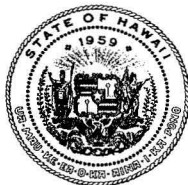


LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



LATE
Testimony

CHIYOME LEINAALA FUKINO, M.D.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:
File:

House Committees on Health and Human Services & Housing

HB 2881, Relating to Perinatal Care

Testimony of Chiyome Leinaala Fukino, M.D.
Director of Health

February 1, 2008, 8:00 a.m.

1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health appreciates the intent of H.B. 2881 but cannot
2 support an appropriation that is outside the executive budget.

3 **Fiscal Implications:** The bill appropriates \$100,000 in general funds.

4 **Purpose and Justification:** The Hawaii Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS)
5 data (2005-2006) on pregnancy behaviors of women that recently delivered an infant shows that five
6 percent of women reported drinking alcohol in the last three months of pregnancy, and three percent
7 reported use of illicit drugs. Substance use of tobacco, alcohol, and illicit drugs is known to increase the
8 prevalence rate of infant mortality and morbidity, preterm and low-birth weight infants, birth defects,
9 and impact the cost of caring and educating children with special needs. The DOH, through its Family
10 Health Services Division, Maternal and Child Health Branch administers statewide perinatal services to
11 women with medical and psycho-social high risk factors as well as the Baby S.A.F.E. (Substance Abuse
12 Free Environment) program in three geographic areas (Waianae, Maui County, and Hawaii County)
13 with services to prepare substance using pregnant women for substance abuse treatment. It is also
14 necessary to have in place a facility which can serve as a referral source for prenatal and postpartum
15 women with a history of substance use to be referred for substance abuse counseling; pediatric care and

1 appropriate developmental screening; psychiatric care for patients with dual diagnosis; case
2 management and to ensure a safe home environment. The Oahu based perinatal clinic provides these
3 necessary resources, interventions, and support services.

4 The Department of Health is concerned that H.B. 2881 amends Act 248 to establish the Perinatal
5 Clinic within the Department of Human Services, as opposed to the University of Hawaii who is
6 currently operating the clinic.

7 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.