



Hawaii District Office: 2270 Hoonee Place, Honolulu, Hawaii 96819

LATE TESTIMONY

Representative Josh Green, M.D., Chair
House Committee on Health

Wednesday, February 13, 2008
Conference Room 329; 8:00 a.m.

RE: HB 2799 – RELATING TO CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES (OPPOSE)

Chair Green, Vice-Chair Mizuno, and members of the Committee:

My name is Todd Inafuku, Manager of the Longs Drug Stores Hawaii Professional Service Center, testifying in opposition to HB 2799. This bill amends the definition of identification number to include a unique patient identifier assigned to the individual by the payor or pharmacy benefit manager.

By broadening the definition of "proper identification", pharmacists will be burdened with the added responsibility of validating an additional form of identification prior to dispensing controlled substances. Since many insurance cards do not include an expiration date, photograph, address, or birth date, further verification may be necessary. The changes proposed in this measure will require the pharmacist to verify with the payor or pharmacy benefit manager that the patient's identification number is valid and unique to that patient.

Longs is opposed to imposing additional responsibilities on pharmacists and is concerned about the impact this legislation could have on pharmacy customer wait times.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in opposition of HB 2799.

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