



## St. Francis

HEALTHCARE SYSTEM OF HAWAII  
A Legacy of Caring for Hawaii's People

March 12, 2008

Email: HLTtestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

Re: **House Concurrent Resolution 6, Proposed HD1**

Hearing: Friday, March 14, 2008, 10:00 a.m.  
Conference Room 329  
House Committee on Health

Testifying: Pamela Witty-Oakland, Chief Administrator  
St. Francis Residential Care Community

On behalf of St. Francis Healthcare System of Hawaii, this testimony is offered in **strong support** of House Concurrent Resolution 6, Proposed HD1 to commemorate March 13, 2008 as World Kidney Day and the month of March as Kidney Awareness Month in the State of Hawaii.

St. Francis is developing a "Stay Healthy at Home" program to meet the needs of our expanding older adult population and patients of chronic diseases. The goal is to empower both populations to "stay healthy at home" for as long as possible.

We support the establishment of a pro-active front in fighting a disease that has a profound effect on 20% of our population. Studies show that 1 in 7 persons already has this disease, and another 1 in 7 persons has a predisposition to contract Chronic Kidney Disease ~ that is over 200,000 of our kama'aina.

Through collaborative efforts with National Kidney Foundation of Hawaii and Clinical Laboratories of Hawaii, St. Francis seeks to promote early detection aimed toward preventing progression from kidney disease to kidney failure. The support of the State of Hawaii to increase community awareness is vital to our collective success. Thank you for the legislative support and we look forward to halting the growth trend of kidney disease within our state.

Respectfully,

Sister Agnelle Ching, OSF  
Chief Executive Officer

St. Francis Community Health Services St. Francis Healthcare Foundation of Hawaii  
St. Francis Healthcare Enterprises, Inc. St. Francis Residential Care Community Our Lady of Kea'au

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