

Hawaii Pacific Health

55 Merchant Street • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 • hawaiiapacifichhealth.org

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Friday, March 28, 2008 – 3:15pm
Conference Room 308
Agenda #2

LATE

The House Committee on Finance

To: The Honorable Marcus Oshiro, Chair
The Honorable Marilyn B. Lee, Vice-Chair

From: Virginia Pressler, MD, MBA
Executive Vice President

Re: **Testimony in Strong Support of SB 2542 SD2 HD1 - Relating to Public Health**

Dear Honorable Committee Chairs and Members:

My name is Virginia Pressler, Executive Vice President for Hawaii Pacific Health (HPH). For more than a century, families in Hawaii and the Pacific Region have relied on the hospitals, clinics, physicians and staff of Hawaii Pacific Health as trusted healthcare providers. Our non-profit integrated healthcare system is the state's largest healthcare provider and is committed to improving the health and well-being of the people of Hawaii and the Pacific Region through its four hospitals -- Kapi`olani Medical Center for Women & Children, Kapiolani Medical Center at Pali Momi, Straub Clinic & Hospital and Wilcox Memorial Hospital -- 18 outpatient centers and a team of 1,100 physicians on the islands of Oahu, Kauai and Lanai.

We are writing in strong support of SB 2542 SD2 HD1 which would ensure continued community-based primary care for the uninsured, underinsured, or Medicaid recipients by helping the community health center system to remain financially viable and stable in the face of the increasing needs of these populations. The Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) are a vital component of the public health system by providing primary care to the most vulnerable populations. We support these efforts to address the challenges faced by these community based centers to ensure that they are financially viable and stable in face of the increasing needs of the population of the uninsured and underinsured.

We ask that you pass SB2542 SD2 HD1 from this committee.

KAPI'OLANI
MEDICAL CENTER
AT PALI MOMI



KAPI'OLANI
MEDICAL CENTER
FOR WOMEN & CHILDREN



Straub
CLINIC & HOSPITAL



Wilcox Health