



**Written Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Health  
March 12, 2014 8:30a.m.**

**by**

**Dale Allison, PhD, WHNP-BC, FNP, APRN-Rx, FAAN  
Hawaii State Center for Nursing  
University of Hawai'i at Manoa**

### **SB 2490, SD2 RELATING TO NURSING**

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Morikawa, and members of the House Committee on Health, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this bill, SB 2490, SD2.

Addressing the needs and interests of the people of Hawai'i includes ensuring that quality health care is easily accessible to consumers throughout the State. Nurses are critical to the successful implementation of health care reform. Continuing education plays a significant role in nursing professionals' ongoing development and for the betterment of the patients they serve. The individual nurse must embrace lifelong learning as an essential key to delivering safe high quality patient care.

However, continuing education must be reframed to focus on the desired outcome – a nurse competent to deliver quality health care. Continuing education must include a personal self-assessment tool to guide the continuing competency activity to ensure that nurses engage in lifelong learning as recommended by Institute of Medicine which is included in SB 2490,SD2. The Hawaii State Center for Nursing supports the Hawaii State Center for Nursing's Continuing Education Joint Advisory Committee determination that a Continuing Competency Program (self-assessment + CE) is preferable to simple CE program. Continuing Competence is the ongoing application of knowledge and the decision-making, psychomotor, and interpersonal skills expected of the licensed nurse within a specific practice setting resulting in nursing care that contributes to the health and welfare of clients served.

This program would not change the nurse license renewal process and will allow nurses to renew their licenses as usual. An attestation statement would be added to the license renewal form that the individual licensee has completed the self- assessment/CE process.

Further, after the renewal deadline (after July 1) a small percentage of the licensees would be audited. Does not apply to RNs who are APRNs who meet continuing competency requirements to maintain their national certification.

Therefore, the Hawaii State Center for Nursing respectfully requests that this Committee pass SB 2490, SD2, unamended. We appreciate your continuing support of nursing in Hawai'i. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



**Written Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Health  
March 12, 2014 8:30 a.m.  
by  
Kathy Yokouchi, Policy Analyst  
Hawaii State Center for Nursing  
University of Hawai'i at Manoa**

**SB 2490, SD2 RELATING TO NURSING**

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Morikawa, and members of the House Committee on Health, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this bill, SB 2490, SD1.

Addressing the needs and interests of the people of Hawai'i includes ensuring that quality health care is easily accessible to consumers throughout the State. Nurses are critical to the successful implementation of health care reform. Continuing education plays a significant role in nursing professionals' ongoing development and for the betterment of the patients they serve. The individual nurse must embrace lifelong learning as an essential key to delivering safe high quality patient care.

However, continuing education must be reframed to focus on the desired outcome – a nurse competent to deliver quality health care. Continuing education must include a personal self-assessment tool to guide the continuing competency activity to ensure that nurses engage in lifelong learning as recommended by Institute of Medicine which is included in SB 2490. The Hawaii State Center for Nursing supports the Hawaii State Center for Nursing's Continuing Education Joint Advisory Committee determination that a Continuing Competency Program (self-assessment + CE) is preferable to simple CE program. Continuing Competence is the ongoing application of knowledge and the decision-making, psychomotor, and interpersonal skills expected of the licensed nurse within a specific practice setting resulting in nursing care that contributes to the health and welfare of clients served.

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Further, after the renewal deadline (after July 1) a small percentage of the licensees would be audited. Does not apply to RNs who are APRNs who meet continuing competency requirements to maintain their national certification.

Therefore, the Hawaii State Center for Nursing respectfully requests that this Committee pass SB 2490, SD1 unamended. We appreciate your continuing support of nursing in Hawai'i. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



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Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813-4333

**HAWAI'I PACIFIC HEALTH**  
Kapi'olani • Pali Momi • Straub • Wilcox

808-535-7401  
www.hawaiipacifichealth.org

**Wednesday, March 12, 2014; 8:30 am**  
**Conference Room 329**

**The House Committee on Health**

To: Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair  
Representative Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

From: Art Gladstone RN MBA  
Chief Nurse Executive – Hawai'i Pacific Health  
Chief Operating Office – Straub Clinic & Hospital

Re: **SB 2490, SD2 Relating To Continuing Competency For Nurses**  
**Testimony in Support**

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My name is Art Gladstone, Chief Nurse Executive at Hawai'i Pacific Health (HPH) and Chief Operating Officer at Straub Clinic & Hospital. Hawai'i Pacific Health is a nonprofit health care system and the state's largest health care provider, committed to providing the highest quality medical care and service to the people of Hawai'i and the Pacific Region through its four affiliated hospitals, 44 outpatient clinics and more than 2,200 physicians and clinicians. The network is anchored by its four nonprofit hospitals: Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children, Kapi'olani Medical Center at Pali Momi, Straub Clinic & Hospital and Wilcox Memorial Hospital. Collectively, they lead the state in the areas of women's health, pediatric care, cardiovascular services, bone and joint services and cancer care. Hawai'i Pacific Health ranks among the top 3.8 percent of hospitals nationwide in electronic medical record adoption, with system-wide implementation that allows its hospitals to offer integrated, coordinated care throughout the state.

I am writing in support of SB 2490, SD2 which would require licensed registered nurses and licensed practical nurses to submit evidence of continuing competency at each renewal period, beginning with the June 30, 2017 licensing biennium.

