

Date: February 12, 2008

To: Rep Angus McKelvy - Fx: 808-586-6161

Rep. John Mizuno, Vice-Chair Health 808-586-6051

Rep. Josh Green Chair Health 808-586-9608

Sub: HB - 3274 Urgent and Extended Medical Care in West Maui

Dear Sirs,

I am Maria Weber, President of the West Maui Health Alliance (WMHA). Last year \$300,000 was secured from the House for the establishment of the Urgent Care and After Hours program here in West Maui in cooperation with the West Maui Medical Group. My Board as myself worked diligently for five years to accomplish this.

The Urgent and Extended Care Program has been very successful during its first year of operation. There have been over 2,000 visits by patients of whom 87% were residents of West Maui and 13% out of state. All patients were seen regardless of their ability to pay. Furthermore 123 visits were uninsured patients.

Besides the convenience of being seen on a timely basis the consumer saved anywhere from \$500 to \$800 per visit had they gone to the emergency room at Maui Memorial Medical Center. More importantly, the wait time between being seen at the Urgent Care Center versus the ER at Maui Memorial Medical Center is 1/10 by comparison.

On behalf of the West Maui Community I strongly support your Bill HB 3274 to continue to provide funding. The program is very cost effective and has met a major "gap" in providing timely medical for the people of West Maui.

Thank you for taking the initiative in introducing this Bill. If needed, I would also be pleased to assist you in support of this Bill if called upon.

Warm Aloha!

Maria Weber

Maria Weber

President

West Maui Health Alliance

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Rep. Angus Nickerson
Rep. Todd Green
Rep. John Hironaka

808-586-6161
808-586-9608
808-586-6051

DATE: Wednesday February 13, 2008
TIME: 8 a.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 329

Aloha,

Please support HB 3274 to continue evening and week-end medical services to West Maui.

From its inception in January 2007 to Jan 30, 2008, the West Maui Urgent Care Center has served over 2,000 patients from 5-9 pm and on Sundays from 8 am to noon. The Urgent Care Center provides primary care, adult and pediatric care, X-ray and laboratory services.

Almost 70 percent of the West Maui population consists of families with over 2,200 children. There are 1,500 elders aged 60-85 years old. The Urgent Care Clinic also serves the abundant tourist population of approximately 22,460 daily visitors.

Lahaina is federally designated as a medically underserved population and the Urgent Care Center helps fill the gap of needed medical services.

West Maui would greatly benefit from continued evening and week-end medical services as described in HB 3274.

Eve Clute
[Doctor.Public.Health]

Member: West Maui Health Alliance

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Warm Aloha!

Bill Weber

L.A.H.X.I.N.A

LSENSA@COMPUSERVE.COM

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