



UNITED FILIPINO COUNCIL OF HAWAII

P.O. BOX 498, Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0498

Testimony in Support of HB 2366

January 23, 2008

8:00 am, Wednesday

Hawai'i State Capitol Conference Room 329

LATE
Testimony

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House Health Committee
Representative Josh Green, Chair
Representative John Mizuno, Vice-Chair
House Health Committee Members

Relating to Organ Donor Registry
Establishes a statewide organ donor registry

Dear Chair Josh Green, Vice-Chair John Mizuno, and Members of the House Health Committee,

I am Bryan Andaya, president of the United Filipino Council of Hawaii (the Council). Founded in 1959 to help Filipinos in Hawaii play a larger role in the State of Hawaii, the mission of the Council is to promote a sense of unity, friendship, camaraderie and mutual assistance among Filipinos in Hawaii while promoting and perpetuating the Filipino heritage and culture. Today, the Council consists of six Island Councils with jurisdiction over 100+ Filipino organizations and a combined membership of about 10,000 from every major island in the State.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of HB 2366, which establishes a statewide organ donor registry. A registry will benefit Hawai'i's people by addressing the critical shortage of organs for transplantation. This measure would facilitate improvements in health planning, education, and evaluation of support needed not only for patients, but also for health care providers and institutions.

We appreciate your consideration of the benefits of this life saving legislation to justify passage of HB 2366.

Respectfully submitted,

Bryan P. Andaya
UFCH President

*2006-07

**2007-08



Nursing Advocates & Mentors, Inc.

... a non-profit organization with a mission to address the international nursing shortage by providing guidance and assistance for nursing colleagues to obtain their professional license in nursing.

P.O. Box 2034 Aiea, HI 96701
E-mail: namihonolulu@yahoo.com

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HB 2366

January 23, 2008 | 8:00AM | Wednesday | Conference Room
329

Relating to Organ Donor Registry
Establishes a statewide organ donor registry

House Committee on Health

Honorable Josh Green, Chair

Honorable John Mizuno, Vice-Chair

Honorable House Health Committee Members

Dear Honorable Josh Green, Chair; Honorable John Mizuno, Vice-Chair, and distinguished Members of the House Health Committee:

My name is Bea Ramos Razon, president and founder of Nursing Advocates and Mentors Inc. With more than 75 members and supporters, NAMI was established to address the nursing global shortage and its impact in Hawai'i, by providing training and mentoring to foreign medical nurses, in order to pass the U.S. nursing board exams.

I appreciate the opportunity to testify in strong support of HB 2366, which establishes a statewide organ donor registry. This bill would:

- encourage and register more people to serve as an organ donor
- help to increase the supply of the critically needed organs for transplant
- save the lives of critically ill patients who need organ transplant
- address the critical shortage of organs for transplantation, as similar legislation has been enacted or is pending in other states.

Your deliberation to support passage of HB 2366 is most appreciated.

Bea Ramos-Razon, RN, FACDONA
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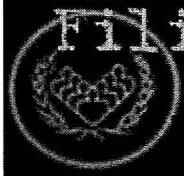
Gail Pantaleon, RN

Oscar Querido, RN

Violeta Sadural, RN, BSN

Tina Salvador, RN, BSN, CNN

Linnette Takenaka, RN, DON



Filipino Coalition for Solidarity

A HAWAII RIGHTS ADVOCACY GROUP • FOUNDED IN 1990

c/o 728 Nunu St. • Kailua, HI 96734 • <http://www.philippinesonline.org/thecoalition/>

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HB 2366

House Committee on Health

Honorable Josh Green, Chair

Honorable John Mizuno, Vice-Chair

Honorable House Health Committee Members

When: Weds, January 23, 2008, 8:00 a.m.

Where: Conference Room 329

**LATE
Testimony**

Re: Organ Donor Registry. Establishes a statewide organ donor registry.

To:

Honorable Josh Green, Chair

Honorable John Mizuno, Vice-Chair

Honorable Members of the House Committee on Health

From:

Charlene Cuaresma, MPH

President, Filipino Coalition For Solidarity

My name is Charlene Cuaresma. As president of the Filipino Coalition for Solidarity, I am submitting testimony in strong support of this bill. Since its inception in 1990, the Coalition has represented more than 50 Filipino community leaders whose aim is to work for social justice issues to empower Filipinos to make socially responsible contributions to Hawai'i and our global neighbors through education, advocacy, and social action.

