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December 2, 2002

HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801

DEPT. COMM. NO. 9

The Honorable Robert Bunda, President and Members of the Senate Twenty-First State Legislature State Capitol, Room 003 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Mr. President and Members of the Senate:

The Department of Health is pleased to share with you our report: Public Health in Hawaii, Progress, Trends and Emerging Needs. The report succinctly covers public health trends from 1998 to 2002.

It is hoped that the information provided in this report will help to serve the new administration and policy makers in the coming years. The report is divided into thirteen core public health issues, some local, some global, which make up the Department's essential focus over the past four years.

I encourage you to consider the information compiled here to recognize emerging needs, identify areas of future focus, and sustain the momentum of past successes in public health.

Sincerely,

Bruce S. Anderson, M.P.H., Ph.D. Director of Health

Enclosure