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P. O. Box 339
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March 13, 2008

MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair
House Committee on Human Services & housing

Honorable Josh green, M.D., Chair
House Committee on Health

FROM: Lillian B. Koller, Director

SUBJECT: **S.B. 3185 S.D. 2 – RELATING TO CANCER**

Hearing: Thursday, March 13, 2008 8:45 a.m.
House Conference Room 329, State Capitol

PURPOSE: The purpose of this bill is to appropriate State general funds from the Department of Human Services to the Department of Health for cervical and breast cancer screening, education and outreach.

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports the intent of this bill that provides funding for the Department of Health (DOH) to help screen and treat women in Hawaii for the breast and cervical cancer treatment program, provided that it does not adversely affect the priorities of the Executive Supplemental Budget.

DHS will collaborate with the DOH through a memorandum of agreement (MOA) to accommodate the funding transfer as intended by this bill. DHS does not believe this bill is necessary with the continued efforts through the MOA.

Furthermore, Section 2 of this bill proposes to amend DHS' chapter 346-59.2, HRS, detailing DOH program specifics. DHS recommends placement of this language in DOH's chapter 321-41, HRS, relating to the educational program for the purpose of preventing and aiding in the early diagnosis of cancer, which allows the DOH to assist and cooperate with all territorial, state, and national organizations conducting educational programs for the prevention and control of cancer as part of chapter 321 pertaining exclusively to DOH.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



March 13, 2008

Committee on Human Services and Housing

Representative Maile S. Shimabukuro, Chair
Representative Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair

Committee on Health

Representative Josh Green, MD, Chair
Representative John Mizuno, Vice Chair

8:45 AM, Thursday, March 13, 2008

State Capitol, Room 329

RE: In Strong Support of SB3185 SD2-Relating to Cancer

Dear Chair Shimabukuro, Chair Green and Members of the Committee:

Good Morning, my name is Jackie Young and I am the Chief Staff Office for Mission of the American Cancer Society Hawaii Pacific Inc. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on SB3185.

The American Cancer Society Hawaii Pacific Inc. strongly supports SB 3185 which appropriates funds to the Hawaii Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program.

In the state of Hawaii, breast cancer is the most common cancer among women regardless of race or ethnicity. Every year over 800 women are diagnosed with breast cancer and 120 die from it. When breast cancer is diagnosed at its earliest stage, survival rates are excellent. However, the survival rate falls to 78 percent when the cancer is detected at a regional stage and 23 percent when the cancer is detected at a late stage. Similarly, pap tests detect pre-cancerous lesions that can be treated before they progress to cervical cancer, resulting in a nearly 100 percent survival rate. As these statistics show, early detection of breast and cervical cancer is critical to saving lives.

The Hawaii Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program is a necessary and effective safety net program that provides free breast and cervical cancer screenings to women who are not otherwise able to afford or access these life-saving screenings because of insurance status or other barriers. Uninsured and underinsured women ages 50-64 who qualify as low-income (<250% poverty level) are eligible for program services. Available through providers at eleven sites throughout the state, this program is helping to improve health outcomes for some of our state's most medically underserved women. The American Cancer Society actively promotes this program to women in need who contact us about the availability of free breast or cervical cancer screening programs in their community.

Currently, Hawaii is one of only eleven states nationwide that does not appropriate any state funds to support this program. The Hawaii Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program is supported exclusively by federal funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) through the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program which the Society also advocates for on a national level. State funding for this program is critical to ensure that eligible

American Cancer Society Hawai'i Pacific, Inc.

2370 Nu'uuanu Avenue, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96817-1714

●Phone: (808) 595-7500 ●Fax: (808) 595-7502 ●24-Hour Cancer Info: (800) 227-2345 ●<http://www.cancer.org>

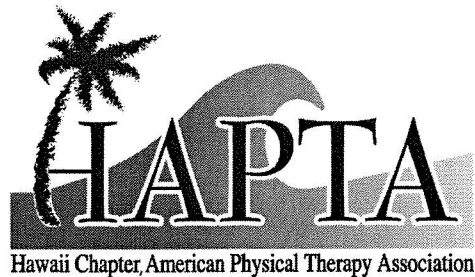
women who qualify for this program are able to receive screenings and follow-up services and that all women have the opportunity to have their cancer detected in its earliest, most curable stage.

We urge you to pass this bill in order to increase the number of women who can access life-saving screenings through this program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Jackie Young

**Testimony by:
Ann Frost, PT**

**SB 3185sd2, Cancer
House HSH/HLT Committees
March 13, 2008 - 8:45 am
Conference Room 329**



Position: Support

Chairs Shimabukuro and Green and Members of the House HSH/HLT Committees:

I am Ann Frost, P.T., President of the Hawaii Chapter – American Physical Therapy Association, and member of the Government Relations Committee. The Hawaii Chapter – American Physical Therapy Association (HAPTA) is comprised of 300 member physical therapists and physical therapist assistants employed in hospitals and health care facilities, the Department of Education school system, and private practice. We are part of the spectrum of care for Hawaii, and provide rehabilitative services for infants and children, youth, adults and the elderly. Rehabilitative services are a vital part of restoring optimum functioning from neuromusculoskeletal injuries and impairments.

HAPTA supports SB 3185sd2, which provides funds for cervical and breast cancer screening, education and outreach. Screening for cervical cancer and breast cancer has proven to be effective in the detection and early treatment of these diseases. The incidence of cervical cancer has decreased since the onset of routine PAP smear examinations. However, many women do not schedule routine OB/GYN examinations. If they do develop cervical cancer, it is usually not found until the later stages. Cervical cancer is known as one of the “silent killers” since symptoms do not manifest until later, possibly at an untreatable stage since the cancer has already metastasized.

Education and early detection of breast cancer is just as critical. One of my patient’s never did self-breast exams, as she didn’t think she would feel anything anyway---so why waste her time. If she had been properly educated that it’s possible to feel lumps not only with her bare hands but also with new tools on the market like the “Breast Self Exam Pad” her cancer may have been diagnosed sooner. Another patient was 25 years old when she was diagnosed with Stage 4 breast cancer. She thought the hardness in her breast was no big deal since she was so young. This was despite the fact that her aunt and grandmother had also dealt with breast cancer. She thought that since her mother and older sister did not have breast cancer, she would not be susceptible until she was older.

So, I say again, education and early screening is key!

Please support this bill. I can be reached at (808) 537-7729 if there are any questions. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.