

Testimony of the Board of Pharmacy

Before the
Senate Committee on Commerce & Consumer Protection
Wednesday, March 4, 2026
9:35 a.m.
Via Videoconference

On the following measure:
S.B. 2623, S.D. 1, RELATING TO LICENSING

Chair Keohokalole and Members of the Committee:

My name is Christopher Fernandez, and I am the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy (Board). The Board supports this bill and offers the following comments.

The purpose of this bill is to authorize the Board of Pharmacy to renew certificates of registration for registered pharmacy technicians. Clarifies renewal requirements and restoration provisions for certificates of registration. (SD1).

The Board supports this measure because it would allow for renewal of pharmacy technician registrations, rather than requiring the termination of all registrations on December 31 of each odd-numbered year and the simultaneous re-registration of more than 2,000 pharmacy technicians. Following the enactment of Act 93 (2025), the Board, in partnership with the Professional and Vocational Licensing Division (PVL), completed its first round of pharmacy technician registrations in preparation for the January 1, 2026, effective date. While the initial rollout proceeded as planned, the Board observed the administrative and industry strain that a non-renewable registration structure can create.

To further clarify the renewal requirements for pharmacy technician registrants, the Board respectfully requests the following amendment to page 4, line 18:

“; provided that for certificates of registration for pharmacy technicians, the board shall not require proof of continuing education beyond the requirements for the single biennium immediately preceding the application restoration.”

The Board requests that this language be amended to clearly reflect the original intent of Act 93, which did not include a continuing education requirement for pharmacy technician registration. Clarifying this provision will ensure consistency with existing law and avoid the unintended imposition of continuing education requirements.

Overall, the Board believes the bill will also reduce administrative burden on both the industry and the Board when pharmacy technician registrations expire on December 31, 2027.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



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GOVERNMENT STRATEGIES

A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW PARTNERSHIP

DATE: March 1, 2026

TO: Senator Jarrett Keohokalole
Chair, Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Senator Carol Fukunaga
Vice Chair, Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

FROM: Tiffany Yajima

RE: **S.B. 2623, SD1 - Relating to Licensing**
Hearing Date: Wednesday, March 4, 2026 at 9:35 a.m.
Conference Room: 229

Dear Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and Members of the Committee:

We submit this testimony in **support** of S.B. 2623, SD1, on behalf of Walgreen Co. (“Walgreens”). Walgreens operates stores at more than 9,000 locations in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. In Hawaii, Walgreens has 13 stores on the islands of Oahu and Maui.

S.B. 2623, SD1 streamlines the pharmacy technician licensing process by allowing qualified licensees to “renew” rather than “re-register” every two years. This amendment aligns with the standard PVL licensing and renewal procedures already in place for pharmacists and fixes a technical oversight in Act 93 (2025) that passed last year.

Under the current framework for technician registration, technicians are required to re-register as if they were new applicants every two years, creating unnecessary paperwork and an administrative burden. By allowing for a renewal process, this measure streamlines licensing, allows for better tracking of credentials, and ensures that pharmacies and technicians remain compliant with State law.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.



Testimony in **SUPPORT of SB2623 SD1** presented before the
Senate Committee on Consumer Protection
Wednesday, March 4, 2026

Corrie L. Sanders on behalf of
The Hawai'i Pharmacists Association

Honorable Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and Members of the Committee,

The Hawai'i Pharmacists Association (HPhA) supports the proposed amendments to sections 461-8 and 461-9.5, Hawai'i Revised Statutes, relating to pharmacy technician registration. These changes appropriately modernize the pharmacy technician renewal process by allowing certificates of registration to be renewed biennially without requiring pharmacy technicians to restart the registration process entirely. Aligning the technician renewal framework with the processes used by other licensed health care professionals under the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs promotes administrative efficiency, workforce stability, and regulatory consistency. Clarifying that pharmacy technician registrations remain valid through the biennial cycle, and may be restored upon payment of applicable fees and proof of recent continuing education, removes unnecessary barriers that can disrupt the pharmacy workforce.

From a practice standpoint, these updates will help pharmacies maintain continuity of operations and patient care by reducing avoidable lapses in technician eligibility. Pharmacy technicians are essential members of the workforce, and a streamlined renewal pathway supports recruitment, retention, and compliance. HPhA appreciates that the measure preserves appropriate oversight while eliminating duplicative administrative burden.

For these reasons, the **Hawai'i Pharmacists Association supports SB 2623 SD1**. Mahalo for your consideration of this measure and the opportunity to testify.

Very respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Corrie L. Sanders". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Corrie L. Sanders, PharmD., BCACP, CPGx
Executive Director, Hawai'i Pharmacists Association

SB-2623-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2026 7:22:36 PM

Testimony for CPN on 3/4/2026 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Johnnie-Mae L. Perry	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I, Johnnie-Mae L. Perry, Support

2623 SB RELATING TO LICENSING.