

# LATE TESTIMONY



January 29, 2008

To: Rep. Alex M. Sonson, Chair  
Rep. Bob Nakasone, Vice Chair  
Committee on Labor & Public Employment

**PLEASE DELIVER**  
  
**To rm 309 for:**  
**Committee on Labor &**  
**Public Employment**  
  
**Tuesday**  
**1/29/08**  
**8:30 am**

From: Cynthia J. Goto, M.D., President  
Linda Rasmussen, M.D., Legislative Co-Chair  
Philip Hellreich, M.D., Legislative Co-Chair  
Paula Arcena, Executive Director  
Dick Botti, Government Affairs Liaison

Re: HB2573 Relating to Workers' Compensation (Increases workers compensation fee schedule from one hundred ten to one hundred twenty percent)

The Hawaii Medical Association supports HB2573. An increase in the workers' compensation fee schedule is vital so that injured workers can be properly cared for and have access to the medical care they need.

However, we would prefer to separate the workers' compensation fee schedule from the Medicare fee schedule. The Medicare fee schedule was originally designed for the medical care of the elderly, not the injured workers. In addition, the Medicare fee schedule has decreased annually for many years with no recognition of the cost of providing adequate medical care.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

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