



Senate Committee on Government Operations
Honorable Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
Honorable Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

RE: Testimony in Support of S.B. 2849, Relating to Public Meetings
Hearing: February 3, 2026 at 3:00 p.m.

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee:

My name is Ben Creps. I am a staff attorney at the Public First Law Center, a nonprofit organization that promotes government transparency. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **support** of S.B. 2849.

S.B. 2849 reflects best practice for preparing agendas. The most important part of an agenda is the agenda. But many boards provide lengthy “boilerplate” instructions and non-substantive meeting information at the beginning of a meeting notice. (Exemplar attached.) While that can be frustrating for anyone, we have heard consistent concerns that it is particularly difficult for individuals using assistive “screen reading” technology.

Clear and accessible meeting notices are critical to effective public participation. By standardizing and prioritizing the placement of substantive agenda items, S.B. 2849 reduces barriers to access and helps ensure that all members of the public can quickly find the information they need.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify in support of S.B. 2849.



BOARD OF NURSING
Professional and Vocational Licensing Division
Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs
State of Hawaii

AGENDA

Date: Thursday, February 5, 2026

Time: 9:00 a.m.

In-Person Meeting Location: Queen Liliuokalani Conference Room
HRH King Kalakaua Building
335 Merchant Street, 1st Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Virtual Virtual Videoconference Meeting – Zoom Meeting (Use link below)

Participation: <https://dcca-hawaii-gov.zoom.us/j/88396626059?pwd=gBQymLb89Tdiku5H8cTsa6mMPSF9ur.1>

Phone: (669) 900 6833

Meeting ID: 883 9662 6059

Passcode: 565987

AGENDA: The agenda was posted on the State electronic calendar as required by Hawaii Revised Statutes (“HRS”) section 92-7(b).

If you wish to submit written testimony on any agenda item, please submit your testimony to nursing@dcca.hawaii.gov or by hard-copy mail to Attn: Board of Nursing, P.O. Box 3469, Honolulu, HI 96801. We request submission of testimony at least 24 hours prior to the meeting to ensure that it can be distributed to the Board members.

INTERNET ACCESS:

To view the meeting and provide live oral testimony, please use the link at the top of the agenda. You will be asked to enter your name. The Board requests that you enter your full name, but you may use a pseudonym or other identifier if you wish to remain anonymous. You will also be asked for an email address. You may fill in this field with any entry in an email format, e.g., *****@***mail.com.

Your microphone will be automatically muted. When the Chairperson asks for public testimony, you may click the Raise Hand button found on your Zoom screen to indicate that you wish to testify about that agenda item. The Chairperson will individually enable each testifier to unmute their microphone. When recognized by the Chairperson, please unmute your microphone before speaking and mute your microphone after you finish speaking.

PHONE ACCESS:

If you cannot get internet access, you may get audio-only access by calling the Zoom Phone Number listed at the top on the agenda.

Upon dialing the number, you will be prompted to enter the Meeting ID which is also listed at the top of the agenda. After entering the Meeting ID, you will be asked to either enter your panelist number or wait to be admitted into the meeting. You will not have a panelist number. So, please wait until you are admitted into the meeting.

When the Chairperson asks for public testimony, you may indicate you want to testify by entering “*” and then “9” on your phone’s keypad. After entering “*” and then “9”, a voice prompt will let you know that the host of the meeting has been notified. When recognized by the Chairperson, you may unmute yourself by pressing “*” and then “6” on your phone. A voice prompt will let you know that you are unmuted. Once you are finished speaking, please enter “*” and then “6” again to mute yourself.

For both internet and phone access, when testifying, you will be asked to identify yourself and the organization, if any, that you represent. Each testifier will be limited to five minutes of testimony per agenda item.

If connection to the meeting is lost for more than 30 minutes, the meeting will be continued on a specified date and time. This information will be provided on the Board’s website at: <https://cca.hawaii.gov/pvl/boards/nursing/board-meeting-schedule/>.

Instructions to attend State of Hawaii virtual board meetings may be found online at: <https://cca.hawaii.gov/pvl/files/2020/08/State-of-Hawaii-Virtual-Board-Attendee-Instructions.pdf>.

1. Roll Call, Quorum, Call to Order – HRS §92-3 Open Meetings and HAR §16-89-70 Oral testimony
2. Chair’s Report
 - a. Announcements
3. Approval of the Open and Executive Session Minutes of the December 4, 2025, Meeting

The Board may enter Executive Session to consult with the Board’s attorney on questions and issues pertaining to the Board’s powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities in accordance with HRS section 92-5(a)(4) to review the executive session minutes.

4. Education Committee to Share Outcomes from Meetings on November 6 and December 4, 2025

The Education Committee focused primarily on review of faculty applications, review of annual reports, new programs, and revision to programs.

5. Legislative Liaison

The Board will discuss, identify, and vote on a Legislative Liaison for the 2026 legislative session. This is to ensure timely communications between the EO and Board Members throughout the legislative session when testimonies are required from the Board of Nursing.

6. Executive Officer's Report

- a. 2026 Legislative Session

EO will report on the bills that the Board is tracking as of February 5, 2026.

- b. National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) Annual Midyear Meeting

EO will share updates on who is attending the Midyear Meeting to represent the Board. The meeting will take place on March 17-19, 2026, in Phoenix, AZ.

7. Reports:

- a. Hawai'i State Center for Nursing – Laura Reichhardt, Executive Director
- b. Hawai'i American Nurses Association – Elizabeth Kahakua, Executive Director
- c. Hawai'i Association of Professional Nurses – Jeremy Creekmore, President

8. Applications:

The Board may move into Executive Session in accordance with HRS §92-4 and §92-5(a)(1) and (4) "To consider and evaluate personal information relating to individuals applying for professional or vocational licenses cited in section 26-9 or both;" and "To consult with the Board's attorney on questions and issues pertaining to the Board's powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities;" (Board will vote in Open Meeting.)

- a. Ratification Lists

- b. Nurse License Applications
 - i. Shem Migosi Kenyanya (RN by endorsement)
- 9. Settlement Agreement(s)
 - a. Christina Saysamphan
 - b. Shawn K. Bannister
- 10. Next Meeting:
 - Date: Thursday, March 5, 2026
 - Time: 9:00 a.m.
 - In-Person: Queen Liliuokalani Conference Room
King Kalakaua Building, 1st Floor
335 Merchant Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
 - Virtual: Zoom Meeting
- 11. Adjournment

01/28/2026

If you need an auxiliary aid/service or other accommodation due to a disability, contact the Board of Nursing at 1-844-808-DCCA (3222) or nursing@dcca.hawaii.gov preferably by two (2) business days prior to the scheduled meeting or as soon as possible. Requests made as early as possible have a greater likelihood of being fulfilled. Upon request, this notice is available in alternate/accessible formats.