
a licensed acupuncturist and have had wonderful results in managing my
mental health care. I hope that many others may experience the same benefits
from acupuncture treatments as well. Therefore, I am writing to express my strong
opposition to Senate Bill 1507, which would repeal the authority of the Board of
Acupuncture to regulate the practice of acupuncture by physicians, osteopathic
physicians, and physician's assistants.

The unique experience and care I benefited from during my treatments were the
result of the extensive training undergone by my acupuncturist. I feel that this bill
will mislead patients to choose a physician for acupuncture care as they will
assume that a medical doctor would have had undergone more training. In reality,
this bill will allow physicians to practice acupuncture after 200-300 hours of non-
accredited training where as licensed acupuncturists are required over 3,240 hours
of training in an accredited Master of Science program.

As a patient, I value the right to make informed decisions about my healthcare. It is
for this reason that the state of Hawaii must respectfully oppose SB 1507.

Sincerely,



Signature

Malbina Jorju

Print Full Name

Hearing Date: February 4, 2011

Senate Sgt-of-Arms Fax #: 586-6659

Time: 4 pm

Room: 229

Honorable Members of the Senate Health Committee
State of Hawaii

RE: Senate Bill 1507 -OPPOSE
Regulation of the Practice of Acupuncture

Dear Senator Green, Chair

I have received medical and therapeutic care from DR. Twentymann
a licensed acupuncturist and have had wonderful results in managing my
kidney therapy. I hope that many others may experience the same benefits
from acupuncture treatments as well. Therefore, I am writing to express my strong
opposition to Senate Bill 1507, which would repeal the authority of the Board of
Acupuncture to regulate the practice of acupuncture by physicians, osteopathic
physicians, and physician's assistants.

The unique experience and care I benefited from during my treatments were the
result of the extensive training undergone by my acupuncturist. I feel that this bill
will mislead patients to choose a physician for acupuncture care as they will
assume that a medical doctor would have had undergone more training. In reality,
this bill will allow physicians to practice acupuncture after 200-300 hours of non-
accredited training where as licensed acupuncturists are required over 3,240 hours
of training in an accredited Master of Science program.

As a patient, I value the right to make informed decisions about my healthcare. It is
for this reason that the state of Hawaii must respectfully oppose SB 1507.

Sincerely,



Signature

MICHAEL SOMA

Print Full Name

green1 - Karen

From: RD [Hi-paddler@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 9:46 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: opposing senate bill 1507 relating to accupuncture

email your messages to: HTHTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

Regina Deluca
P.O. Box 230, Kailua, HI 96734
February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee

Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

I am writing to strongly urge your opposition to SB1507 relating to acupuncture. This bill would be harmful to healthcare consumers because it would undermine the quality, safety, and integrity of acupuncture in Hawaii. It would lower professional standards and allow inadequately trained people to practice acupuncture, by giving the Board of Medical Examiners sole regulatory jurisdiction over the practice of acupuncture by physicians and physician's assistants.

The Board of Medical Examiners lacks the expertise to regulate the practice of acupuncture in this way. Only the Board of Acupuncture can appropriately do so, and their current regulatory standards are the safest approach to delivering quality acupuncture to the public.

Our current education requirements for acupuncture licensure include 3,240 hours of instruction, graduation from an accredited acupuncture college, and passage of national certification exams. With all due respect for the extensive training MDs receive, their education focuses primarily on pharmaceutical and surgical approaches to illness, and they typically receive little or no training in acupuncture and oriental medicine.

The regulation of a professional practice should be vested in the hands of senior members of that profession, who are fully qualified to set professional standards for the practice. It is clearly the responsibility of the Board of Acupuncture, not any other party, to regulate acupuncture. Just as we would not allow the Board of Acupuncture to regulate pharmaceutical drugs or surgery, we should not place the regulation of acupuncture in the hands of those who are not adequately trained in acupuncture.

Any physician who wants to practice acupuncture currently has the same opportunity as anyone else to earn legitimate certification in a responsible manner, without loopholes or shortcuts. SB1507 would create a population of inadequately trained acupuncture practitioners.

Acupuncture licensure should not be taken lightly. It is a serious matter of public safety, medical ethics, and the health of our citizens. Please do not undermine the integrity of the acupuncture profession in our state. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

Via Email: HTHTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

February 3, 2011

Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Hawaii State Legislature

Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee:

I am writing to strongly urge your opposition to SB1507 relating to acupuncture.

This bill would be harmful to healthcare consumers because it would undermine the quality, safety, and integrity of acupuncture in Hawaii. It would lower professional standards and allow inadequately trained people to practice acupuncture, by giving the Board of Medical Examiners sole regulatory jurisdiction over the practice of acupuncture by physicians and physician's assistants.

The Board of Medical Examiners lacks the expertise to regulate the practice of acupuncture in this way. Only the Board of Acupuncture can appropriately do so, and their current regulatory standards are the safest approach to delivering quality acupuncture to the public.

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Sincerely,

Raymond & Jeanne Beatty
59-740 Alapio Road
Haleiwa, HI 96712
Email: sailing@hawaii.rr.com

Via Email: HTHTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

February 3, 2011

Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Hawaii State Legislature

Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
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Raymond & Jeanne Beatty
59-740 Alapio Road
Haleiwa, HI 96712
Email: sailing@hawaii.rr.com

green1 - Karen

From: Irvin CIV Carolyn E [carolyn.irvin@usmc.mil]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 3:41 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture (Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Carolyn Irvin
366 Ka Awakea Road
Kailua, HI 96734

February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture (Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

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green1 - Karen

From: Suzanne Schiller [generatelove@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 3:29 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: No to Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture

Dr. Suzanne Schiller, DC

Ocean View Chiropractic & Wellness Center

PO Box 7035

Ocean View, HI 96737-7035

February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

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Sincerely,

Dr. Suzanne Schiller, DC
www.divinespinedoc.com

green1 - Karen

From: Chelsey Sponsler [chelseysponsler@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 3:33 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Re: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture

Chelsey Sponsler
511 kawaihae st. Honolulu, HI 96825
February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

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green1 - Karen

From: Catherine AF Dichner [lucidcat@earthlink.net]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 3:32 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Oppose SB1507 Relating to Acupuncture

February 3, 2011

Re: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Senate Health Committee,

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Sincerely,

Catherine AF Dichner
204 Kalalau Street
Honolulu, HI 96825

green1 - Karen

From: Kristin Takehara [kristintakehara@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 10:41 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Opposing Senate Bill 1507

Kristin Takehara
99-670 Kaulainaahee Place
Aiea, HI 96701
February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee

Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

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Sincerely,
Kristin Takehara

green1 - Karen

From: elizabeth nelson [hawaiiliz@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 10:45 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: SB1507

Senator Green,

I am surprised and disappointed that the legislature would attempt to have the ancient and wonderful practice of acupuncture regulated and practiced by people who do not have the extensive training necessary to assure that clients have the quality we deserve.

So therefore I am asking that you and your committee oppose the passage of SB1507.

Thank you for your consideration. Acupuncture has been helping my arthritis and bowel problems for several years now and I very much believe in this practice. Please let it only be practiced by qualified practitioners.

Elizabeth Nelson, RN, MPH

green1 - Karen

From: Jack Walsh [jackw@imagine.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 9:54 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Quality Acupuncture

John J Walsh
250 E Kuiaha Rd.
Haiku, HI 96708
February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee

Re: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

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hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

Sincerely,

John Walsh

green1 - Karen

From: Dina Monberg [dinamonberg99@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 10:26 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Opposition to SB1507

Dina Monberg
821 Rosal Way
San Rafael, CA 94903

February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee

Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

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green1 - Karen

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 10:56 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: merway@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1507 on 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for HTH 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1507

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Marjorie Erway
Organization: Individual
Address: PO Box 2807 Kailua Kona, HI 96745
Phone:
E-mail: merway@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 2/3/2011

Comments:

This Bill would definitely undermine my access to quality acupuncture. MDs will have incomplete and insufficient training to qualify as an acupuncturist, and would exempt them from licensure by the Board of Acupuncture.

Acupuncture licensure should not be taken lightly. It is a serious matter of public safety, medical ethics, and the health of our citizens.

Please do not undermine the integrity of the acupuncture profession in our state.

I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

green1 - Karen

From: Ocean Breeze/Bob & Sande [oceanbrz@maui.net]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 10:57 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 relating to Acupuncture

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

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Sincerely,

Sande Greene

435 Kalalau Place

Kihei HI 96753

Visit [Ocean Breeze Hideaway](#)

green1 - Karen

From: Beverly Harton [cookorganic@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 10:58 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

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Sincerely,

Beverly Harton
1994 Alaeloa St
Honolulu Hawaii 96821

green1 - Karen

From: Kapfer, Nina C Ms CTR US USA [nina.kapfer@us.army.mil]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 11:04 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: RE: Bill 1507 (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

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Sincerely,
Nina Kapfer, L.Ac.

Acupuncturist, Integrative Pain Center
Dept. of Psychology
Tripler Army Medical Center
(808) 433-1411

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

green1 - Karen

From: maria Kolar [maria-ananda@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 11:05 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture

February 3rd, 2011

Maria Kolar
1333 Akahai St.
Kailua, HI 96734

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

I am writing to strongly urge your opposition to SB1507 relating to acupuncture. This bill would be harmful to healthcare consumers because it would undermine the quality, safety, and integrity of acupuncture in Hawaii. It would lower professional standards and allow inadequately trained people to practice acupuncture, by giving the Board of Medical Examiners sole regulatory jurisdiction over the practice of acupuncture by physicians and physician's assistants.