Addressing the needs and interests of the people of Hawai'i includes ensuring that quality health care is easily accessible to consumers throughout the State. Nurses are critical to the successful implementation of health care reform. Continuing education plays a significant role in nursing professionals' ongoing development and for the betterment of the patients they serve. The individual nurse must embrace lifelong learning as an essential key to delivering safe high quality patient care.

However, continuing education must be reframed to focus on the desired outcome of a nurse competent to deliver quality health care. Continuing education must include a personal self-assessment tool to guide the continuing competency activity to ensure that nurses engage in lifelong learning as recommended by Institute of Medicine (IOM). The IOM determined that a Continuing Competency Program (self-assessment + CE) is preferable to a simple CE program.



Continuing competence is the ongoing application of knowledge and the decision-making, psychomotor, and interpersonal skills expected of the licensed nurse within a specific practice setting resulting in nursing care that contributes to the health and welfare of clients served.

This program would not change the nurse license renewal process and will allow nurses to renew their licenses as usual. An attestation statement would be added to the license renewal form that the individual licensee has completed the self- assessment/CE process.

After the renewal deadline (after July 1) a small percentage of the licensees would be audited which is accepted standard practice of state boards of nursing nationally.

Further, this measure does not apply to nurses who are APRNs who already meet continuing competency requirements by maintaining their national certification.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

**Wednesday, March 12, 2014; 8:30 am**  
**Conference Room 329**

**The House Committee on Health**

To: Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair  
Representative Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

From: Brigitte McKale  
Vice President of Patient Services and Chief Nurse Executive

**Re: SB 2490, SD2 Relating To Continuing Competency For Nurses  
Testimony in Support**

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My name is Brigitte McKale, Vice President of Patient Services & Chief Nurse Executive for Pali Momi Medical Center. Pali Momi Medical Center is a nonprofit hospital located in West O'ahu. It is dedicated to the health and well-being of all Hawai'i residents. With 126 beds and more than 370 physicians on its medical staff, Pali Momi offers a full range of services. It has delivered many medical firsts for the community, including West O'ahu's only interventional cardiac catheterization unit to detect and treat heart disease, a fully integrated minimally invasive surgical suite, CT scan and MRI services, emergency services, a Women's Center, and the state's first Retina Center. Pali Momi is the only medical facility in Hawai'i that utilizes a team triage approach in its Emergency Room, where patients are promptly evaluated by an emergency physician. The American Heart Association has recognized the hospital for excellence in the treatment of coronary artery disease and heart failure, one of only a few hospitals in the nation. Pali Momi was founded in 1989 and is an affiliate of Hawai'i Pacific Health, the state's largest health care provider.

I am writing in support of SB 2490, SD2 which would require licensed registered nurses and licensed practical nurses to submit evidence of continuing competency at each renewal period, beginning with the June 30, 2017 licensing biennium.

Addressing the needs and interests of the people of Hawai'i includes ensuring that quality health care is easily accessible to consumers throughout the State. Nurses are critical to the successful implementation of health care reform. Continuing education plays a significant role in nursing professionals' ongoing development and for the betterment of the patients they serve. The individual nurse must embrace lifelong learning as an essential key to delivering safe high quality patient care.

However, continuing education must be reframed to focus on the desired outcome of a nurse competent to deliver quality health care. Continuing education must include a personal self-assessment tool to guide the continuing competency activity to ensure that nurses engage in lifelong learning as recommended by Institute of Medicine (IOM). The IOM determined that a Continuing Competency Program (self-assessment + CE) is preferable to a simple CE program. Continuing competence is the ongoing application of knowledge and the decision-making, psychomotor, and interpersonal skills expected of the licensed nurse within a specific practice setting resulting in nursing care that contributes to the health and welfare of clients served.

This program would not change the nurse license renewal process and will allow nurses to renew their licenses as usual. An attestation statement would be added to the license renewal form that the individual licensee has completed the self- assessment/CE process.

After the renewal deadline (after July 1) a small percentage of the licensees would be audited which is accepted standard practice of state boards of nursing, nationally.

Further, this measure does not apply to nurses who are APRNs who already meet continuing competency requirements by maintaining their national certification.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.



## HAWAII MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

1360 S. Beretania Street, Suite 200, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814  
Phone (808) 536-7702 Fax (808) 528-2376 www.hmaonline.net

DATE: Wednesday, March 12, 2014

TIME: 8:30 AM

PLACE: Conference Room 329

TO:

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair

Rep. Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

FROM: Hawaii Medical Association

Dr. Walton Shim, MD, President

Dr. Linda Rasmussen, MD, Legislative Co-Chair

Dr. Ron Kienitz, DO, Legislative Co-Chair

Dr. Christopher Flanders, DO, Executive Director

Lauren Zirbel, Community and Government Relations

FROM: Hawaii Medical Association

Dr. Walton Shim, MD, President

Dr. Linda Rasmussen, MD, Legislative Co-Chair

Dr. Ron Kienitz, DO, Legislative Co-Chair

Dr. Christopher Flanders, DO, Executive Director

Lauren Zirbel, Community and Government Relations

Re: SB 2490

Position: Strong Support.

The HMA is in strong support of continuing education for all healthcare providers. The practice of medicine changes dramatically year to year and it is of the utmost importance that providers develop life-long learning as a demonstration to the public of professional responsibility in maintaining competence, performance and improving outcomes.

The HMA would also like to offer our assistance, should it be needed, in the development of CE. The HMA accredits most of the state's CME for physicians and would be happy to assist the development of CE for nurses.

