

STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR
465 S. King Street, Room 500
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813-2917



DEPT COMM. NO. 35

MARION M. HIGA
State Auditor

(808) 587-0800
FAX: (808) 587-0830

March 5, 2008

The Honorable Colleen Hanabusa
President of the Senate
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Madam President:

I transmit to you a copy of our report, *Study of the Social and Financial Impacts of Mandatory Health Insurance Coverage for Use of Intelligent Medical Vigilance Services in Acute Care Hospitals*.

Intelligent medical vigilance refers to a system or device with two components: a *bedside unit* connected to a *pad or coverlet* with embedded sensory technology developed and patented by Hoana Medical, Inc. An assessment of the social and financial impacts of requiring health insurers to offer coverage for the use of intelligent medical vigilance services was not feasible since the term refers to a specific product rather than a specific health care service covered under Section 23-51, Hawai'i Revised Statutes. The Departments of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and Health opted not to provide responses.

We hope that the report will assist you in reviewing the issues examined. We will place the report on our website, www.state.hi.us/auditor, and release it to the public and press, on Thursday, March 6, 2008.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Marion M. Higa".

Marion M. Higa
State Auditor

Enclosure

c: Carol Taniguchi, Senate Clerk