The Board of Medical Examiners lacks the expertise to regulate the practice of acupuncture in this way. Only the Board of Acupuncture can appropriately do so, and their current regulatory standards are the safest approach to delivering quality acupuncture to the public.

Our current education requirements for acupuncture licensure include 3,240 hours of instruction, graduation from an accredited acupuncture college, and passage of national certification exams. With all due respect for the extensive training MDs receive, their education focuses primarily on pharmaceutical and surgical approaches to illness, and they typically receive little or no training in acupuncture and oriental medicine.

The regulation of a professional practice should be vested in the hands of senior members of that profession, who are fully qualified to set professional standards for the practice. It is clearly the responsibility of the Board of Acupuncture, not any other party, to regulate acupuncture. Just as we would not allow the Board of Acupuncture to regulate pharmaceutical drugs or surgery, we should not place the regulation of acupuncture in the hands of those who are not adequately trained in acupuncture.

Any physician who wants to practice acupuncture currently has the same opportunity as anyone else to earn legitimate certification in a responsible manner, without loopholes or shortcuts. SB1507 would create a population of inadequately trained acupuncture practitioners.

Acupuncture licensure should not be taken lightly. It is a serious matter of public safety, medical ethics, and the health of our citizens. Please do not undermine the integrity of the acupuncture profession in our state. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

Sincerely,

Maria Kolar

green1 - Karen

From: S. Laakea Laano [laakea@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 11:07 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Opposition to SB1507

Dear distinguished members of the Senate Health Committee,

I am writing to strongly urge your opposition to SB1507 which would give certain medical practitioners the right to practice acupuncture under the sole jurisdiction of the Hawaii Board of Medical Examiners.

Many others who are opposed to this bill will point out that it would undermine the safety of acupuncture services in Hawaii. You may think that physicians, physician's assistants and osteopathic physicians are highly trained professionals who are more than capable of "sticking a few needles in people". On this point, I agree that they would probably not pose a threat to patient safety. However, the danger is that they mislead the patient into believing that they are receiving 'Acupuncture' in the true spirit of the word and the system of medicine it represents.

It is wonderful that Western allopathic medicine is increasingly embracing alternative forms of healthcare. However, we must all be careful that the Western view of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) doesn't lead to some kind of Western adoption of TCM that waters it down, reduces training of practitioners to a few weekends, and expects it to be yet another quick-fix. Acupuncture is its own system of medicine, with a fully developed diagnostic method and patterns of disease that are not comparable to the Western view of medicine. Research studies attribute the efficacy of acupuncture to the release of endorphins, but TCM practitioners know that it's something beyond that . . . and to understand the how's & why's of it takes 3,240 hrs – 4 yrs. – of training and at least 2 national exams. Consumers should not be led to assume that acupuncture from an MD etc. is the same as acupuncture from a Licensed Acupuncturist (L.Ac.)

If MDs & others want to practice acupuncture, they can and should have to undergo the training that every state requires in order to be called an L.Ac. SB1507 seems innocuous in that it's asking for "just another procedure" that would be performed by an MD to be overseen by the existing overseers (i.e. Board of Medical Examiners). Yet this procedure – acupuncture – actually already has its own governing board, the Hawaii Board of Acupuncture, so the bill is really an attempt to subsume Acupuncture (and all the income it generates) under the auspices of Western medicine.

If this bill passes, can we expect that physicians & PAs will someday also be allowed to administer Physical Therapy, Chiropractic care, and Naturopathic medicine under the jurisdiction of the Board of Medical Examiners? All these modalities require a similar amount of training as is currently needed to practice Acupuncture. It's a slippery slope! Furthermore, most of these alternative healthcare practitioners are sole proprietors of their own businesses, and, as small business owners, would suffer from the economic consequences of allowing MDs, PAs, etc. to administer their services.

I thank you in advance for your careful consideration of SB1507 and all related testimony.

Sincerely,

S. Laakea Laano, L.Ac.
47-402 Kamehameha Hwy.
Kaneohe, HI 96744

green1 - Karen

From: Malik Cotter [cottermaui@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 11:13 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Opposing Senate Bill 1507 relating to acupuncture

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

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Sincerely,
William Malik Cotter
Maui, Hawaii

green1 - Karen

From: Steelsmith Natural Health Center [info@drsteelsmith.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 11:14 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Testimony

Kelly Roe
1153 Kina St
Kailua, HI 96734
February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

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Sincerely,

Kelly Roe

green1 - Karen

From: Steelsmith Natural Health Center [info@drsteelsmith.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 11:11 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture

Jane Stites
41-037B Hihimanu St.
Waimanalo, HI 96795

February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

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Sincerely,

green1 - Karen

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 11:24 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: vquitoles@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1507 on 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM
Attachments: Wd0000000.wps

Testimony for HTH 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1507

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: ANNABELLE QUITOLES
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: vquitoles@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 2/3/2011

Comments:

green1 - Karen

From: kari moses [karimoses1@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 11:26 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Re: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture

Kari Chang
95-1069 Pikokea St.
Mililani, HI 96789
February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

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green1 - Karen

From: Kristie Meyer [ksmeyer617@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 11:33 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Opposition to SB1507

Kristie Meyer
690 Meadow Vista Dr.
Reno, NV 89511
February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

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Sincerely,
Kristie Meyer

green1 - Karen

From: Yvonne Chotzen [yvonne@illuminataglobal.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 11:42 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: do Not Pass the proposed changes to the acupuncture bill

Yvonne Chotzen

Yvonne Chotzen
323 4659877

green1 - Karen

From: caring@eartharts.us
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 11:44 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Testimony Opposing SB 1507 Relating to Acupuncture

From:
Catherine Carter
1720 Saint Louis Drive
Honolulu, HI 96816

February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture (Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

I am very concerned to learn that the Hawaii Senate is considering passage of SB1507, specifically the portions that relate to acupuncture. I have been a long time advocate of acupuncture since years ago when I was successfully treated for infertility (after two years of treatment by Western medicine didn't work) by Dr. Longo at the Traditional Chinese Medical College of Hawaii on the Big Island. During my treatment, and subsequent treatment for other health concerns, I saw firsthand the long and detailed training that the students there underwent in their mastery of acupuncture.

I am writing to strongly urge your opposition to SB1507 relating to acupuncture. This bill would be harmful to healthcare consumers because it would undermine the quality, safety, and integrity of acupuncture in Hawaii. It would lower professional standards and allow inadequately trained people to practice acupuncture, by giving the Board of Medical Examiners sole regulatory jurisdiction over the practice of acupuncture by physicians and physician's assistants.

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Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

Sincerely,

green1 - Karen

From: betsy brandt [mb96817@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 11:21 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Not Support SB 1507

I have recieved acupuncture as part of my integrated treatment for cancer from an accredited acupuncturist. SB 1507 would undermine the quality of such care since it does not require the same amount and type of education and training of MDs to perform acupuncture. MDs have specialty areas in which they are required to train and complete exams to be Board Certified. Unless the same rigorous training and testing of MDs is required for acupuncture, the quality of care in this field will be compromised.

I do not support this bill, SB 1507.

Mary E Brandt
51 Dowsett Ave.
Honolulu, HI 96817

not place the regulation of acupuncture in the hands of those who are not adequately trained in acupuncture.

Any physician who wants to practice acupuncture currently has the same opportunity as anyone else to earn legitimate certification in a responsible manner, without loopholes or shortcuts. SB1507 would create a population of inadequately trained acupuncture practitioners.

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Sincerely,

Domenica Sattler

green1 - Karen

From: clairechao@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 12:44 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY OPPOSING SENATE BILL 1507 RELATING TO ACUPUNCTURE - FEB 4, 2011 - 4:00 PM

February 3, 2011

Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice-Chair
Health Committee

TESTIMONY OPPOSING SENATE BILL 1507 RELATING TO ACUPUNCTURE

For the last five years I have received regular medical and therapeutic care from Jayne Tsuchiyama, M.S.T.O.M., Dipl.O.M., L.Ac., a licensed acupuncturist in Honolulu. These acupuncture treatments have resulted in significant improvements in several health conditions including hypertension, hypothyroid and joint pain. Over the years I have referred more than 20 friends to Ms Tsuchiyama, and the vast majority experienced positive results or receive ongoing care from her.

I hope that many others may experience the same benefits from acupuncture treatments in the future. Therefore, I am writing to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 1507, which would repeal the authority of the Board of Acupuncture to regulate the practice of acupuncture by physicians, osteopathic physicians, and physician's assistants.

I firmly believe that the depth of analysis and quality of care I have experienced in my treatments were due to my acupuncturist's extensive specialized training. Bill 1507 bill will mislead patients into choosing a physician for acupuncture care, as the patient would assume that a medical doctor would have undergone equivalent or more training. In reality, this bill will allow physicians to practice acupuncture after 200 to 300 hours of non-accredited training, whereas licensed acupuncturists are required over 3,240 hours of training in an accredited Master of Science program.

As a patient, I value the right to make informed decisions about my health care. I urge the state of Hawaii to oppose SB 1507.

Sincerely,

Claire Chao

418 Maono Loop
Honolulu
Hawaii 96821
t 808.377.1891
e clairechao@aol.com

green1 - Karen

From: Sharman OShea [sharman808@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 12:37 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture

Sharman O'Shea
PO Box 237
Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96745

February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

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green1 - Karen

From: themassagecorner@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 1:30 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Re: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture

Elizabeth Posse
1777 Ala Moana Blvd., 2nd Fl.
Honolulu, HI 96815

February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

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Sincerely,
Elizabeth Posse

green1 - Karen

From: Freed Laurie [lfreed@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 1:29 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee

Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**

(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

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Sincerely,

Laurie Freed

Laurie

green1 - Karen

From: Dr.Marilyn Walkey [marilynwalkey@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 1:25 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Testimony for SB1507 on 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for HTH 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1507

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Marilyn Walkey MD, L.Ac.
Organization: Individual
Address: 7875 SW Alden St Portland OR
Phone: 503-608-8155
E-mail: marilynwalkey@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/3/2011

Comments:

Licensed Acupuncturist, or MD with "medical acupuncture" training?