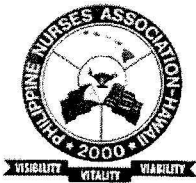
I appreciate the opportunity to testify in strong support of HB 2366, which establishes a statewide organ donor registry. This bill is needed to build the capacity to collect, analyze, track, and evaluate services, policies, and progress in the lifesaving business and mission of providing the gift of life to hundreds of Hawai'i residents who are in need of organ transplants, as well as those who are potential organ donors. A statewide organ donor registry also enables good stewardship of limited resources to meet fiduciary responsibilities to the public.

Thank you for your hard work in determining the merits and benefits of HB 2366. Your help in its passage can save many lives who will contribute to giving back to our community in many untold, but invaluable ways.

Respectfully,

Charlene Cuaresma

President, Filipino Coalition for Solidarity



Tessie Oculito, RN, President

c/o Philippine Nurses Association - Hawaii
92-1269 Umana Street
Kapolei, HI 96707

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HB 2366

House Health Committee
Rep. Josh Green, Chair
Rep. John Mizuno, Vice-Chair
House Health Committee Members

LATE
Testimony

Date: Wednesday, January 23, 2008

Time: 8:00AM

Place: Hawai'i State Capitol Conference Room 329

Relating to Organ Donor Registry
Establishes a statewide organ donor registry

To:

Rep. Josh Green, Chair; Rep. John Mizuno, Vice-Chair; & House Health Committee Members

My name is Tessie Oculito. I am speaking as president of the Philippine Nurses Association-Hawaii, which has a membership of over 70 registered nurses. As a national affiliate of the Philippine Nurses Association of America, our shared mission is to uphold and foster the positive image and welfare of our constituent members; to promote professional excellence and contribute to significant outcomes to healthcare and society.

I appreciate the opportunity to testify in strong support of HB 2366, which establishes a statewide organ donor registry. For years, our members have diligently, and in good faith, volunteered to provide organ donor education to the Filipino community. Filipinos have gone from having among the nation's lowest potential organ donor registration rates to among the highest. As a result, we have significantly increased actual donor rates. Now is the time to support this measure that will create a statewide organ donor registry for greater efficiency in health care delivery and community education to meet the critical shortage and delicate challenge of respectfully matching potential donors with patients, often under the most tragic and shocking circumstances for the donor families and loved ones.

Thank you for contemplating the benefits of creating a statewide organ donor registry.

Your support to vote yes on HB 2366 can make a difference to turn adversity into a gift of life.

Sincerely,

Tessie Oculito, RN
President, Philippine Nurses Association – Hawaii

January 21, 2008

**LATE
Testimony**

**Before
Honorable Josh Green, Chair
Honorable John Mizuno, Vice-Chair
House Committee on Health**

Public Hearing - 8:00AM Tuesday, January 23, 2008 - Conference Room 329

RE: Testimony in strong support of HB 2366 – Relating to Organ Donor Registry
Establishes a statewide organ donor registry

**The Honorable Josh Green, Chair
Honorable John Mizuno, Vice-Chair
and members of the committee:**

I applaud the introduction of HB 2366 – Relating to Organ Donor Registry and I am submitting testimony in full support of the passage of this measure.

My name is Tony L. Sagayadoro, Program Coordinator of the Minority Organ Tissue Transplant Education Program (MOTTEP), a minority outreach program of the Organ Donor Center of Hawaii. MOTTEP is also a founding member of the Hawaii Coalition on Organ Donation.

Since the passage of Act 88 in year 1999, which provided the Clinical Staff of Organ Donor Center of Hawaii 24 hour access to Hawaii Driver's License Information to know whether Organ Donor designation was indicated on the driver's license, more lives have been saved. Organ Donor designation on Hawaii Driver's license have shown significant impact on families knowing their loved one's wishes, 94% of families approached consented to donation knowing that their loved had indicated their wishes to be an organ donor on their driver's license compared to an overall consent rate of less than 50%.

The sad part the number of patients waiting for organ transplant continue to increase at a very alarming rate, there are more patients waiting and the number continue to increase everyday. Any of these patients can be anyone of us, our neighbor, families, friends or anyone that we know.

