



Susan Nishida, M.D.

Internal Medicine

February 10, 2008

RE: SB 2412/ SB2354

Dear Senator David Ige, Chairman, Senator Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chairman, and the Senate Health Committee:

We are physicians practicing in the State of Hawaii, and we strongly support SB2412 and SB2354. Both bills will help to stabilize medical malpractice insurance premiums. For a cap on non-economic damages, I support a \$250,000 cap, which has been proven by other states to be effective in stabilizing premiums. I also support limits on attorney fees, which will give more money to the injured plaintiff.

We are facing a medical crisis in this state. Doctors are leaving, with very few new physicians starting practices, because of costs. Medical liability reform is an important part of the beginning of a solution.

It is in our hopes that with medical reform, Steven and I can continue to provide patients with care they deserve.

Thank you the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Yours very truly,

Drs. Steven and Susan Nishida

General Surgery

Internal Medicine