

STATE OF HAWAII  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**  
919 Ala Moana Boulevard, 4th Floor  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

**NOLAN P. ESPINDA**  
DIRECTOR

**Cathy Ross**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
ADMINISTRATION

DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
CORRECTIONS

**Shawn H. Tsuha**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
LAW ENFORCEMENT

No. \_\_\_\_\_

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 807, SENATE DRAFT 2  
RELATING TO HEALTH

By  
Nolan P. Espinda, Director  
Department of Public Safety

House Committee on Health  
Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair  
Representative Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair

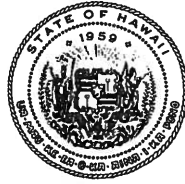
Wednesday, March 18, 2015; 08:45 AM  
State Capitol, Room 329

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Creagan, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) **supports** Senate Bill (SB) 807, Senate Draft (SD) 2, which proposes to establish the Narcotics Advisory Committee to recommend acceptable topics and curriculum for the continuing medical education program.

It should be noted that there already exists a State Narcotics Policy Working Group which convenes regularly to discuss issues relating to medical practice and controlled substances and may be a suitable entity to carry out the purposes of the proposed Governor-appointed Narcotics Policy Advisory Committee. However, to more effectively accomplish the requirements of SB 807, SD2, the PSD would require funding to enable its vendor, ehawaii.gov, to modify and update the valuable controlled substance registration renewal website and database.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

P. O. Box 3378  
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378  
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony COMMENTING on SB807 SD2  
Relating to Health**

REPRESENTATIVE DELLA AU BELATTI, CHAIR  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Hearing Date: 03/18/15, 8:45 am

Room Number: 329

1 **Fiscal Implications:** None

2 **Department Testimony:** We appreciate the intent of SB807 SD2 but defer to the Department of  
3 Public Safety as the lead agency in regards to implementation of this measure.

4 This measure seeks to establish the narcotics advisory committee to recommend  
5 acceptable topics and curriculum for the continuing medical education program. The measure  
6 also establishes requirements for a mandatory continuing medical education program for  
7 practitioners that prescribe narcotic drugs.

8 Education for practitioners is a critical component to reducing incidences of prescription  
9 drug abuse and misuse based on a comprehensive national review of policies and approaches.<sup>1</sup> In  
10 support of efforts outlined in SB807 SD2, the Department of Health is collaborating with the  
11 Department of Public Safety on educational efforts to increase prescriber use of the Prescription  
12 Drug Monitoring Program and appropriate prescribing practices. The Department of Health also  
13 conducts ongoing surveillance and reporting related to drug poisoning to help guide program and  
14 policy efforts. Last year's report is entitled "Drug Overdose Deaths among Hawaii residents,  
15 1999-2013."

16 Drug poisoning is a serious public health problem in Hawai'i and across the nation.  
17 Based on Hawaii death certificate records, fatal drug poisoning among Hawai'i residents have  
18 increased significantly over the last 20 years to make it the leading mechanism of fatal injuries,

---

<sup>1</sup> <http://healthyamericans.org/assets/files/TFAH2013RxDrugAbuseRptFINAL.pdf>

1 surpassing deaths from motor vehicle crashes and falls. There was an almost two-fold increase  
2 in deaths from drug poisonings from 78 deaths per year in the 1999-2003 period to 151 deaths  
3 per year over the 2009-2013 period. Almost all of the fatal poisonings in the 2009-2013 period  
4 were drug-related (88%, or 754 of 856). Prescription drugs were implicated in nearly half (45%)  
5 of the unintentional poisonings, including 36% of deaths that involved opioid pain  
6 relievers. Death certificate codes further indicated that 52% of these deaths involved illicit  
7 substances, most commonly methamphetamine (43%) and cocaine (8%).

8 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**PRESENTATION OF THE  
BOARD OF NURSING**

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
HEALTH

TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE  
Regular Session of 2015

Wednesday, March 18, 2015  
8:45 a.m.

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL NO. 807, S.D. 2, RELATING TO HEALTH.**

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 submit testimony on Senate Bill No. 807, S.D. 2, Relating to Health, that establishes a narcotics advisory committee and requirements for mandatory continuing medical education for prescribing practitioners.