Thank you for hearing this bill and for the opportunity to provide testimony.

*Officers*

*President - Walton Shim, MD    President-Elect – Robert Sloan, MD  
Secretary - Thomas Kosasa, MD    Immediate Past President – Stephen Kemble, MD  
Treasurer – Brandon Lee, MD    Executive Director – Christopher Flanders, DO*

**LATE**

**PRESENTATION OF THE  
BOARD OF NURSING**

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE  
Regular Session of 2014

Wednesday, March 12, 2014  
8:30 a.m.

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL NO. 2490, S.D. 2, RELATING TO CONTINUING  
COMPETENCY FOR NURSES.**

TO THE HONORABLE DELLA AU BELATTI, CHAIR,  
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Lee Ann Teshima, Executive Officer of the Board of Nursing ("Board"). I appreciate the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 2490, S.D. 2, Relating to Continuing Competency for Nurses, that would require licensed registered and licensed practical nurses to complete a self-assessment of practice to determine a level of competency, develop a plan for continued learning, and select and implement a learning activity option.

The Board supports the bill with amendments. A proposed H.D. 1 is attached for the committee's consideration. This draft represents the collaborative work of the Board and the continued discussions with the Center for Nursing Continuing Education Joint Advisory Committee ("Committee"). The Board is appreciative to the Committee for all the research and work they did on this project. The Board supports the concept of continuing competency for nurses and has amended the bill for clarification. Also, the Board seeks a delayed implementation date of July 1, 2017, which would allow the Board sufficient time to inform the nurses of the upcoming requirement and continue to work collaboratively with the Committee.

Testimony on Senate Bill No. 2490, S.D. 2  
Wednesday, March 12, 2014  
Page 2

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on Senate Bill  
No. 2490, S.D. 2.

STATE OF HAWAII

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CONTINUING COMPETENCY FOR NURSES.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that to ensure public  
2 health, candidates for initial nurse licensure are required to  
3 pass a national examination that measures the minimum  
4 competencies needed to perform safely and effectively as newly  
5 licensed, entry-level registered or practical nurses. In  
6 today's health care environment, because technology and practice  
7 are continually changing and new health care systems are  
8 emerging, the challenge of licensure boards is to assure  
9 consumers that nurses are competent throughout their practice  
10 careers. Research shows that continuing education alone is not  
11 enough to ensure competency in post-entry nurses. According to  
12 the Institute of Medicine, "[A]n emerging concept ... includes  
13 components of [continuing education] but has a broader focus,  
14 such as teaching how to identify problems and apply solutions,  
15 and allowing health professionals to tailor the learning  
16 process, setting, and curriculum to their needs."



1           The legislature further finds that continuing competency  
2 that ensures continued patient health and safety requires  
3 lifelong learning and ongoing redefinition based on the  
4 individual's experience, change in practice setting, and  
5 educational advancement. Each nurse must maintain and augment  
6 the necessary knowledge and skills to be current in practice. To  
7 do this, each nurse needs a self-assessment tool that enables  
8 the nurse to: assess and adapt to their learning needs; stretch  
9 learning from the classroom to the point of care; match the need  
10 for continuing education to the learning for competence; and  
11 support increased personal accountability for lifelong learning  
12 to ensure safe practice.

13           The legislature therefore finds that the Hawaii nurse  
14 continued competency program, which contains these elements and  
15 learning activity options, must be established for nurses  
16 licensed in Hawaii.

17           Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to require licensed  
18 registered nurses and licensed practical nurses to submit  
19 evidence of continuing competency at each renewal period,  
20 beginning with the [~~June 30, 2017~~] July 1, 2017 [~~licensing~~]  
21 biennium.



1 SECTION 2. Chapter 457, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by adding [~~five new sections~~] a new section to be  
3 appropriately designated and to read as follows:

4 "§457- Continuing competence requirements; [qualifying]  
5 learning activities; exemptions; extensions; [documentation;]  
6 audit. (a) In addition to the requirements of section 457-9,  
7 beginning with the July 1, 2017 biennium, [upon application for  
8 license renewal or reinstatement,] each registered nurse and  
9 practical nurse licensee shall complete the following continuing  
10 competence requirements in the two years prior to the renewal of  
11 the license:

12 (1) Complete a board approved self-assessment of practice,  
13 including the dimensions of professional  
14 responsibility, knowledge based practice,  
15 legal/ethical practice, and collaborating with others;

16 (2) Develop a plan for continued learning; and

17 (3) Select and implement one of the following learning  
18 activity options: [a learning activity option pursuant  
19 to subsection (d)].