Whom should you choose to treat you?

I have a problem with double standards. I don't believe in them, and I don't think that they should apply to any field of health care. At the present time, Oregon State law requires acupuncturists to obtain a license to perform acupuncture. As part of our training, we devote 3-4 years to obtaining a postgraduate education, as well as over 1000 hours of observation and supervised clinical training. We are required during that training to begin to understand and master a complex science of healing which has been in existence for over two thousand years. We attend many hours of lectures from professors of various subspecialties with wide-ranging experience and wealth of knowledge. We read widely varying textbooks from ancient to modern. We receive detailed training in the methods of differential diagnosis, and treatment planning. We have years of hands-on experience on each other and more than 2 years of needling instruction. We begin to leave the left-brain thinking behind, and start to think in terms of yin and yang. This process allows us to approach complex and chronic disease with new ways of healing, very often after western medical doctors have given up hope.

Now about that double standard: presently in the State of Oregon, medical doctors can perform acupuncture with no training whatsoever. This is a travesty to our profession. It assumes that MD's have some sort of magical ability to discern our medicine with no training whatsoever. This law must change. MD's must be held to the same exact standard as every other healthcare professional who wishes to practice acupuncture.

As a medical doctor who attended and passed a Medical Acupuncture course, I know what that training entails. When I completed it, I had seen 70 videotapes, all given by one MD instructor. I had been to 5 days of lecture, and needed 3 people, all of them other MD's attending the course. I had not treated one patient on my own. I did not know how to make a Chinese Medical diagnosis, develop a treatment plan, analyze pulse, evaluate tongue. Furthermore, I had no idea of what acupuncture and Chinese herbs could actually do, and therefore I didn't know when to send patients to a licensed acupuncturist. I don't believe that MD's with 300 hours of Medical Acupuncture training can safely and competently practice acupuncture.

Hawaii and New Mexico are the only states which holds physicians to the same standard as others wishing to practice acupuncture. All healthcare professionals should be held to the same standard in order to protect the people and insure that all those who receive acupuncture are treated safely and competently.

Dr. Marilyn Walkey MD, LAc
Oregon's only MD Acupuncturist

green1 - Karen

From: Cassie Paguio [cpaguio0319@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 1:17 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Opposition to SB1507

Cassie Paguio
91-209 Makalauna Place
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

I am writing to strongly urge your opposition to SB1507 relating to acupuncture. This bill would be harmful to healthcare consumers because it would undermine the quality, safety, and integrity of acupuncture in Hawaii. It would lower professional standards and allow inadequately trained people to practice acupuncture, by giving the Board of Medical Examiners sole regulatory jurisdiction over the practice of acupuncture by physicians and physician's assistants.

The Board of Medical Examiners lacks the expertise to regulate the practice of acupuncture in this way. Only the Board of Acupuncture can appropriately do so, and their current regulatory standards are the safest approach to delivering quality acupuncture to the public.

Our current education requirements for acupuncture licensure include 3,240 hours of instruction, graduation from an accredited acupuncture college, and passage of national certification exams. With all due respect for the extensive training MDs receive, their education focuses primarily on pharmaceutical and surgical approaches to illness, and they typically receive little or no training in acupuncture and oriental medicine.

The regulation of a professional practice should be vested in the hands of senior members of that profession, who are fully qualified to set professional standards for the practice. It is clearly the responsibility of the Board of Acupuncture, not any other party, to regulate acupuncture. Just as we would not allow the Board of Acupuncture to regulate pharmaceutical drugs or surgery, we should not place the regulation of acupuncture in the hands of those who are not adequately trained in acupuncture.

Any physician who wants to practice acupuncture currently has the same opportunity as anyone else to earn legitimate certification in a responsible manner, without loopholes or shortcuts. SB1507 would create a population of inadequately trained acupuncture practitioners.

Acupuncture licensure should not be taken lightly. It is a serious matter of public safety, medical ethics, and the health of our citizens. Please do not undermine the integrity of the acupuncture profession in our state. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

Sincerely,
Cassie Paguio

green1 - Karen

From: bethanydoescher@bigplanet.com
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 1:19 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Opposition to SB1507

Bethany M. Doescher, D.V.M.
1471 Pueo St.
Honolulu, HI. 96816

February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair Senate Health Committee

Re: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture (Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

I am writing to strongly urge your opposition to SB1507 relating to acupuncture. This bill would be harmful to healthcare consumers because it could undermine the quality, safety, and integrity of acupuncture in Hawaii. Giving the Board of Medical Examiners sole regulatory jurisdiction over the practice of acupuncture by physicians and physician's assistants would lower professional standards and allow inadequately trained people to practice acupuncture.

With all due respect for the extensive training MDs receive, their education focuses primarily on pharmaceutical and surgical approaches to illness, and they typically receive little or no training in acupuncture and oriental medicine. In my personal and professional experience many medical doctors trained in traditional medicine do not understand the philosophy or practice of acupuncture therapy, nor do they recognize the benefits of such treatments which I have experienced first hand. It would be unethical to pass off the certification of acupuncture practitioners into the hands of individuals who are untrained in this discipline. The regulation of a professional practice should be vested in the hands of senior members of that profession, who are fully qualified to set professional standards for the practice.

Current education requirements for acupuncture licensure include 3,240 hours of instruction, graduation from an accredited acupuncture college, and passage of national certification exams. It is clearly the responsibility of the Board of Acupuncture, not any other party, to regulate acupuncture. The Board of Medical Examiners lacks the expertise to regulate the practice of acupuncture in this way. Only the Board of Acupuncture can appropriately do so, and their current regulatory standards are the safest approach to delivering quality acupuncture to the public.

All professional licensure should be taken seriously because it is a matter of public safety, medical ethics, and the health of our citizens. Please do not undermine the integrity of the acupuncture profession in our state.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

green1 - Karen

From: Pat Matsuda [pmatsuda@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 12:51 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Fwd: Legislative Alert: Your Immediate Help is Needed

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Dr. Laurie Steelsmith" <info@naturalchoicesforwomen.com>
Date: February 3, 2011 1:46:02 AM HST
To: pmatsuda@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Legislative Alert: Your Immediate Help is Needed

If you're having trouble viewing this email, you may [see it online](#).

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Please email your messages to: HTHTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

Pat Matsuda
407 Hoomalu street
February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee

Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

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The Board of Medical Examiners lacks the expertise to regulate the practice of acupuncture in this way. Only the Board of Acupuncture can appropriately do so, and their current regulatory standards are the safest approach to delivering quality acupuncture to the public.

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The regulation of a professional practice should be vested in the hands of senior members of that profession, who are fully qualified to set professional standards for the practice. It is clearly the responsibility of the Board of Acupuncture, not any other party, to regulate acupuncture. Just as we would not allow the Board of Acupuncture to regulate pharmaceutical drugs or surgery, we should not place the regulation of acupuncture in the hands of those who are not adequately trained in acupuncture.

Any physician who wants to practice acupuncture currently has the same opportunity as anyone else to earn legitimate certification in a responsible manner, without loopholes or shortcuts. SB1507 would create a population of inadequately trained acupuncture practitioners.

Acupuncture licensure should not be taken lightly. It is a serious matter of public safety, medical ethics, and the health of our citizens. Please do not undermine the integrity of the acupuncture profession in our state. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

Sincerely,
Pat Matsuda

438 Hobron Lane, Suite V-6 | Honolulu, Hawaii USA 96815

This email was sent to pmatsuda@hawaiiantel.net. To ensure that you continue receiving our emails, please add us to your address book or safe list.

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Alex Steelsmith
438 Hobron Lane, Ste. V-3
Honolulu, HI 96815

February 3rd, 2011

Senator Josh Green, M.D., Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee

Re: PLEASE OPPOSE SENATE BILL 1507 RELATING TO ACUPUNCTURE

Hearing: Friday, 2/4/2011, 4:00 p.m.

To the Honorable Senator Josh Green, Chair, and the Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair:

As a longtime Hawaii resident, I'm writing to ask you to please oppose SB 1507. By giving the Hawaii medical board regulatory jurisdiction over the practice of acupuncture by certain physicians and physician's assistants, SB 1507 would be detrimental to the practice of acupuncture in Hawaii. It would allow acupuncture to be practiced in some cases by people who aren't sufficiently trained in acupuncture. Physicians and physician's assistants are highly trained and respected for their areas of expertise, but that is certainly no justification for exempting them from the regulatory jurisdiction of the Board of Acupuncture and the rules that apply to everyone else.

Acupuncture is a respected profession in Hawaii because the standards of practice have not been compromised. The regulation of acupuncture should be left to the Board of Acupuncture, which has done a good job of maintaining those standards. Many of Hawaii's health care consumers are fully aware of the issues involved in whether or not SB 1507 passes. If it does, it will send a clear message to the concerned public: that certain individuals have been given a special exemption, and aren't required to meet the same standards that all others meet. This will make it more difficult, not easier, for these exempted individuals to gain respect in the health care community for the services they offer.

This is a critical public safety issue; preserving high standards in the practice of acupuncture, as with any other health-related practice, prevents the potentially harmful health consequences that can result from allowing standards to be lowered. Your responsibility as an elected official is to serve the public welfare and to uphold, not weaken, the laws that protect it.