On the positive note through the collaboration and partnership of different agencies involved in the promotion of organ and tissue donation and the formation of the Hawaii Coalition on Donation (HCOD) has produced encouraging results. During the past seven years, the number of drivers who signed up as organ donor had increased. And having a Statewide Organ Donor Registry will encourage and more individuals will have the opportunity to have their wishes documented by signing up to be included in the donor registry.

January 21, 2008

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On behalf of the Advisory Board Member of MOTTEP, we fully support the passage of HB 2366 to encourage more people to serve as organ donors by registering to the Statewide Organ Donor Registry to help increase available organs and tissue for transplantation to save the lives of patients in need organ transplants.

Minority Organ Tissue Transplant Education Program (MOTTEP) educational efforts are now making a difference. The increase in Filipino donors in the past so many years is a validation that public education works and more lives are saved due to this effort. More Filipino families now have been choosing to donate than those who declined. This is very significant that Filipinos is now one of the population groups having a "positive" consent rate compared to the early stage of the program.

We fully believe in HB 2366 will produce positive results like other states that had enacted the establishment of a Statewide Organ Donor Registry.

We urge that you give HB 2366 your favorable consideration.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Tony L. Sagayadoro
Program Coordinator
Minority Organ Tissue Transplant Education Program
Organ Donor Center of Hawaii
(808) 368-8753
(808) 585-3419

LATE
Testimony



TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HB 2366

House Committee on Health

Hon. Josh Green, Chair & Hon. John Mizuno, Vice-Chair

Hon. Members of the House Committee on Health

January 23, 2008, 8:00 a.m.

Hawai'i State Capitol Conference Room 329

Relating to Organ Donor Registry.

Establishes a statewide organ donor registry.

LATE
Testimony

To:

Hon. Josh Green, Chair; Hon. John Mizuno, Vice-Chair; Hon. Members of the House Committee on Health

From:

Amy Agbayani, Ph.D.

Vice Chair, National Federation of Filipino American Associations (NaFFAA) Region XII

My name is Amy Agbayani. I serve as Vice Chair of the National Federation of Filipino American Associations Region XII, which represents the interests of Filipinos in Hawai'i, Guam, and the Commonwealth of Northern Marianas Islands. NaFFAA Region XII is an affiliate of the National NaFFAA. Washington policy-makers, private industry and national advocacy groups recognize NaFFAA as the Voice of Filipinos and Filipino Americans throughout the United States. We are a non-partisan, non-profit national affiliation of more than five hundred Filipino-American institutions and umbrella organizations that span twelve regions throughout the continental United States and U.S. Pacific territories.

Thank you for the opportunity to convey the high regard and confidence of the Filipino community in supporting HB 2366, to establish a statewide organ donor registry. As longtime advocates to address the disparities that persist for organ donors and recipients alike, Filipinos in Hawai'i have played a vital role in community outreach and education, thereby significantly increasing the numbers of registered potential and actual organ donors from our community. In just a few years, under the competent leadership of Mr. Tony Sagayadoro and countless community collaborations, Filipinos have become a nationally recognized educational and behavioral change model for other states to replicate for organ donor registration outcomes. Consequently, the need to create and maintain a statewide organ donor registry has become the next imperative step to this lifesaving health initiative.

Thank you for considering the years of capacity building contributed in kind by Hawai'i's phenomenal volunteers, in order to get to this point of needing an organ donor registry. We thank you for considering to do your part to enact HB 2366. Your support will ensure continued progress to save lives, as well as a continued commitment of community partnerships to give back for the well being of all of Hawai'i's people.

Sincerely,

Amy Agbayani, Ph.D., Vice Chair, NaFFAA Region XII

c/o 728 Nunu Street · Kailua · Hawai'i 96734 · Phone/Fax: (808) 254-4522 · E-Mail: hnaffaa2006@yahoo.com

Ron Menor, Chairperson · Amy Agbayani, Vice Chairperson

Rouel Velasco, Youth & Young Adult Leader · Vacant, Treasurer · Charlene Cuaresma, Secretary



AIM HI

AIM Healthcare Institute

Before
Honorable Josh Green, Chair
Honorable John Mizuno, Vice-Chair
House Committee on Health

LATE
Testimony

Public Hearing - 8:00AM Tuesday, January 23, 2008 - Conference Room 329

January 22, 2008

RE: Testimony in strong support of HB 2366 – Relating to Organ Donor Registry
Establishes a statewide organ donor registry

The Honorable Josh Green, Chair; Honorable John Mizuno, Vice-Chair and members of the committee:

My name is Nancy Atmospera-Walch and an avid supporter of The Organ Donor Center of Hawaii. In fact, I believe in their mission so much, I offered to Co-Chair their 1st Annual Gala Dinner and Dance Fundraising Event which was held on December 1, 2007.