20 ~~(d) Completion of one of the following learning activities~~  
21 shall meet the requirements for continuing competence under  
22 subsection (a):



1 ~~(1) National certification or recertification related to~~  
2 ~~the nurse's practice role;~~

3 ~~[(2)] (A) Thirty contact hours of continuing education from an~~  
4 ~~approved provider if you are a registered nurse or 20~~  
5 ~~hours if you are a licensed practical nurse~~  
6 ~~[activities];~~

7 ~~[(3)] (B) Completion of a board approved refresher course;~~

8 ~~[(4)] (C) Completion of a minimum of two semester hours of post-~~  
9 ~~licensure academic education from an accredited~~  
10 ~~nursing program related to nursing practice;~~

11 ~~[(5)] (D) Fifteen contact hours of board approved a continuing~~  
12 ~~education activity and completion of one of the~~  
13 ~~following:~~

14 ~~i. A nursing research or evidence-based practice~~  
15 ~~project as principal or co-principal~~  
16 ~~investigator;~~

17 ~~[(6)] ii. [Fifteen contact hours of a continuing education~~  
18 ~~activity and authoring] Authoring or coauthoring a~~  
19 ~~peer reviewed published nursing or health-related~~  
20 ~~article, paper, book, or book chapter;~~

21 ~~[(7)] iii. [Fifteen contact hours of a continuing education~~  
22 ~~activity and developing and conducting] Develop and~~



1           conduct a nursing education presentation or  
2           presentations totaling a minimum of five contact  
3           hours;

4       ~~[(8)]~~ iv. [Fifteen contact hours of a continuing education  
5           activity and six] Six hundred forty hours of active  
6           practice within the previous two years; or

7       ~~[(9)]~~ (E) Completion of a recognized nurse residency program.

8           (b) The following nurses are exempt from the continuing  
9           competence requirements:

10       (1) Registered nurses licensed in this State who also  
11       maintain active advanced practice registered nurse licenses in  
12       accordance with this chapter and have a current national  
13       certification; [shall not be required to fulfill additional  
14       continuing competency requirements for registered nurses under  
15       subsection (a).]

16       (2) Registered nurses licensed in this State who also  
17       maintain current national certification from a recognized  
18       national certifying body, in their practice role; or

19       (3) For first-time license renewals, if the initial  
20       license was issued twelve months or less prior to the renewal  
21       date[, no continuing competence units will be required for the  
22       first renewal period]. If the initial license was issued more



1 than twelve months prior to the renewal date, the registered  
2 nurse licensee shall be required to obtain fifteen units of  
3 approved continuing education from an approved provider or a  
4 licensed practical nurse licensee shall obtain 10 units of  
5 continuing education [~~competence units~~]for the first renewal  
6 period.

7 (c) The board may extend the deadline for compliance with  
8 the continuing competency requirements. Prior to the expiration  
9 of the license, a nurse licensee may submit a written request to  
10 the board for approval for an extension of the continuing  
11 competence requirements of this section based on any of the  
12 following:

13 (1) Illness, as certified by a physician or osteopathic  
14 physician licensed under chapter 453 or advanced  
15 practice registered nurse licensed under this chapter  
16 or in the jurisdiction in which the licensee was  
17 treated;

18 (2) Military service under extended active duty with the  
19 armed forces of the United States;

20 (3) Lack of access to continuing education courses due to  
21 the practice of nursing in geographically isolated  
22 areas; and



1 (4) Inability to undertake the continuing competence  
2 requirement due to incapacity, undue hardship or other  
3 extenuating circumstances.

4 The board will consider requests for extensions on a case-by-  
5 case basis. Extensions shall not be granted unless proof,  
6 deemed appropriate and sufficient by the board that the  
7 applicant can practice safely, is submitted. In the event a  
8 licensee cannot complete the continuing competence requirements  
9 during the two-year period after receiving an extension, the  
10 licensee may only renew the license on inactive status.

11 (d) Upon application for license renewal, each licensee  
12 shall attest under oath that the licensee has completed the  
13 continuing competence requirements of this section and is  
14 prepared to submit evidence of completion, as determined by the  
15 board, if requested. ~~[to completion of one of the learning~~  
16 ~~activity options pursuant to subsection (d) during the two years~~  
17 ~~preceding the application for license renewal and shall be~~  
18 ~~prepared to submit evidence of completion if requested by the~~  
19 ~~board.~~

20 ~~(e) The following activities do not meet the requirements~~  
21 ~~for continuing competency:~~

22 ~~(1) Offerings designed for lay persons;~~



1 ~~— (2) Offerings less than thirty minutes in duration;~~  
2 ~~— (3) On-the-job orientation;~~  
3 ~~— (4) On-the-job training related to new policies,~~  
4 ~~procedures, or equipment; or~~  
5 ~~— (5) Other educational activities not sufficiently~~  
6 ~~professional in character to reasonably qualify as~~  
7 ~~continuing education.~~  
8 ~~— (f) Acceptable documentation for completion of the~~  
9 ~~learning activities under subsection (d) includes the following~~  
10 ~~evidence:~~

11 ~~— (1) For national certification or recertification: a copy~~  
12 ~~of a certificate that includes the name of the~~  
13 ~~licensee, name of the certifying body, date of~~  
14 ~~certification, and date of certification expiration.~~  
15 ~~Certification shall be initially attained during the~~  
16 ~~licensure period, have been in effect during the~~  
17 ~~entire licensure period, or have been recertified~~  
18 ~~during the licensure period;~~

19 ~~— (2) For contact hours of continuing education: the name~~  
20 ~~of the licensee, title of educational activity, name~~  
21 ~~of the provider, number of contact hours, and date of~~  
22 ~~activity;~~