Thank you for giving this important issue your careful consideration.

Sincerely yours,
Alex Steelsmith

green1 - Karen

From: Lisa Yoshimura [lisay001@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 1:34 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Opposition to SB1507

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

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Acupuncture licensure should not be taken lightly. It is a serious matter of public safety, medical ethics, and the health of our citizens. Please do not undermine the integrity of the acupuncture profession in our state. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

Sincerely,

Lisa Yoshimura

green1 - Karen

From: PATTY VALENCIA [tarahawaii@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 1:10 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: SB 1507

Senator Josh Green, Chair

I am writing to oppose SB1507.

Quality training/experience is what we have and what we want to continue.

Thank you

Margaret Valencia
1621 Dole

green1 - Karen

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 3:45 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: acujoni@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1507 on 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM
Attachments: SB1507- Joni's testimony final.docx

Testimony for HTH 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1507

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Dr. Joni Kroll, D.Ac.
Organization: AcuPlan Hawaii
Address: 320 Uluniu Street, Suite 2 Kailua, Hawaii 96734
Phone: (808)262-4550
E-mail: acujoni@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/3/2011

Comments:

green1 - Karen

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 3:46 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: white_bryce@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1507 on 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM
Attachments: SB1507 Opposition Letter MIHB Bryce White.docx

Testimony for HTH 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1507

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Bryce White
Organization: Individual
Address: P.O. Box 2818 Kamuela, Hi
Phone: 808 887-0641
E-mail: white_bryce@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/3/2011

Comments:
February 3, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice-Chair
Health Committee

RE: Testimony Opposing State Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture

I write in strong opposition to SB1507 as it deregulates the practice of acupuncture and essentially eliminates the professional status of Acupuncturists in the state of Hawaii. In addition it jeopardizes the public safety by placing a regulatory committee of untrained and thus unqualified individuals in charge of overseeing individuals who are minimally trained at best. There are no qualification requirements outlined for the practice of acupuncture under HRS 453 - a practice which requires thousands of hours of didactic and clinical training as well as the passage of national board exams to gain professional status.

Had I had more opportunity to respond to this matter (as opposed to less than 15 hours since first notification), I would have drafted a much more thorough response.

Sincerely,

Bryce White
P.O. Box 2818
Kamuela, Hawaii

808-887-0641

February 3, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice-Chair
Health Committee

RE: Testimony Opposing State Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture

I write in strong opposition to SB1507 as it deregulates the practice of acupuncture and essentially eliminates the professional status of Acupuncturists in the state of Hawaii. In addition it jeopardizes the public safety by placing a regulatory committee of untrained and thus unqualified individuals in charge of overseeing individuals who are minimally trained at best. There are no qualification requirements outlined for the practice of acupuncture under HRS 453 – a practice which requires thousands of hours of didactic and clinical training as well as the passage of national board exams to gain professional status. Please so not minimize nor disrespect this ancient and valuable medicine and its practitioners.

Had I had more opportunity to respond to this matter (as opposed to less than 15 hours since first notification), I would have drafted a much more thorough response..

Sincerely,

Bryce White
PO Box 2818
Kamuela, HI 96743
801.887.0641

green1 - Karen

From: Magicis [magicis@magicisle.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 12:01 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Opposing Senate Bill 1507

Rev. Lisa F
PO BOX 961
Captain Cook, Hi.
96704
February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

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Acupuncture licensure should not be taken lightly. It is a serious matter of public safety, medical ethics, and the health of our citizens. Please do not undermine the integrity of the acupuncture profession in our state. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

Sincerely,

Lisa French
808 323-3199

February 3, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice-Chair
Health Committee

RE: Testimony Opposing State Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture

I write in strong opposition to SB1507 as it deregulates the practice of acupuncture and essentially eliminates the professional status of Acupuncturists in the state of Hawaii. In addition it jeopardizes the public safety by placing a regulatory committee of untrained and thus unqualified individuals in charge of overseeing individuals who are minimally trained at best. There are no qualification requirements outlined for the practice of acupuncture under HRS 453 – a practice which requires thousands of hours of didactic and clinical training as well as the passage of national board exams to gain professional status. Please so not minimize nor disrespect this ancient and valuable medicine and its practitioners.

Had I had more opportunity to respond to this matter (as opposed to less than 15 hours since first notification), I would have drafted a much more thorough response..

Sincerely,

Melanie Biddle
PO Box 44953
Kamuela, HI 96743
808.938.4509

green1 - Karen

From: Noyita Saravia [noyitas@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 12:26 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Opposition to SB 1507

I oppose allowing doctors to practice acupuncture without the same strict standards of education that all other acupuncturists are required to have.

February 3, 2011

Honorable Member of the Senate
State of Hawaii

**hearing date for SB1507 (physicians) this Friday, February 4th at 4:00pm in
Conference room 229 of the State Capitol
RE: Senate Bill 1507 –OPPOSE
Regulation of the Practice of Acupuncture**

Dear Senator,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 1507, which would repeal the authority of the Board of Acupuncture to regulate the practice of acupuncture by physicians, osteopathic physicians, and physician's assistants.

I am concerned about protecting my future profession and my future patients from allowing physicians to practice acupuncture with 300 hours of training in contrast to the 3,240 hours required of licensed acupuncturists. In order to be licensed and competently practice acupuncture, I'm dedicated myself to a four-year, full-time accredited Master's of Science program and am invested over \$50,000 in tuition.

Additionally, the creation of a separate board to oversee the practice of "medical acupuncture" is a double standard. In 2003, the Hawaii Attorney General deemed that "medical acupuncture is not sufficiently distinct from traditional acupuncture so as to fall outside the scope of practice of acupuncture and physicians licensed by the Board of Medical Examiners cannot practice medical acupuncture absent licensure by the Board of Acupuncture."

Please preserve this separation to ensure that patients receive the unique care and experience of acupuncture from traditionally trained practitioners. Please help all the dedicated licensed acupuncturists maintain our value in the medical field in Hawaii.

It is for these reasons that the state of Hawaii must respectfully oppose SB 1507.

Sincerely,



Signature
Shari M. Tsukayama

Print Full Name

PO Box 893391
Mililani Hawaii 96789

green1 - Karen

From: Marguerite Doherty [magdoherty@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 12:15 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Measure SB1507

To Whom it May Concern,

This is testimony against the passing of measure SB1507, scheduled for consideration at 4pm on 02.04.11. If the Hawaii Medical Board wishes to control the field of acupuncture & govern how it is applied medically, then they should propel the status of acupuncturists to that of primary care physicians, as in New Mexico & California, & require the same rigorous trainings for all wishing to practice the modality.

Thank-you,
Marguerite Doherty,
Acupuncture Student & Patient
Ookala, Hi 96774

green1 - Karen

From: CHERIE MARTYN [cheriemartyn@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 12:16 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Opposition to SB1507

Cherie Martyn
3926 Waokanaka Street
Honolulu, HI 96817

February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

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Sincerely,

Cherie Martyn

green1 - Karen

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 12:18 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: marilynwalkey@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1507 on 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for HTH 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1507

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Marilyn Walkey MD, L.Ac.
Organization: Individual
Address: 7875 SW Alden St Portland OR
Phone: 503-608-8155
E-mail: marilynwalkey@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/3/2011

Comments:

Licensed Acupuncturist, or MD with "medical acupuncture" training?

Whom should you choose to treat you?

I have a problem with double standards. I don't believe in them, and I don't think that they should apply to any field of health care. At the present time, Oregon State law requires acupuncturists to obtain a license to perform acupuncture. As part of our training, we devote 3-4 years to obtaining a postgraduate education, as well as over 1000 hours of observation and supervised clinical training. We are required during that training to begin to understand and master a complex science of healing which has been in existence for over two thousand years. We attend many hours of lectures from professors of various subspecialties with wide-ranging experience and wealth of knowledge. We read widely varying textbooks from ancient to modern. We receive detailed training in the methods of differential diagnosis, and treatment planning. We have years of hands-on experience on each other and more than 2 years of needling instruction. We begin to leave the left-brain thinking behind, and start to think in terms of yin and yang. This process allows us to approach complex and chronic disease with new ways of healing, very often after western medical doctors have given up hope.

Now about that double standard: presently in the State of Oregon, medical doctors can perform acupuncture with no training whatsoever. This is a travesty to our profession. It assumes that MD's have some sort of magical ability to discern our medicine with no training whatsoever. This law must change. MD's must be held to the same exact standard as every other healthcare professional who wishes to practice acupuncture.

As a medical doctor who attended and passed a "medical acupuncture" course, I know what that training entails. When I completed it, I had seen 70 videotapes, all given by one MD instructor. I had been to 5 days of lecture, and needled 3 people, all of them other MD's attending the course. I had not treated one patient on my own. I did not know how to make a Chinese Medical diagnosis, develop a treatment plan, analyze pulse, evaluate tongue. Furthermore, I had no idea of what acupuncture & Chinese herbs could actually do, and therefore I didn't know when to send patients to a licensed acupuncturist. I don't believe that MD's with 300 hours of "medical acupuncture" training can safely and competently practice acupuncture.

Hawaii is the only state which holds physicians to the same standard as others wishing to practice acupuncture. All healthcare professionals should be held to the same standard in order to protect the people and insure that all those who receive acupuncture are treated "safely and competently".

February 3, 2011

To: Honorable Senator Josh Green, Chair
Honorable Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice-Chair
Health Committee

**RE: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507
Regulation of the Practice of Acupuncture**

On behalf of all licensed practitioners of acupuncture, I am writing to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 1507, which would repeal the authority of the Board of Acupuncture to regulate the practice of acupuncture by physicians, osteopathic physicians, and physician's assistants.