As a nurse who worked initially in the Neuro Trauma Orthopedic Unit at The Queen's Medical Center, I saw both sides of the patient. One extreme, is the young patient who was in an accident but could not be saved due to multiple injuries but would have been an excellent DONOR, if before the accident he/she would have been aware of Organ Donor program and decided to be an Organ Donor. The other extreme, is the patient who has been waiting for organ to match his/her needs. If the Organ Donor program is more prominent and the community is aware of it through education, I am quite sure that we would have more people in the state of Hawaii agreeing to be a Donor. Personally, I know three wonderful people who have been the recipient of organs and without those organs these friends would not be here today. So, how could we improve or increase the numbers of donors? There are several ways but having a statewide organ donor registry would certainly be a great strategy.

I appreciate the opportunity to testify in strong support of HB 2366 which establishes a statewide organ donor registry

I fully support the passage of HB 2366 for the following reasons:

- To encourage and register more people to serve as an organ donor
- To help increase the supply of the critically needed organs for transplant
- To save the lives of critically ill patients who needs organ transplant
- Most states have already passed similar legislation to address the critical shortage of organs for transplantation and other states have pending legislation which had shown positive changes

We urge that you give HB 2366 your favorable consideration.

Thank you.

Warmest Aloha,

Nancy Atmospera-Walch

Nancy Atmospera-Walch, RN, MPH, NHA, CHES, CCHN



1149 Bethel Street • Suite 801
Honolulu, HI 96813

LATE
Testimony

1149 Bethel Street, Suite 801 • Honolulu, HI 96813

January 22, 2008

Before
Honorable Josh Green, Chair
Honorable John Mizuno, Vice-Chair
House Committee on Health

Public Hearing - 8:00AM Tuesday, January 23, 2008 - Conference Room 329

RE: Testimony in strong support of HB 2366 – Relating to Organ Donor Registry
Establishes a statewide organ donor registry

**The Honorable Josh Green, Chair; Honorable John Mizuno, Vice-Chair
and members of the committee:**

My name is Christine Bogue, I am the Administrative Services Director and Public Education Manager for the Organ Donor Center of Hawaii. I have worked at the Organ Donor Center of Hawaii for almost 13 years and have had the privilege of meeting many recipients who lives have been saved because of the Gift of Life that they received because of the generosity of a donor.

I also believe that many more lives could have been saved if the wishes of the potential donors could have been known and that 23 people would not have died last year waiting for a transplant.

I appreciate the opportunity to testify in strong support of HB 2366 which establishes a statewide organ donor registry

I fully support the passage of HB 2366 for the following reasons:

- encourage and register more people to serve as an organ donor
- helps increase the supply of the critically needed organs for transplant
- saves the lives of critically ill patients who needs organ transplant
- Most states have already passed similar legislation to address the critical shortage of organs for transplantation and other states have pending legislation

I urge that you give HB 2366 your favorable consideration.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Christine L. Bogue
Administrative Services Director
Public Education Manager
Organ Donor Center of Hawaii



Case Management Professionals, Inc.

TO: House Committee on Health
Honorable Josh Green, Chair
Honorable John Mizuno, Vice-Chair

**LATE
Testimony**

**LATE
Testimony**

FROM: Agnes Reyes, RN

RE: Full Support of HB 2366

My name is Agnes Reyes, a registered nurse, a case manager, a businesswoman in community based care, a volunteer for MOTTEP, a strong supporter for Organ Donation, and a friend or a healthcare professional who know individuals who might be in need of tissue and organ donation in the future.

I fully support the HB 2366 which will initiate a Statewide Organ Donor Registry. This bill will not only promote organ donation but also facilitate and streamline organ donation registration and education, centralization, accuracy and availability of information, timely accessibility of data for reporting and quality improvement thus "Promoting Saving Lives." Life is precious and there is no better gift to others than the "Gift of Life".

Please allow full consideration of this bill as an instrument of saving lives.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.