- 1 ~~(3) For a board approved refresher course: written~~  
2 ~~correspondence from the provider with the name of the~~  
3 ~~licensee, name of the provider, and verification of~~  
4 ~~successful completion of the refresher course;~~
- 5 ~~(4) For post-licensure academic education: a copy of the~~  
6 ~~licensee's transcript with the name of the licensee,~~  
7 ~~name of the educational institution, dates of~~  
8 ~~attendance, name of course with grade, and number of~~  
9 ~~credit hours received. Coursework shall demonstrate~~  
10 ~~relevance to nursing, health, or both;~~
- 11 ~~(5) For a nursing project: an abstract or summary of the~~  
12 ~~project, the name of the licensee, role of the~~  
13 ~~licensee as principal or co-principal investigator,~~  
14 ~~date of project completion, statement of the problem,~~  
15 ~~project objectives, methods used, and summary of~~  
16 ~~findings;~~
- 17 ~~(6) For authoring or co-authoring a peer reviewed~~  
18 ~~published nursing-related article, paper, book, or~~  
19 ~~book chapter: a copy of the publication, including~~  
20 ~~the name of the licensee and the publication date;~~
- 21 ~~(7) For developing and conducting a nursing education~~  
22 ~~presentation or presentations totaling at least five~~



1 contact hours: a copy of the program brochure or  
2 course syllabi, objectives, content, and teaching  
3 methods, and date and location of presentation; and  
4 ~~— (8) For six hundred forty hours of active practice in~~  
5 nursing: name of the licensee, number of hours worked  
6 in a calendar or fiscal year, name and address of the  
7 employer, and signature of supervisor. If self-  
8 employed, hours worked may be validated through other  
9 methods, such as tax records or other business  
10 records. If active practice is of a volunteer or  
11 gratuitous nature, hours worked may be validated by  
12 the recipient agency.]

13 ~~[(g)]~~ (e) At the time of license [renewal or] reactivation,  
14 restoration or reinstatement, licensees [may be subject to audit  
15 ~~for]~~ must submit proof of compliance with the board's  
16 requirements for continuing competence.

17 (h) The board may randomly audit a licensee's continuing  
18 competence units and may establish guidelines for random audits.  
19 The board shall inform licensees of the licensees' selection for  
20 audit. Within sixty days of notification, the licensee shall  
21 provide the board with documentation verifying compliance with  
22 the continuing competence requirements. [upon notice of license



1 ~~renewal or reinstatement. Documentation of acceptable evidence~~  
2 ~~shall be consistent with subsection (f) and shall be submitted~~  
3 ~~to the board no later than the last day of the renewal month.~~

4 ~~(i) Unless exempted, failure of a licensee to meet~~  
5 ~~continuing competency requirements shall result in disciplinary~~  
6 ~~action in accordance with this chapter. Failure to present~~  
7 ~~evidence of compliance to the board upon request shall~~  
8 ~~constitute a forfeiture of the license.~~

9 ~~§457— **Authorized providers of continuing competence**~~  
10 ~~**units.** (a) Continuing education may be taken in a conventional~~  
11 ~~classroom setting, via online courses, professional journals,~~  
12 ~~correspondence, or other emerging venues.~~

13 ~~(b) Continuing competence units shall be obtained from the~~  
14 ~~following authorized providers:~~

15 ~~(1) Any provider, recognized by a national credentialing~~  
16 ~~body, offering certification in the licensed nurse's~~  
17 ~~specialty area of practice, including but not limited~~  
18 ~~to: American Nurses Credentialing Center Commission~~  
19 ~~on Certification; Oncology Nursing Certification~~  
20 ~~Corporation; Board of Certification for Emergency~~  
21 ~~Nursing; National Association for Practical Nurse~~



- 1           ~~Education and Service, Inc.; and National Commission~~  
2           ~~for Health Education Credentialing, Inc.;~~
- 3     ~~(2) Any provider, recognized by a national credentialing~~  
4           ~~body, offering certification to nurse practitioners,~~  
5           ~~nurse midwives, nurse anesthetists, or clinical nurse~~  
6           ~~specialists, including but not limited to: American~~  
7           ~~Nurses Credentialing Center Commission on~~  
8           ~~Certification; American Academy of Nurse~~  
9           ~~Practitioners; National Certification Corporation;~~  
10          ~~Pediatric Nursing Certification Board; and Council on~~  
11          ~~Certification of Nurse Anesthetists;~~
- 12     ~~(3) American Nurses Association, or any state professional~~  
13          ~~nurses association with standards equal to or greater~~  
14          ~~than the State's standards;~~
- 15     ~~(4) Area Health Education Centers in the State or any~~  
16          ~~state Area Health Education Center that is a member of~~  
17          ~~the National Area Health Education Center~~  
18          ~~Organization;~~
- 19     ~~(5) National League for Nursing;~~
- 20     ~~(6) National Association for Practical Nurse Education and~~  
21          ~~Service, Inc.;~~
- 22     ~~(7) National Federation of Licensed Practical Nurses;~~



- 1 ~~(8) Any state board of nursing with standards equal to or~~  
2 ~~greater than the State's standards;~~
- 3 ~~(9) National Council of State Boards of Nursing;~~
- 4 ~~(10) Employer-sponsored continuing education programs~~  
5 ~~having a minimum of one course objective; provided~~  
6 ~~that employer-sponsored continuing education may only~~  
7 ~~be used for up to fifty per cent of total contact~~  
8 ~~hours unless the program is accredited through one of~~  
9 ~~the authorized providers in this subsection;~~
- 10 ~~(11) Any provider of professional continuing education for~~  
11 ~~health care professionals recognized by the board,~~  
12 ~~with offerings related to specialty areas of nursing~~  
13 ~~practice such as research, case management, health~~  
14 ~~policy, forensics, mental health, or complementary~~  
15 ~~alternative therapies offered by entities including~~  
16 ~~but not limited to the Commission for Case Manager~~  
17 ~~Certification, National Association for Healthcare~~  
18 ~~Quality, or American Legal Nurse Consultant~~  
19 ~~Certification Board;~~
- 20 ~~(12) Professional journals such as American Journal of~~  
21 ~~Nursing, Nursing 2006, Nursing Management, Journal of~~  
22 ~~Practical Nursing, and The Nurse Practitioner,~~



