

HMSA



An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

March 31, 2008

The Honorable Robert N. Herkes, Chair
The Honorable Tommy Waters, Chair

House Committees on Consumer Protection and Commerce and Judiciary

Re: SB 3015 SD2 HD1– Relating to the Patients’ Bill of Rights and Responsibilities Act

Dear Chair Herkes, Chair Waters and Members of the Committees:

The Hawaii Medical Service Association (HMSA) appreciates the opportunity to testify on SB 3015 SD2 HD1 which would amend the Patients’ Bill of Rights and Responsibilities Act by prohibiting certain unfair or deceptive business practices by managed care plans.

The language in this measure is intended to protect consumers against deceptive business practices perpetuated by a health plan. HMSA does not engage in the practices listed in SB 3015 SD2 HD1.

Currently this measure includes an effective date of January 2050. If this measure moves forward, we would respectfully request an implementation date which gives health plans time to ensure compliance of at least January 2009.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB 3015 SD2 HD1.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Diesman".

Jennifer Diesman
Assistant Vice President
Government Relations

LATE TESTIMONY