

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 01 2008

RE: H.B. No. 3106

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2008  
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and  
Affordable Housing, to which was referred H.B. No. 3106 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO GRADUATES OF FOREIGN  
ACUPUNCTURE PROGRAMS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to ensure that all applicants  
granted an acupuncture license meet equivalent standards of  
training and education.

Specifically, this measure requires foreign-educated  
acupuncture applicants to have their educational information  
evaluated by a board approved and designated professional  
evaluator to determine curriculum equivalency.

Testimony in support of this measure was submitted by the  
Board of Acupuncture.

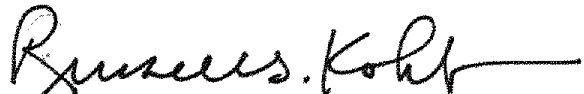
Section 436E-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, requires the Board  
of Acupuncture to ensure that applicants for acupuncture  
examination and licensure meet the same high standards for  
acupuncture education, regardless of whether applicants attend a  
program located in the United States or in a foreign country.  
Unlike a national accrediting body that oversees U.S. acupuncture  
programs, a similar accrediting body to oversee the foreign  
acupuncture education programs does not exist, which forces the  
Board of Acupuncture to undertake duties similar to that of an  
accrediting body to meet its requirements under section 436E-5,  
Hawaii Revised Statutes, with respect to foreign applicants.



Your Committee finds that this measure will ensure educational equivalency requiring, at the applicant's expense, a professional credentialing evaluator with the expertise and resources to appropriately evaluate foreign curriculum and transcripts. This will assist the Board of Acupuncture in expediting the applications from graduates of foreign acupuncture programs, and ensure that all applicants for acupuncture, regardless of the country location of their education, meet the standards of acupuncture education.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Affordable Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 3106, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Commerce, Consumer  
Protection, and Affordable  
Housing,



RUSSELL S. KOKUBUN, Chair



The Senate  
 Twenty-Fourth Legislature  
 State of Hawaii

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Affordable Housing**  
**CPH**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:
<b>HB 3106</b>	<b>HTH, CPH</b>	<b>3/27/08</b>


The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.  
 If so, then the previous decision was to: \_\_\_\_\_

The Recommendation is:

Pass, unamended 2312    
  Pass, with amendments 2311    
  Hold 2310    
  Recommit 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
KOKUBUN, Russell S. (C)	✓			
IGE, David Y. (VC)	✓			
ESPERO, Will	✓			
IHARA, Jr., Les	✓			
SAKAMOTO, Norman				✓
TANIGUCHI, BRIAN T.	✓			
TRIMBLE, Gordon	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6</b>			<b>1</b>

Recommendation:    
 Adopted    
 Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature: 

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\*Only one measure per Record of Votes