1 ~~offering continuing education approved by authorized~~  
2 ~~providers including but not limited to: American~~  
3 ~~Nurses Credentialing Center; American Association of~~  
4 ~~Critical-Care Nurses; and National Association for~~  
5 ~~Practical Nurse Education and Service, Inc.~~

6 ~~**§457— Exemption from continuing competence requirements.**~~

7 ~~(a) Prior to the expiration of a renewal period, a licensee may~~  
8 ~~submit a written request to the board for an exemption from the~~  
9 ~~continuing competence requirements in this chapter.~~

10 ~~— (b) The request for an exemption shall include evidence~~  
11 ~~that, during the two-year period prior to the expiration of the~~  
12 ~~license:~~

13 ~~— (1) The licensee was residing in another country for one~~  
14 ~~year or longer, reasonably preventing completion of~~  
15 ~~the continuing competence requirements;~~

16 ~~— (2) The licensee was ill or disabled for one year or~~  
17 ~~longer as documented by a licensed physician, surgeon,~~  
18 ~~clinical psychologist, or advanced practice registered~~  
19 ~~nurse, preventing completion of the continuing~~  
20 ~~competence requirements; or~~

21 ~~— (3) A dependent family member of the licensee was ill or~~  
22 ~~disabled for one year or longer as documented by a~~



1 ~~licensed physician, surgeon, clinical psychologist, or~~  
2 ~~advanced practice registered nurse, preventing~~  
3 ~~completion of the continuing competence requirements.~~

4 ~~— (c) Exemptions shall be considered by the board on a case~~  
5 ~~by case basis. Exemptions shall not be granted unless proof,~~  
6 ~~deemed appropriate and sufficient by the board that the~~  
7 ~~applicant can practice safely, is submitted to the board.~~  
8 ~~Exemptions shall not be granted for more than one renewal~~  
9 ~~period. In the event a licensee cannot complete the continuing~~  
10 ~~competence requirements during the two-year period after~~  
11 ~~receiving an exemption, the licensee may only renew the license~~  
12 ~~on an inactive status.~~

13 ~~— (d) When a licensee is absent from the State because of~~  
14 ~~military service for a period of one year or longer during the~~  
15 ~~two-year renewal period, preventing completion of the continuing~~  
16 ~~competence requirement, the board may provide an exemption from~~  
17 ~~the continuing competence requirement for more than one renewal~~  
18 ~~period.~~

19 ~~**§457— Record keeping for continuing competence.** (a)~~  
20 ~~Each licensee shall keep and maintain records showing that each~~  
21 ~~course or activity for which credit is claimed has been~~  
22 ~~completed.~~



1 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (b) These records shall reflect the title of the course or~~  
2 ~~activity, the date taken or completed, and the record of~~  
3 ~~participation.~~

4 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (c) Each licensee shall retain records required pursuant~~  
5 ~~to this section for a period of four years after the course or~~  
6 ~~activity concludes. Each licensee shall provide copies of the~~  
7 ~~records to the board or its designee within fourteen calendar~~  
8 ~~days after being requested to provide such documentation.~~

9 ~~**§457— Continuing competence; acceptable contact hours or**~~  
10 ~~**continuing education units.** (a) The following are acceptable~~  
11 ~~contact hours or continuing education units that fulfill the~~  
12 ~~continuing competence requirements of this chapter:~~

13 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (1) One contact hour shall be equivalent to sixty minutes~~  
14 ~~of instruction;~~

15 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (2) One contact hour shall be equivalent to sixty minutes~~  
16 ~~of clinical or laboratory practice in an informal~~  
17 ~~offering or a minimum of fifty minutes of actual~~  
18 ~~organized instruction;~~

19 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (3) One continuing medical education unit shall be~~  
20 ~~equivalent to one contact hour of instruction; and~~

21 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (4) One continuing education unit shall be equivalent to~~  
22 ~~ten contact hours of instruction.~~



1 ~~— (b) Academic credit shall be converted to contact hours as~~  
2 ~~follows:~~

3 ~~— (1) One quarter academic credit shall be equivalent to~~  
4 ~~twelve and one-half contact hours; and~~

5 ~~— (2) One semester academic credit shall be equivalent to~~  
6 ~~fifteen contact hours.~~

7 ~~— (c) Contact hour equivalencies shall be as follows:~~

8 ~~— (1) One continuing education unit shall be equivalent to~~  
9 ~~ten contact hours;~~

10 ~~— (2) One continuing medical education credit shall be~~  
11 ~~equivalent to sixty minutes; and~~

12 ~~— (3) One American Medical Association credit shall be~~  
13 ~~equivalent to sixty minutes.]"~~

14 SECTION 3. Section 457-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
15 amended by adding three new definitions to be appropriately  
16 inserted and to read as follows:

17 "Competence" means the ability of the nurse to integrate  
18 knowledge, skills, judgment, and personal attributes to practice  
19 safely and ethically in a designated role and setting in  
20 accordance with the scope of nursing practice.~~[application of~~  
21 knowledge, skills, and behaviors required to function



1 ~~effectively, safely, ethically, and legally within the context~~  
2 ~~of the individual's role and environment].~~

3 "Continuing competence" means the lifelong process of  
4 maintaining and documenting competence through ongoing self-  
5 assessment, development, and implementation of a personal  
6 learning plan, and subsequent reassessment.