As a student of acupuncture, I am concerned about protecting my future profession and my patients from allowing physicians to practice acupuncture with minimal hours of training (e.g., 200-300 hrs.) in contrast to the 3,240 hours and comprehensive training currently required of licensed acupuncturists. In order to be licensed and competently practice acupuncture, I have dedicated myself to a four-year, full-time accredited Masters of Science program. The program is intensive, training students not simply to needle discrete points associated with certain symptoms, but to understand how points combine together to address both symptoms and roots of presenting health conditions. Students also are trained in multiple theoretical approaches to conceptualizing and approaching cases.

The practice of acupuncture, as a major modality of Oriental medicine, cannot be separated from its medical paradigm. Its effective practice requires a deep understanding of the medical paradigm/tradition that it comes from—one that is very different from western allopathic medicine. This requires specialized training that could not be accommodated in a 200-hour training that decontextualizes the use of this modality. Improperly applied, acupuncture, like any medical intervention can present a risk. It takes significant time and effort to gain knowledge and skills in acupuncture. I am concerned that at a time when acupuncturists, nationally, are discussing a desire to further increase training for entry level practitioners, legislation is being considered that essentially could move best practice in the opposite direction. I would prefer to support legislation that would encourage collaborations between Western and Oriental medical practitioners.

In addition, the creation of a separate board to oversee the practice of "medical acupuncture" is a double standard. In 2003, the Hawaii Attorney General deemed that "medical acupuncture is not sufficiently distinct from traditional acupuncture so as to fall outside the scope of practice of acupuncture and physicians licensed by the Board of Medical Examiners cannot practice medical acupuncture absent licensure by the Board of Acupuncture."

Please preserve the existing regulatory process to ensure that patients receive the unique and quality care well-trained acupuncturists can offer. Please help all the dedicated licensed acupuncturists maintain our value in the medical field in Hawaii.

It is for these reasons that the state of Hawaii must respectfully oppose SB 1507.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Joy M. Tanji".

Joy M. Tanji
46-448 Kuneki Street
Kaneohe, HI 96744-3535

February 3, 2011

Honorable Member of the Senate
State of Hawaii

RE: Senate Bill 1507 –OPPOSE
Regulation of the Practice of Acupuncture

Dear Senator,

On behalf of all licensed practitioners of acupuncture, I am writing to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 1507, which would repeal the authority of the Board of Acupuncture to regulate the practice of acupuncture by physicians, osteopathic physicians, and physician's assistants.

I am concerned about protecting my profession and my patients from allowing physicians to practice acupuncture with only 300 hours of training in contrast to the 3,240 hours required of licensed acupuncturists. In order to be licensed and competently practice acupuncture, I dedicated myself to a four-year, full-time accredited Master of Science program and even traveled to China to better understand this type of medical practice.

Additionally, the creation of a separate board to oversee the practice of "medical acupuncture" is a double standard. In 2003, the Hawaii Attorney General deemed that "medical acupuncture is not sufficiently distinct from traditional acupuncture so as to fall outside the scope of practice of acupuncture and physicians licensed by the Board of Medical Examiners cannot practice medical acupuncture absent licensure by the Board of Acupuncture."

Please preserve this separation to ensure that patients receive the unique care and experience of acupuncture from traditionally trained practitioners. Please help all the dedicated licensed acupuncturists maintain our value in the medical field in Hawaii.

It is for these reasons that the state of Hawaii must respectfully oppose SB 1507.

Sincerely,


Signature

James Michael Eou, L.Ac.
Print Full Name

750 McCully St.
Street Address

Honolulu, HI 96826
City, State, Zip

green1 - Karen

From: Megan O'Connor [megan.oconnor75@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 12:13 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Opposition to SB 1507

Megan O'Connor
13428 Maxella Ave #255 Marina Del Rey, CA 90292
February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee

Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

I am writing to strongly urge your opposition to SB1507 relating to acupuncture. This bill would be harmful to healthcare consumers because it would undermine the quality, safety, and integrity of acupuncture in Hawaii. It would lower professional standards and allow inadequately trained people to practice acupuncture, by giving the Board of Medical Examiners sole regulatory jurisdiction over the practice of acupuncture by physicians and physician's assistants.

The Board of Medical Examiners lacks the expertise to regulate the practice of acupuncture in this way. Only the Board of Acupuncture can appropriately do so, and their current regulatory standards are the safest approach to delivering quality acupuncture to the public.

Our current education requirements for acupuncture licensure include 3,240 hours of instruction, graduation from an accredited acupuncture college, and passage of national certification exams. With all due respect for the extensive training MDs receive, their education focuses primarily on pharmaceutical and surgical approaches to illness, and they typically receive little or no training in acupuncture and oriental medicine.

The regulation of a professional practice should be vested in the hands of senior members of that profession, who are fully qualified to set professional standards for the practice. It is clearly the responsibility of the Board of Acupuncture, not any other party, to regulate acupuncture. Just as we would not allow the Board of Acupuncture to regulate pharmaceutical drugs or surgery, we should not place the regulation of acupuncture in the hands of those who are not adequately trained in acupuncture.

Any physician who wants to practice acupuncture currently has the same opportunity as anyone else to earn legitimate certification in a responsible manner, without loopholes or shortcuts. SB1507 would create a population of inadequately trained acupuncture practitioners.

Acupuncture licensure should not be taken lightly. It is a serious matter of public safety, medical ethics, and the health of our citizens. Please do not undermine the integrity of the acupuncture

profession in our state. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

Sincerely,
Megan O'Connor

green1 - Karen

From: Marcia Patrick [alohagirl78@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 12:12 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Opposition to SB1507

Marcia L. Patrick
46-057 Alii Anela Pl., #1623
Kaneohe, HI 96744
February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

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green1 - Karen

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 12:12 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: lac4@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Testimony for SB1507 on 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for HTH 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1507

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Lori A Campbell LAc.
Organization: Individual
Address: 16-1874 36th Ave HC-2 Box 5655
Phone: 808-982-9601
E-mail: lac4@hawaiiantel.net
Submitted on: 2/3/2011

Comments:

The current attempt by the medical community to dismantle the profession of the licensed acupuncturist community will negatively impact the consumer. I welcome the interest by medical professionals in acupuncture. However, to assume that they do not need the current educational and licensing standards set forth by the state of Hawaii is arrogant and ill conceived for profit. The consumer has made it clear that they value acupuncture to maintain and return to health. It is time for the medical community at large to respect acupuncture as a modality in its own right. Acupuncture is an age old method of health care that is cost effective and far surpasses the western system in health maintenance. Both western and eastern medicine need to work together to promote true health in our community. Hawaii is unique in that it is a melting pot of cultures that can and should lead the nation in providing a realistic health care system that respects all professions and the educational standards that have been established to that end. Community acupuncture and the NADA protocol are excellent methods of exposing more people to the benefits of acupuncture. Hiring and promoting licensed professionals is the best way to insure the integrity and effectiveness of the industry. Therefore I strongly oppose the current legislation to allow physicians and social workers to practice acupuncture without adequate training, experience and licensing by the current Board of Acupuncture.

Sincerely,

Lori A Campbell LAc. Dilp.Ac

Feb 3, 2011
Honolulu, Hawaii

Testimony to OPPOSE Senate Bill 1507

My name is Valerie Montoya. I have been a Registered Nurse for 11 years and I work at Tripler Army Medical Center as a Neonatal ICU nurse. I also have just finished my Masters in Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine from the World Medicine Institute in December 2011 and I'm studying for my board examinations in order to be Licensed in the State of Hawaii to practice Acupuncture. I am writing to OPPOSE this bill. I had to study for four years. The program involved more than 3,000 ACADEMIC HOURS, 370 CLINICAL TREATMENTS, and 960 CLINICAL HOURS. It is incomprehensible to think that ONLY 200 hours of study would be enough for anyone to understand CHINESE MEDICINE theory, philosophy, and paradigm. It would be DANGEROUS for anybody, whether it is a Medical Doctor or otherwise, to regulate the practice and to practice Acupuncture with only 200 hours of training. The Hawaii Medical Board should not have the power to regulate our Medicine and our practice. Our Medical practice, paradigms and philosophies are completely different.

How can the Hawaii Medical Board have sole regulatory jurisdiction over a practice of an ancient Medicine that it doesn't even begin to understand? Please leave the regulations of Acupuncture to the Hawaii Board of Acupuncture.

I OPPOSE THIS BILL!!!

Sincerely,

Valerie Montoya, BSN-RN

green1 - Karen

From: Kathleen T. Carr [kathy5@mcn.org]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 11:43 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: kathy5@mcn.org
Subject: SB1507 relating to acupuncture

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

I am writing to strongly urge your opposition to SB1507 relating to acupuncture. This bill would be harmful to healthcare consumers because it would undermine the quality, safety, and integrity of acupuncture in Hawaii. It would lower professional standards and allow inadequately trained people to practice acupuncture, by giving the Board of Medical Examiners sole regulatory jurisdiction over the practice of acupuncture by physicians and physician's assistants.

The Board of Medical Examiners lacks the expertise to regulate the practice of acupuncture in this way. Only the Board of Acupuncture can appropriately do so, and their current regulatory standards are the safest approach to delivering quality acupuncture to the public.

