

February 20, 2008

TO:

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair

Senator Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEÂNS

Friday, February 21, 2008, 9:30 a.m.

Conference Room 211

FROM:

Wesley Lo, Regional Chief-Executive Officer

RE:

SB 2768, SD1 RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF REVENUE BONDS TO ASSIST THE MAUI REGION OF THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS

CORPORATION.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **support of SB 2768**, **SD1**. The purpose of SB 2768, SD1 is to authorize the issuance of \$150,000,000 in revenue bonds for the construction of a new Heart, Brain, and Spine Center at the Maui Memorial Medical Center. I support SB 2768, SD1 with the following amendments for the following reasons:

- 1. In order to avoid any possible conflicts in interpretation, change Section 2 of the bill to state "In addition to revenue bonds authorized by Section 323F-7 (c)(15)" rather than to say "Notwithstanding section 323F-7(c)(15)".
- 2. Act 290, Session Laws Hawaii (2007), provided for broad bond issuance requirements specific to HHSC. These requirements allow the Maui Region as well as other regions of HHSC to spread bond security efficiently over more obligations as is needed by the special circumstances health care related financing poses. In order to accomplish this, references in Sections 2,3, and 6 should be changed from bonds being issued "pursuant to Part III, Chapter 39" to bonds being issued pursuant to "Section 323F-7".
- 3. In order to avoid confusion, change all references from "Heart Brain and Spine Center" to "Heart Brain and Vascular Center" which more accurately describes the functions of the program the Maui Region is pursuing. This is the terminology currently being used in other financing efforts relating to the Maui Region.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of SB 2768, SD1 with amendments.