7 "Unit" means a relative value assigned to continuing  
8 competence activities in which one continuing competence unit is  
9 equivalent to at least fifty minutes of classroom or hands on  
10 instruction."

11 SECTION 4. Section 457-12, Hawaii Revised Statutes is  
12 amended to read as follows:

13 §457-12 Discipline; grounds, proceedings, hearing. (a) In  
14 addition to any other actions authorized by law, the board shall  
15 have the power to deny, revoke, limit, or suspend any license to  
16 practice nursing as a registered nurse or as a licensed  
17 practical nurse applied for or issued by the board in accordance  
18 with this chapter, and to fine or to otherwise discipline a  
19 license for any cause authorized by law, including but not  
20 limited to the following:

21 (1) Submitting to or filing with the board any notice,  
22 statement, or other document required under this chapter, which



1 is false or untrue or contains any material misstatement of  
2 fact, including a false attestation of compliance with the  
3 continuing competence requirements."

4 SECTION 5. The department of commerce and consumer affairs,  
5 in collaboration with the center for nursing, shall convene a  
6 stakeholder group to address any outstanding issues associated  
7 with the implementation of the continuing competence  
8 requirements pursuant to this Act and shall report to the  
9 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
10 the regular session of 2015 and 2016.

11 SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored.

12 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2014;  
13 provided that the continuing competence requirements for  
14 registered nurses and practical nurses shall take effect with  
15 the licensing biennium beginning on [~~June 30, 2017~~]July 1, 2017.

16



**Report Title:**

Nurses; Registered Nurses; Practical Nurses; Continuing  
Competency; Licensing; Registration

**Description:**

Requires licensed registered nurses and licensed practical  
nurses to submit evidence of continuing competency at each  
renewal period, beginning with the June 30, 2015, licensing  
biennium. (SD1)

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



**morikawa2-Joanna**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 11, 2014 12:50 PM  
**To:** HLTtestimony  
**Cc:** fconde@queens.org  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB2490 on Mar 12, 2014 08:30AM\*



**SB2490**

Submitted on: 3/11/2014

Testimony for HLT on Mar 12, 2014 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Francisco Conde	Hawaii State Center for Nursing	Support	No

Comments:

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Legislative Committee

Wailua Brandman, Chair  
Amy Vasconcellos, Vice Chair  
Beverly Laurongaboy Inocencio  
Mandy Ki'aha  
Sondra Leiggi  
Danielle Naahielua  
Moani Vertido  
Cynthia Cadwell, Ex-Officio



HAWAII ASSOCIATION of  
PROFESSIONAL NURSES

**LATE**

Written Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Health  
March 12, 2014 8:30 am

SB 2490 SD2 RELATING TO NURSING

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Morikawa, and members of the House Committee on Health, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of this bill, SB 2490, SD2.

Addressing the needs and interests of the people of Hawai'i includes ensuring that quality health care is easily accessible to consumers throughout the State. Nurses are critical to the successful implementation of health care reform. Continuing education plays a significant role in nursing professionals' ongoing development and for the betterment of the patients they serve. The individual nurse must embrace lifelong learning as an essential key to delivering safe high quality patient care.

Continuing education must include a personal self-assessment tool to guide the continuing competency activity to ensure that nurses engage in lifelong learning as recommended by Institute of Medicine(IOM) which is included in SB 2490, SD2. The IOM determined that a Continuing Competency Program (self-assessment + CE) is preferable to simple CE program.

This program would not change the nurse license renewal process and will allow nurses to renew their licenses as usual. An attestation statement would be added to the license renewal form that the individual licensee has completed the self-assessment/CE process. After the renewal deadline (after July 1) a small percentage of the licensees would be audited which is accepted standard practice of state boards of nursing, nationally.

Further, this measure does not apply to RNs who are APRNs who already meet continuing competency requirements by maintaining their national certification.

Therefore, HAPN respectfully requests that this Committee pass SB 2490, SD2, unamended. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Amy Vasconcellos, Vice Chair  
Legislative Committee  
Hawaii Association of Professional Nurses

**Written Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Health  
March 12, 2014 8:30 a.m.**

By  
Lenora Lorenzo DNP, APRN, FAANP

**SB 2490, SD2 RELATING TO NURSING**

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Morikawa, and members of the House Committee on Health, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this bill, SB 2490, SD2.

Addressing the needs and interests of the people of Hawai'i includes ensuring that quality health care is easily accessible to consumers throughout the State. Nurses are critical to the successful implementation of health care reform. Continuing education plays a significant role in nursing professionals' ongoing development and for the betterment of the patients they serve. The individual nurse must embrace lifelong learning as an essential key to delivering safe high quality patient care.

However, continuing education must be reframed to focus on the desired outcome – a nurse competent to deliver quality health care. Continuing education must include a personal self-assessment tool to guide the continuing competency activity to ensure that nurses engage in lifelong learning as recommended by Institute of Medicine (IOM)<sup>1</sup> which is included in SB 2490, SD2. The IOM determined that a Continuing Competency Program (self-assessment + CE) is preferable to simple CE program. Continuing competence is the ongoing application of knowledge and the decision-making, psychomotor, and interpersonal skills expected of the licensed nurse within a specific practice setting resulting in nursing care that contributes to the health and welfare of clients served.

