

**Written Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Affairs
Friday, March 1, 2024 at 9:00 A.M.
Conference Room 229 and via Videoconference
by
Laura Reichhardt, APRN, AGPCNP-BC, FAAN
Director, Hawai'i State Center for Nursing
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa**

Support for GM 512

Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Fukunaga, members of the Senate Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on GM 512. The Hawai'i State Center for Nursing supports the nomination of Bradley Kuo to the Hawai'i Board of Nursing.

The Hawai'i State Center for Nursing (HSCN) convenes a group, *APRN Policy and Practice Task Force*. Since 2015, Bradley Kuo has been a member of this group. In this working group, he has been instrumental in identifying opportunities and needs for APRNs, including those which have resulted in development of proposed legislation, produces public resources that increase the nursing understanding of laws and rules as well as public understanding of APRN roles, and has contributed to interprofessional working groups and dialogues that advance healthcare in Hawai'i.

Two initiatives that demonstrate Dr. Kuo's excellent fit for the Board of Nursing are as follows:

- Co-drafter of the APRN decision making framework, a collaborative effort of the Hawai'i Board of Nursing, Hawai'i State Center for Nursing, and Hawai'i Association of Professional Nurses. This framework enables the APRN nurse to process through their education, training, certifications, and licensure as it relates to patient care considerations to ensure that nurses perform clinical services to the top of their education and within the rule of the law.
 - Resource Access: <https://www.hawaiicenterfornursing.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/APRN-Decision-Making-Flow-Chart-3-1.pdf>
- Co-lead with Hawai'i State Center for Nursing on the HRS Review to remove barriers to practice. In 2021 and 2022, the Hawai'i State House of Representatives introduced resolutions with the purpose of these measures included convening a working group to determine the gaps in access to health care and the scope of care of advanced practice registered nurses as well as to conduct an analysis regarding the scopes of practice for advanced practice registered nurses and physician assistants. Launching this working group in 2022, Dr. Kuo and I worked together to identify laws that pertain to healthcare practice. He secured a full list of these laws, created a spreadsheet that linked each statute to the HRS webpage, and has worked with me to facilitate an interprofessional working group that includes pharmacy, psychology, medicine, physician assistant, and advanced practice registered nurse members. Of over 500 statutes identified, today this working group has reviewed and drafted recommendations for 300 statutes, with recommendations for amendments to 50% of these statutes.

The mission of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing is to engage in nursing workforce research, promote best practices and disseminate knowledge, cultivate a diverse and well-prepared workforce, support healthy work environments, champion lifelong learning, and strategically plan for sound nursing workforce policy.

- Resolutions
 - H.R. 99 (adopted), H.C.R. 123, SLH 2021
 - H.R. 100 (adopted), H.C.R. 124, SLH 2021
 - H.R. 139 (adopted), H.C.R. 139, SLH 2022
 - H.R. 107 (adopted), H.C.R. 100, SLH 2023
- Resource: https://www.hawaii-center-for-nursing.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Healthcare-Provider-Barriers-to-Practice-Law-Review_FINAL.pdf (Report date September 2023; additional statutes reviewed since the writing of the first report).

With these examples as demonstration of Dr. Kuo's commitment to high quality, safe, and accessible nursing practice, and his commitment to nurses' understanding of laws and rules that regulate nursing practice, HSCN supports Bradley Kuo's nomination to the board of nursing.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.



**Written Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection**

**Friday, March 1, 2024, 9:30am
Conference Room 229 and Via Video Conference**

**GM 512 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the State Board of Nursing,
Gubernatorial Nominee, BRADLEY KUO, for a term to expire 06-30-2027**

Chair Jarrett Keohokaole, Vice Chair Carol Fukunaga, and members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony **in strong support** of Gubernatorial Nominee BRADLEY KUO, to be confirmed to the State Board of Nursing.

Hawai'i- ANA is the state's premier professional nursing organization that fosters high standards of professional nursing practice, promotes safe and ethical work environments, and advocates on health care issues that affect nurses and the public. We are aligned with other professional and governmental agencies and organizations such as the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing (HSCN), the Hawai'i Professional and Vocational Licensure Division (PVL) of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA), the Hawai'i Association of Professional Nurses (HAPN), and others, to assure that Hawai'i nurses provide safe and equitable care to the public we serve.

We have worked with Dr. Bradley Kuo for many years in this advocacy capacity and know him to be a highly respected professional with an accomplished standard of integrity and commitment to the healthcare of the people of Hawai'i. As you know from his resume, Dr. Kuo is an expert on Hawai'i healthcare, as well as nursing policy and practice issues.

We highly recommend Dr Kuo to serve in this position on the Hawai'i Board of Nursing.

Contact information for Hawai'i – American Nurses Association:

President: Dr. Nancy Atmospera-Walch, DNP, CCHN, FAAN, president@hawaii-ana.org

Executive Director: Dr. Linda Beechinor, APRN, executivedirector@hawaii-ana.org

500 Lunalilo Home Road, #27-E, Honolulu HI 96825. (808) 779- 3001

GM-512

Submitted on: 2/27/2024 6:08:52 PM

Testimony for CPN on 3/1/2024 9:00:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Jamie Boling | Testifying for Optimum Health and Wellness Hawaii | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Optimum Health and Wellness Hawaii

74 Kihapai

Kailua, HI, 96734

02/27/2024

Hawaii Board of Nursing,

P.O. Box 3469,

Honolulu, HI 96801

Subject: Nomination of Dr. Bradley Kuo for the Hawaii Board of Nursing

Dear Board Members,

I am writing to express my full support for the nomination of Dr. Bradley Kuo to the esteemed Hawaii Board of Nursing. I have had the privilege of working closely with Dr. Kuo for several years and I am confident that his experience, dedication, and leadership skills make him an excellent candidate for this position.

Dr. Kuo has demonstrated exceptional expertise in the field of nursing throughout his career. His commitment to patient care, his comprehensive understanding of nursing practices, and his innovative approach to healthcare management are truly admirable. His ability to navigate complex situations with grace and professionalism is unprecedented, making him a valuable asset to any team.

Furthermore, Dr. Kuo's commitment to professional development and continuous learning sets an example for his peers. He is not only a leader in his field but also a mentor, always willing to share his knowledge and experience with others. This attribute, coupled with his strong interpersonal skills and empathetic nature, makes him a perfect fit for the Hawaii Board of Nursing.

I am certain that Dr. Bradley Kuo's extensive experience, dedication to the nursing profession, and commitment to excellence will greatly benefit the Hawaii Board of Nursing. I strongly endorse his nomination and believe that his contributions will have a significant positive impact on the board and the nursing profession as a whole.

Thank you for considering my endorsement. I am confident that Dr. Kuo will exceed your expectations and make a significant contribution to the Board.

Yours sincerely,

Jamie Kopera Boling, APRN

Owner of Optimum Health and Wellness Hawaii

GM-512

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 11:25:51 AM

Testimony for CPN on 3/1/2024 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Allen Novak | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I wish to support the confirmation of Bradley Kuo, A.P.R.N. to the Hawaii Board of Nursing as specified in GM512.

Dr. Kuo is a highly informed Advanced Practice Registered Nurse with broad and in depth understanding of the practice of nursing. He has demonstrated high standards of practice, ethics and patient advocacy which will be a valuable contribution to the Board.

Allen Novak, A.P.R.N.

Hilo, Hawaii

GM-512

Submitted on: 2/27/2024 5:26:05 PM

Testimony for CPN on 3/1/2024 9:00:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Wailua Brandman | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I support.