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Acupuncture licensure should not be taken lightly. It is a serious matter of public safety, medical ethics, and the health of our citizens. Please do not undermine the integrity of the acupuncture profession in our state. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

Sincerely,
Kathleen Carr

green1 - Karen

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 11:53 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: jleoikidrino@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1507 on 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for HTH 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1507

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jennifer Leoiki-Drino
Organization: Individual
Address: 511 Hahaione St. #14A Honolulu, HI 96825
Phone: 808-394-1654
E-mail: jleoikidrino@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/3/2011

Comments:

green1 - Karen

From: Nancy Earth [urearth7nz@yahoo.co.nz]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 11:46 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Re: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture

Nancy Earth (American citizen)
PO Box 6088
Dunedin North
DUNEDIN 9059
February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

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I have greatly benefited from acupuncture treatment in Honolulu from qualified physicians. My rights to a high standard of health care must be protected.

Sincerely,

Nancy Earth

green1 - Karen

From: Thia West [ThiaW@cbpacific.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 11:52 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: I oppose SB 1507

Aloha:

There is no legitimate reason to transfer oversight of Acupuncture to Medical doctors except they think it is another way to make money. Right now the public has protection and treatment by trained professionals who understand the art of care of patients. Please do not take this protection and right away.

I am so tired of money influencing decisions rather than intelligence and common sense.

Sincerely,

Thia A West



*Excellent Service with A Personal Touch!
Thank you for your referrals*

Thia A. West

Realtor-Associate
Kahala Mall Rooftop
4211 Waialae Avenue Suite 9000
Cellular: (808) 341-1131
Office Direct: (808) 732-1414
E-Mail: ThiaW@cbpacific.com

green1 - Karen

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 12:53 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: ksamu@tcmch.edu
Subject: Testimony for SB1507 on 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for HTH 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1507

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Krisztina Samu
Organization: Individual
Address: po box 551773 HI
Phone: 609 510 8253
E-mail: ksamu@tcmch.edu
Submitted on: 2/3/2011

Comments:
Honorable Legislators:

I am a 4th year student of Oriental Medicine at the Traditional Chinese Medical College of Hawaii. I recently learned about bill SB1507, which I oppose for the following reasons.

Acupuncture is an ancient form of medicine with many complexities, and it exists within the greater category of Oriental Medicine, which also encompasses herbal medicine, qi gong, tui na massage, etc. Our preparation to become licensed acupuncturists has been a long journey requiring extensive study of these interconnected modalities.

Just as one could not expect licensed acupuncturists to practice dentistry or surgical procedures after having completed a relatively short course, under the oversight of the acupuncture board which is not specialized in that form of medicine, we must not allow practitioners without adequate training in Oriental Medicine to practice acupuncture, under the supervision of an oversight board (the Hawaii Medical Board) which is not specialized in this form of medicine.

I implore you, for the health and safety of patients, and for the preservation of the positive reputation that acupuncture currently has, to leave the practice and oversight of acupuncture in the hands of those who are adequately trained, and experienced in this complex form of ancient medicine.

Thank you,
Krisztina Samu
4th year student
Traditional Chinese Medical College of Hawaii Kamuela, HI

green1 - Karen

From: Doug Oringer [doug.oringer@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 12:51 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Senate Bill 1507 - Relating to Acupuncture

February 3, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee

Re: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

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Sincerely,

Douglas Oringer
2051 Young St, Suite 126
Honolulu, HI 96826

--

"No man's life, liberty, or property is safe while Congress is in session."

*Mark Twain

green1 - Karen

From: Sophie Twigg-Smith [sophmaloaf@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 12:49 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Opposing Senate Bill 1507

Sophie Twigg-Smith
3043 Kiele Avenue
Honolulu, Hawaii 96815

February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture (Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

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green1 - Karen

From: Kamalani R [kamalani39@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 12:45 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

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Sincerely,

Kim Rodrigues

green1 - Karen

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 12:45 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: izet1954@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1507 on 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for HTH 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1507

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Liz Montoya
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: izet1954@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/3/2011

Comments:
I OPPOSE BILL 1507--LET ACUPUNCTURIST REGULATE THEIR PROFESSION!

green1 - Karen

From: Domenica Sattler [domenica_s@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 12:39 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture

Domenica Sattler
1771 Halekoa Drive
Honolulu, HI 96821

February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee

Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

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green1 - Karen

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 2:47 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: jteleia@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1507 on 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for HTH 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1507

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jeanne Teleia
Organization: Individual
Address: 47 669 Melekula Rd, #10 Kaneohe
Phone: 808-224-5008
E-mail: jteleia@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/3/2011

Comments:

I pay out of pocket regularly for acupuncture because it works way faster and better than any of the other doctors and physical therapists and allergists I have been to. I have spent thousands on ineffective treatment where acupuncture fixed it in 2-4 treatments. HOWEVER, I would not support this bill because the reason it has worked so well is because my acupuncturist is a well educated professional in the field dedicated to just knowing this specialty as well as training in traditional Chinese medicine--the cornerstone which is complicated to learn, and many aspects of physical therapy. Allowing doctors or techs to perform this complicated medicine is totally irresponsible. This is coming from someone who would LOVE to get my acupuncture treatment covered by my insurance but not at the risk of somebody doing it who is not a dedicated specialist.

I am also a mental health provider and I send a lot of my patients to my acupuncturist for complimentary therapy. I would not do this if it were available only through regular doctors the same way I only send my patients to psychiatrists and not other M.D.s because psychiatrists have the necessary training and education for complicated issues. Please DO NOT pass this bill!

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice-Chair
Health Committee

Re: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507
Relating to Acupuncture

The State of Hawaii provides us, its people with one of the highest standards of medical care nation wide.

Hawaii is one of a few states that require rigorous training and education (32400h) as well as a passage of the national certification examination for acupuncture licensures.

Surrendering regulation of acupuncture to Hawaii Board of Medical Examiners would significantly dilute to quality acupuncture services by allowing inadequately trained practitioners to stick needles into people of Hawaii. Please oppose Senate Bill 1507! Keep Hawaii's people safe by continuing to uphold the highest standard of education and licensure for both our allopathic and oriental medicine physicians.

Sincerely,

Ivana Zekovic

green1 - Karen

From: Kimo and Kathi marciniak [kkmarciniak@earthlink.net]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 2:44 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Re: Testimony Opposing Senate Testimony opposing Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture

William Marciniak

76-6306 Kaheiau St

Kailua Kona, HI 96740

February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

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The regulation of a professional practice should be vested in the hands of senior members of that profession, who are fully qualified to set professional standards for the practice. It is clearly the responsibility of the Board of Acupuncture, not any other party, to regulate acupuncture. Just as we would not allow the Board of Acupuncture to regulate pharmaceutical drugs or surgery, we should

not place the regulation of acupuncture in the hands of those who are not adequately trained in acupuncture.

Any physician who wants to practice acupuncture currently has the same opportunity as anyone else to earn legitimate certification in a responsible manner, without loopholes or shortcuts. SB1507 would create a population of inadequately trained acupuncture practitioners.

Acupuncture licensure should not be taken lightly. It is a serious matter of public safety, medical ethics, and the health of our citizens. Please do not undermine the integrity of the acupuncture profession in our state. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

Sincerely,

William Marciniak

green1 - Karen

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 3:04 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: maliasails@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1507 on 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for HTH 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1507

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Malia Klein
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: maliasails@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/3/2011

Comments:

Please oppose bill 1507!

Please don't let people with 200 h of training do acupuncture in Hawaii. Having needles inserted into ones body is intimidating enough when its done by someone who has gone through thousands of hours of education and practical training! Keep us safe!

Testimony Submitted by:
Liberata J. Orallo, LAc, LMT

In Opposition To:
SB 1507
Relating to Acupuncture

4 February 2011

Chair Josh Green, Vice-Chair Clarence Nishihara, and Members of the Senate Committee on Health,

I strongly oppose SB 1507 as the Board of Medical Examiners (BME) lack the expertise and standards to have sole regulatory jurisdiction over the practice of acupuncture by physicians, osteopathic physicians, and physician's assistants.

Allopathic medicine and Oriental Medicine are two different streams of health care that are complementary yet distinct --- like apples and oranges. Both require extensive postgraduate studies and training and intense certification requirements. Yet allopathic practitioners are not as qualified as Oriental practitioners in this ancient form of medicine. Acupuncture is not merely the insertion of needles at acupoints throughout the body but a whole system of thought unlike Western medicine. Complementary medicine is becoming mainstream in the world today and more than a billion dollar industry. The effects of acupuncture has been tried and tested and the results have proven to be highly effective as seen in the rehabilitation of people's health. Surely allopathic practitioners can practice this form of medicine but receiving the equivalent hours of training as Oriental practitioners in acupuncture is a mandatory requirement. To practice without this would be a travesty of this ancient art of medicine.

To that end, to allow the BME to have sole oversight over the practice of acupuncture by their peers is simply a mockery of justice. To permit this regulatory jurisdiction would indicate the elitist attitude and control of Western physicians and undermine the integrity of Oriental medicine. Any form of Oriental medicine and acupuncture should and must be under the sole regulatory jurisdiction of the Board of Acupuncture.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

From: Mary Ann Kobayashi [mkobs@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 3:29 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Protect Acupuncture in Hawai'i

HTHTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

Name: Mary Ann Kobayashi
Address: 2053 Akaikai Ln., Pearl City HI 96782
February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

I am writing to strongly urge your opposition to SB1507 relating to acupuncture. This bill would be harmful to healthcare consumers because it would undermine the quality, safety, and integrity of acupuncture in Hawaii. It would lower professional standards and allow inadequately trained people to practice acupuncture, by giving the Board of Medical Examiners sole regulatory jurisdiction over the practice of acupuncture by physicians and physician's assistants.