The Board supports the establishment of the Narcotics Advisory Committee with the following amendment:

- Page 1, lines 12-13, should read, "(2) Two members shall be advanced practice registered nurses with prescriptive authority, licensed under chapter 457; and... ." With the inclusion of advanced practice registered nurses ("APRN") on the advisory committee, it should be clarified that the APRN have "prescriptive authority" to ensure that the individual has the knowledge and expertise in prescribing to enhance their participation on the advisory committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on Senate Bill No. 807, S.D. 2.



## **SB807 RELATING TO HEALTH**

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH: Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair; Representative Richard Creagan, Vice Chair

- Wednesday, March 18, 2015 at 8:45 a.m.
- Conference Room 329

## **HSAC Supports SB807 SD2:**

*Good Morning Chair Belatti; Vice Chair Creagan; And Distinguished Committee Members. My name is Alan Johnson, Chair of the Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition, an organization of more than thirty treatment and prevention agencies across the State.*

**The Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition supports establishment of the narcotics advisory committee to recommend acceptable topics and curriculum for the continuing medical education program. Establishes requirements for a mandatory continuing medical education program for prescribing practitioners that prescribe narcotic drugs.**

The Narcotic Policy Work Group reviewed the research and prepared the recommendations for this bill.

The Narcotic Policy Work Group, led by Dr. Miscovitch and Senator Green, is comprised of:

- numerous physicians, including pain specialists
- medical representatives from the hospitals,
- representative from Public Safety,
- representative from Department of Health,
- Judge Alm,
- pharmacists,
- VA,
- representative from the Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition,
- representatives from HMSA,
- representative from Kaiser,
- representative from hospice,
- representative from Hawaii Medical Association,

Working together, we can improve outcomes and reduce costs.

We appreciate the opportunity to testify and are available for questions.



**Written Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Health  
March 18, 2015 8:45 a.m.**

**by**

**Laura Reichhardt, MS, A-GN-P, RN, Senior Administrative Coordinator  
Hawai'i State Center for Nursing  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa**

**SB807 SD2 RELATING TO HEALTH**

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Creagan and members of the House Committee on Health. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony regarding SB807 SD2 Relating to Health. The Hawai'i State Center for Nursing (HSCN) is in strong support for SB807 SD2, with amendments.

In 2009, the Legislature in its wisdom, introduced Act 169 which was enacted into law as HRS §432:1-615 requires insurers, mutual and fraternal benefit societies, and health maintenance organizations to recognize Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) as primary care providers (PCPs) and granted APRNs global signature authority and prescriptive rights. Secondly, in accordance with SCR 167 SD2, SLH 2010, the HSCN formed the Continuing Education Joint Advisory Committee (CEJAC). CEJAC found that continuing competency requirements for nurses is a means to engage in life-long learning to maintain safe, quality and proficient care to our community.

The HSCN commends the Hawai'i State Legislature for including APRNs in the Narcotics Advisory Committee and for establishing and supporting a culture of life-long learning within our healthcare provider community. The HSCN respectfully recommends further amendments specifying the APRNs appointed to the Narcotics Advisory Committee also hold prescriptive authority (APRN-Rx).

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support for SB807 SD2 and provide recommended amendments.

creagan1 - Dannah

---

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 8:04 AM  
To: HLTtestimony  
Cc: lenora@hawaii.edu  
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB807 on Mar 18, 2015 08:45AM

**SB807**

Submitted on: 3/14/2015

Testimony for HLT on Mar 18, 2015 08:45AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dr. Lenora Lorenzo	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill as revised. We are pleased that the amendments for the Narcotics Advisory Committee has nursing (APRN) representation. It is important to have all prescribers represented on this committee for a full viewpoint in prescribing issues.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

creagan1 - Dannah

---

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 5:11 PM  
To: HLTtestimony  
Cc: rontthi@gmail.com  
Subject: \*Submitted testimony for SB807 on Mar 18, 2015 08:45AM\*

**SB807**

Submitted on: 3/13/2015

Testimony for HLT on Mar 18, 2015 08:45AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ronald Taniguchi, Pharm.D.	Individual	Support	No

**Comments:**

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)