This program would not change the nurse license renewal process and will allow nurses to renew their licenses as usual. An attestation statement would be added to the license renewal form that the individual licensee has completed the self-assessment/CE process. After the renewal deadline (after July 1) a small percentage of the licensees would be audited which is accepted standard practice of state boards of nursing, nationally.

Further, this measure does not apply to RNs who are APRNs who already meet continuing competency requirements by maintaining their national certification.

Therefore, Lenora Lorenzo respectfully requests that this Committee pass SB 2490, SD2, unamended. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

- 
- <sup>1</sup>Recommendation #6 of the recently released Institute of Medicine (IOM) *Future of Nursing Report* is to "ensure that nurses engage in lifelong learning". The recommendation further suggests that, "accrediting bodies, schools of nursing, health care organizations and continuing competency educators from multiple health professions should collaborate to ensure that nurses and nursing students and faculty continue their education and engage in lifelong learning to gain competencies needed to provide care for diverse populations across lifespan." Learning takes place in many forms.

**morikawa2-Joanna**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 10, 2014 8:45 PM  
**To:** HLTtestimony  
**Cc:** teresa.parsons@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2490 on Mar 12, 2014 08:30AM

**SB2490**

Submitted on: 3/10/2014

Testimony for HLT on Mar 12, 2014 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Teresa Parsons	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Senators, As a Registered Nurse in the State of Hawai'i, I stand in STRONG SUPPORT of this important measure to ensure the highest quality care is provided to the people. SB 2490 SD2 is not burdensome, nor costly to the RN, but it is priceless for the patient who presents for critical health care, knowing the nurse caring for them is up to date with today's rapidly changing health care technology and practices. I urge you to continue to push this measure forward to the full Legislature for a vote. Mahalo for allowing me to testify in STRONG SUPPORT of this important bill.

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**morikawa2-Joanna**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 10, 2014 2:56 PM  
**To:** HLTtestimony  
**Cc:** bishopmattj@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2490 on Mar 12, 2014 08:30AM

**SB2490**

Submitted on: 3/10/2014

Testimony for HLT on Mar 12, 2014 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Matt Bishop	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Committee members, I am opposed to this bill as it currently stands because I do not believe that a proper tool yet exists for nurses to develop their own personal plan for continuing competency that is based on evidence for improved practice. I believe in the power and need for continued competency and continuing, life long education but there is not a proper way that the process can yet be measured and proven to be an effective tool for better care. I believe this is a process that should be looked into further before making this a legislative action at this time.

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**morikawa2-Joanna**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 10, 2014 4:51 PM  
**To:** HLTtestimony  
**Cc:** debramar@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2490 on Mar 12, 2014 08:30AM

**SB2490**

Submitted on: 3/10/2014

Testimony for HLT on Mar 12, 2014 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Debra Mark	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: There is little to no evidence indicating that continuing education improves competency. The benefits of this bill are questionable when compared to the resources required for this program's implementation.

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Written Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Health  
March 12, 2014 8:30 a.m.  
by

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**LATE**

**SB 2490, SD2 RELATING TO NURSING**

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Morikawa, and members of the House Committee on Health, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this bill, SB 2490, SD2.

Addressing the needs and interests of the people of Hawai'i includes ensuring that quality health care is easily accessible to consumers throughout the State. Nurses are critical to the successful implementation of health care reform. Continuing education plays a significant role in nursing professionals' ongoing development and for the betterment of the patients they serve. The individual nurse must embrace lifelong learning as an essential key to delivering safe high quality patient care.

However, continuing education must be reframed to focus on the desired outcome – a nurse competent to deliver quality health care. Continuing education must include a personal self-assessment tool to guide the continuing competency activity to ensure that nurses engage in lifelong learning as recommended by Institute of Medicine(IOM)<sup>1</sup> which is included in SB 2490, SD2. The IOM determined that a Continuing Competency Program (self-assessment + CE) is preferable to simple CE program. Continuing competence is the ongoing application of knowledge and the decision-making, psychomotor, and interpersonal skills expected of the licensed nurse within a specific practice setting resulting in nursing care that contributes to the health and welfare of clients served.

This program would not change the nurse license renewal process and will allow nurses to renew their licenses as usual. An attestation statement would be added to the license renewal form that the individual licensee has completed the self- assessment/CE process. After the renewal deadline (after July 1) a small percentage of the licensees would be audited which is accepted standard practice of state boards of nursing, nationally.

Further, this measure does not apply to RNs who are APRNs who already meet continuing competency requirements by maintaining their national certification.

Therefore, I respectfully requests that this Committee pass SB 2490, SD2, unamended. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Lynda A Hiramami APRN FNP  
12-4265 Pahoia Kalapana Rd  
Pahoia HI 967788

- 
- <sup>1</sup> Recommendation #6 of the recently released Institute of Medicine (IOM) *Future of Nursing Report* is to "ensure that nurses engage in lifelong learning". The recommendation further suggests that, "accrediting bodies, schools of nursing, health care organizations and continuing competency educators from multiple health professions should collaborate to ensure that nurses and nursing students and faculty continue their education and engage in lifelong learning to gain competencies needed to provide care for diverse populations across lifespan." Learning takes place in many forms.