The Board of Medical Examiners lacks the expertise to regulate the practice of acupuncture in this way. Only the Board of Acupuncture can appropriately do so, and their current regulatory standards are the safest approach to delivering quality acupuncture to the public.

The current education requirements for acupuncture licensure include 3,240 hours of instruction, graduation from an accredited acupuncture college, and passage of national certification exams. With all due respect for the extensive training MDs receive, their education focuses primarily on pharmaceutical and surgical approaches to illness, and they typically receive little or no training in acupuncture and oriental medicine.

The regulation of a professional practice should be vested in the hands of senior members of that profession, who are fully qualified to set professional standards for the practice. It is clearly the responsibility of the Board of Acupuncture, not any other party, to regulate acupuncture. Just as we would not allow the Board of Acupuncture to regulate pharmaceutical drugs or surgery, we should not place the regulation of acupuncture in the hands of those who are not adequately trained in acupuncture.

Any physician who wants to practice acupuncture currently has the same opportunity as anyone else to earn legitimate certification in a responsible manner, without loopholes or shortcuts. SB1507 would create a population of inadequately trained acupuncture practitioners.

Acupuncture licensure should not be taken lightly. It is a serious matter of public safety, medical ethics, and the health of our citizens. Please do not undermine the integrity of the acupuncture profession in our state. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

Sincerely,

Mary Ann Kobayashi

green1 - Karen

From: Dr. Jan Ellison [jellisondom@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 3:24 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: OPPOSITION TO SB1507

I am opposed to this Bill. It would give the right to individuals who are untrained in an elegant, complex science to administer acupuncture to precious living individuals in our State.

This would be a crime to allow such in our society.

Acupuncture licensing currently requires an equivalent to a Master's degree and requires strict National and State exams.

Thank you,
Dr. Janice Ellison

green1 - Karen

From: E Bassett [ebassett8@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 3:25 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Senate Bill 1507

J E Bassett

203 Ali'iolani St.

Makawao, HI 96768

February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair

Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair

Senate Health Committee

Re: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture

(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair,

Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair,

and other distinguished members of the Committee,

It has come to my attention regarding this proposed bill changing the regulations for acupuncturists. These practitioners have been my primary care physicians for over 20 years and I find their wholistic approach best for my body. I have not had any difficulties with these practitioners due to the current regulatory body's procedures.

I am writing to strongly urge your opposition to SB1507 relating to acupuncture. This bill would be harmful to health care consumers because it would undermine the quality, safety, and integrity of acupuncture in Hawaii. It would lower professional standards and allow inadequately trained people to practice acupuncture, by giving the Board of Medical Examiners sole regulatory jurisdiction over the practice of acupuncture by physicians and

physician's assistants.

The Board of Medical Examiners lacks the expertise to regulate the practice of acupuncture in this way. Only the Board of Acupuncture can appropriately do so, and their current regulatory standards are the safest approach to delivering quality acupuncture to the public.

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Any physician who wants to practice acupuncture currently has the same opportunity as anyone else to earn legitimate certification in a responsible manner, without loopholes or shortcuts. SB1507 would create a population of inadequately trained acupuncture practitioners.

Acupuncture licensure should not be changed! It is a serious matter of public safety, medical ethics, and the health of our citizens. Please do not undermine the integrity of the acupuncture profession in our state. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

Sincerely,

J E Bassett

green1 - Karen

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 12:34 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: s71nobue@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1507 on 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for HTH 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1507

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: nobue gutierrez
Organization: Individual
Address: 1778 Ala Moana Blvd Honolulu
Phone: 8087211489
E-mail: s71nobue@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/3/2011

Comments:

green1 - Karen

From: Cheryl N. Komenaka [ckomenaka@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 12:38 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture

Importance: High

February 3, 2011

IMPORTANT!

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee

Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**

(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

I am writing to strongly urge your opposition to SB1507 relating to acupuncture. This bill would be harmful to healthcare consumers because it would undermine the quality, safety, and integrity of acupuncture in Hawaii. It would lower professional standards and allow inadequately trained people to practice acupuncture, by giving the Board of Medical Examiners sole regulatory jurisdiction over the practice of acupuncture by physicians and physician's assistants.

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The regulation of a professional practice should be vested in the hands of senior members of that profession, who are fully qualified to set professional standards for the practice. It is clearly the responsibility of the Board of Acupuncture, not any other party, to regulate acupuncture. Just as we would not allow the Board of Acupuncture to regulate pharmaceutical drugs or surgery, we should not place the regulation of acupuncture in the hands of those who are not adequately trained in acupuncture.

Any physician who wants to practice acupuncture currently has the same opportunity as anyone else to earn legitimate certification in a responsible manner, without loopholes or shortcuts. SB1507 would create a population of inadequately trained acupuncture practitioners.

Acupuncture licensure should not be taken lightly. It is a serious matter of public safety, medical ethics, and the health of our citizens. Please do not undermine the integrity of the acupuncture profession in our state. Thank

you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Komenaka
1122 Elm St #509
Honolulu, HI 96814

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair

Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice-Chair

Health Committee

Re: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507

Relating to Acupuncture

I am a Hawaii licensed acupuncturist who has been practicing Oriental Medicine in Honolulu for 10 years. I hold a master's degree in Oriental Medicine as well as undergraduate degrees in Chemistry and Biology. Because of my education, my passion for scientific research and because I work closely with some of Hawaii's MDs I feel that I am in unique position to speak about Allopathic and Oriental Medicine.

They are complimentary yet completely distinct medical systems. Allopathic medicine focuses on infectious causes of diseases and treatment of symptoms of diseases. Oriental medicine focuses on establishing and maintaining energetic homeostasis within a body. Often when applied in integrative manner they meet patient's needs the best. Extensive, yet distinctly different training and clinical expertise is necessary to assure safe and professional practice of each discipline.

Maybe the best way to compare Allopathic and Oriental Medicines is to think of them as two different languages. Mastering one by no means suggests mastery or even fair appreciation of the other.

I feel like my four-year masters degree and thousands of didactic and clinical hours barely prepared me for the real world acupuncture practice. I strongly support the nation wide effort to establish even higher standards of education and practice for oriental medicine practitioners by instituting doctoral degrees.

Please allow our profession to maintain its integrity and high standard of professional practice by opposing bill 1507.

Sofija Zekovic-Roth, L.Ac.,

green1 - Karen

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 3:56 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: uchidaedie@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1507 on 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for HTH 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1507

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Edie Uchida, L.Ac.
Organization: Individual
Address: 615 Piikoi Street #1601 Honolulu, HI
Phone: (808) 225-4700
E-mail: uchidaedie@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/3/2011

Comments:
I strongly oppose S.B. 1507.

Acupuncture should only be performed by a licensed Acupuncturist who has sat before board exams and has been reviewed and approved by the Board of Acupuncture.

The Chinese Medical diagnoses required to formulate a correct acupuncture point prescription can only be arrived at by a practitioner who fully understands the philosophy and physiology of Traditional Chinese Medicine. This is a skill that requires extensive study in the energetic art of Chinese Medicine and only acquired through studying Acupuncture and Chinese medicine at an accredited institution.

Please do not allow M.D.'s or others to practice this ancient art with 200 hours of training. Acupuncture school students go through a rigorous 3240 hours of instruction to learn their skill.
Public safety is at stake.

green1 - Karen

From: hisa@juno.com
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 2:13 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Re: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture

Vernon Koizumi
94-948 Hiapo St., Waipahu, HI, 96797
February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

I am writing to strongly urge your opposition to SB1507 relating to acupuncture. This bill would be harmful to healthcare consumers because it would undermine the quality, safety, and integrity of acupuncture in Hawaii. It would lower professional standards and allow inadequately trained people to practice acupuncture, by giving the Board of Medical Examiners sole regulatory jurisdiction over the practice of acupuncture by physicians and physician's assistants.

The Board of Medical Examiners lacks the expertise to regulate the practice of acupuncture in this way. Only the Board of Acupuncture can appropriately do so, and their current regulatory standards are the safest approach to delivering quality acupuncture to the public.

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The regulation of a professional practice should be vested in the hands of senior members of that profession, who are fully qualified to set professional standards for the practice. It is clearly the responsibility of the Board of Acupuncture, not any other party, to regulate acupuncture. Just as we would not allow the Board of Acupuncture to regulate pharmaceutical drugs or surgery, we should not place the regulation of acupuncture in the hands of those who are not adequately trained in acupuncture.

Any physician who wants to practice acupuncture currently has the same opportunity as anyone else to earn legitimate certification in a responsible manner, without loopholes or shortcuts. SB1507 would create a population of inadequately trained acupuncture practitioners.

Acupuncture licensure should not be taken lightly. It is a serious matter of public safety, medical ethics, and the health of our citizens. Please do not undermine the integrity of the acupuncture profession in our state. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

Sincerely,

green1 - Karen

From: Lillian Cunningham [lillianc@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 2:07 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Opposition to SB1509

Lillian Cunningham
2257-A Kanealii Ave
Honolulu, HI 96813
February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair

Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee

Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

I am writing to strongly urge your opposition to SB1507 relating to acupuncture. This bill would be harmful to healthcare consumers because it would undermine the quality, safety, and integrity of acupuncture in Hawaii. It would lower professional standards and allow inadequately trained people to practice acupuncture, by giving the Board of Medical Examiners sole regulatory jurisdiction over the practice of acupuncture by physicians and physician's assistants.

The Board of Medical Examiners lacks the expertise to regulate the practice of acupuncture in this way. Only the Board of Acupuncture can appropriately do so, and their current regulatory standards are the safest approach to delivering quality acupuncture to the public.

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The regulation of a professional practice should be vested in the hands of senior members of that profession, who are fully qualified to set professional standards for the practice. It is clearly the responsibility of the Board of Acupuncture, not any other party, to regulate acupuncture. Just as we would not allow the Board of Acupuncture to regulate pharmaceutical drugs or surgery, we should not place the regulation of acupuncture in the hands of those who are not adequately trained in acupuncture.

Any physician who wants to practice acupuncture currently has the same opportunity as anyone else to earn legitimate certification in a responsible manner, without loopholes or shortcuts. SB1507 would create a population of inadequately trained acupuncture practitioners.

Acupuncture licensure should not be taken lightly. It is a serious matter of public safety, medical ethics, and the health of our citizens. Please do not undermine the integrity of the acupuncture profession in our state. Thank

you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

Sincerely,
Lillian Cunningham

green1 - Karen

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 1:59 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: sunray561@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1507 on 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for HTH 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1507

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Matthew Terrusa
Organization: Individual
Address: P.O. Box 551 Hanalei, Hi
Phone: 808 640-7586
E-mail: sunray561@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/3/2011

Comments:
February 3, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice-Chair
Health Committee

RE: Testimony Opposing State Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture

I write in strong opposition to SB1507 as it deregulates the practice of acupuncture and essentially eliminates the professional status of Acupuncturists in the state of Hawaii. In addition it jeopardizes the public safety by placing a regulatory committee of untrained and thus unqualified individuals in charge of overseeing individuals who are minimally trained at best. There are no qualification requirements outlined for the practice of acupuncture under HRS 453 - a practice which requires thousands of hours of didactic and clinical training as well as the passage of national board exams to gain professional status.

Had I had more opportunity to respond to this matter (as opposed to less than 15 hours since first notification), I would have drafted a much more thorough response.

Sincerely,

Matthew Terrusa
Kapaa, Kauaii

808-640-7586

green1 - Karen

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 2:15 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: michael.ramia@stmartin.edu
Subject: Testimony for SB1507 on 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for HTH 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1507

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Michael Ramia
Organization: Individual
Address: 720 kealahou st. honolulu, hi
Phone: 8083988396
E-mail: michael.ramia@stmartin.edu
Submitted on: 2/3/2011

Comments:

green1 - Karen

From: bubba-pooh@juno.com
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 2:15 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Re: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture

Ann Koizumi
94-948 Hiapo St., Waipahu, HI, 96797
February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

I am writing to strongly urge your opposition to SB1507 relating to acupuncture. This bill would be harmful to healthcare consumers because it would undermine the quality, safety, and integrity of acupuncture in Hawaii. It would lower professional standards and allow inadequately trained people to practice acupuncture, by giving the Board of Medical Examiners sole regulatory jurisdiction over the practice of acupuncture by physicians and physician's assistants.

The Board of Medical Examiners lacks the expertise to regulate the practice of acupuncture in this way. Only the Board of Acupuncture can appropriately do so, and their current regulatory standards are the safest approach to delivering quality acupuncture to the public.

Our current education requirements for acupuncture licensure include 3,240 hours of instruction, graduation from an accredited acupuncture college, and passage of national certification exams. With all due respect for the extensive training MDs receive, their education focuses primarily on pharmaceutical and surgical approaches to illness, and they typically receive little or no training in acupuncture and oriental medicine.

The regulation of a professional practice should be vested in the hands of senior members of that profession, who are fully qualified to set professional standards for the practice. It is clearly the responsibility of the Board of Acupuncture, not any other party, to regulate acupuncture. Just as we would not allow the Board of Acupuncture to regulate pharmaceutical drugs or surgery, we should not place the regulation of acupuncture in the hands of those who are not adequately trained in acupuncture.

Any physician who wants to practice acupuncture currently has the same opportunity as anyone else to earn legitimate certification in a responsible manner, without loopholes or shortcuts. SB1507 would create a population of inadequately trained acupuncture practitioners.

Acupuncture licensure should not be taken lightly. It is a serious matter of public safety, medical ethics, and the health of our citizens. Please do not undermine the integrity of the acupuncture profession in our state. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

Sincerely,

green1 - Karen

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 2:25 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: cshdrdr@msn.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1507 on 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for HTH 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1507

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Christine Walinch
Organization: Individual
Address: 509 University Ave. #906 Honolulu, Hi. 96826
Phone: 808-944-3638
E-mail: cshdrdr@msn.com
Submitted on: 2/3/2011

Comments:

I am a licensed acupuncturist in Hawaii. I have spent over 3200 hours in school to learn this medicine and over \$60,000 to achieve my Masters of Science degree in Oriental Medicine. Medical doctors dont even have enough time now to currently serve their patients properly (HMO's etc.). MD's Have too much on their plates already and that is why patients feel rushed and uncared for. MD's dont even receive nutritional training in med school and Oriental Medicine promotes food and herbs as medicine. Pharmaceutical drugs do not go hand in hand with acupuncture and Oriental Medicine. We are in the business to support our innate, natural healing of the body and Big Pharma does not support this. 200 hours of training is hardly adequate. I wouldnt feel confident getting treated by someone who only had 200 hours of training (MD or not). I am proud to be a Hawaii resident for over 20 years, please dont jeopardize my livelihood by passing this bill. I am struggling to build a good income as an acupuncturist and MD's make more than enough money. I am honored to serve Hawaii with natural health care and have done so for 18 years in the state. First and foremost, everyone needs 3 years (full-time) minimum training at an accredited school to become competent in acupuncture. Thank you, Christine Walinch

green1 - Karen

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 2:27 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: jopating@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1507 on 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for HTH 2/4/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1507

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Joanne Pating
Organization: Individual
Address: 2711 Puuhonua St. Honolulu, HI 96822
Phone: 808-988-1590
E-mail: jopating@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/3/2011

Comments:

I am a patient of Jayne Tsuchiyama and have experienced remarkable results over the past 5 years. Jayne is extremely knowledgeable about the eastern medical philosophy, needle points and herbs. I take great comfort in knowing that she has extensive training (3000+ hours). I do not believe that anyone, even a MD, could provide anywhere near the same level of treatment after only 200-300 hours of training. Doctors are great, but but it's just not the same. There is a LOT to learn. I am even more horrified to learn that this bill applies to physician's assistants.

It would be a disservice to the public to allow this bill to pass. I strongly oppose it.

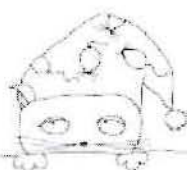
Thank you,
Joanne Pating

green1 - Karen

From: jill jameson [jillejameson8@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 2:37 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Aloha~!



Please keep Accupuncture alive and well in Hawaii...I am a holistic natural healer and user of all things healthy, and this has helped millions of people. Do not take this away. Aloha, Jill Jameson



Mitzi Gold Ph.D., LCSW, MPH, LMT
1016 Kapahulu Ave. #265 Honolulu, HI. 96816
February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

I am writing to strongly urge your opposition to SB1507 relating to acupuncture. This bill would be harmful to healthcare consumers because it would undermine the quality, safety, and integrity of acupuncture in Hawaii. It would lower professional standards and allow inadequately trained people to practice acupuncture, by giving the Board of Medical Examiners sole regulatory jurisdiction over the practice of acupuncture by physicians and physician's assistants.

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Acupuncture licensure should not be taken lightly. It is a serious matter of public safety, medical ethics, and the health of our citizens. Please do not undermine the integrity of the acupuncture profession in our state. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

Sincerely, Mitzi Gold Ph.D., LCSW, MPH, LMT

green1 - Karen

From: MSHASH@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 2:46 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: Senate Bill 1507

Martha S. Hash
88 Piikoi Street #2906
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

February 3rd, 2011

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senate Health Committee
Re: Testimony **Opposing Senate Bill 1507 Relating to Acupuncture**
(Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 229)

Dear Senator Josh Green, Chair, Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, and other distinguished members of the Committee,

I am writing to strongly urge your opposition to SB1507 relating to acupuncture. This bill would be harmful to healthcare consumers because it would undermine the quality, safety, and integrity of acupuncture in Hawaii. It would lower professional standards and allow inadequately trained people to practice acupuncture, by giving the Board of Medical Examiners sole regulatory jurisdiction over the practice of acupuncture by physicians and physician's assistants.

The Board of Medical Examiners lacks the expertise to regulate the practice of acupuncture in this way. Only the Board of Acupuncture can appropriately do so, and their current regulatory standards are the safest approach to delivering quality acupuncture to the public.

Our current education requirements for acupuncture licensure include 3,240 hours of instruction, graduation from an accredited acupuncture college, and passage of national certification exams. With all due respect for the extensive training MDs receive, their education focuses primarily on pharmaceutical and surgical approaches to illness, and they typically receive little or no training in acupuncture and oriental medicine.

The regulation of a professional practice should be vested in the hands of senior members of that profession, who are fully qualified to set professional standards for the practice. It is clearly the responsibility of the Board of Acupuncture, not any other party, to regulate acupuncture. Just as we would not allow the Board of Acupuncture to regulate pharmaceutical drugs or surgery, we should not place the regulation of acupuncture in the hands of those who are not adequately trained in acupuncture.

Any physician who wants to practice acupuncture currently has the same opportunity as anyone else to earn legitimate certification in a responsible manner, without loopholes or shortcuts. SB1507 would create a population of inadequately trained acupuncture practitioners.

Acupuncture licensure should not be taken lightly. It is a serious matter of public safety, medical ethics, and the health of our citizens. Please do not undermine the integrity of the acupuncture profession in our state. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I look forward to hearing of your opposition to SB1507.

Sincerely,

Martha S. Hash