

# HMSA



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February 6, 2009

The Honorable Ryan Yamane, Chair  
The Honorable John Mizuno, Chair  
House Committees on Health and Human Services

**Re: HB 1371 – Relating to Health Care**

Dear Chair Yamane, Chair Mizuno and Members of the Committees:

The Hawaii Medical Service Association (HMSA) appreciates the opportunity to testify in support of HB 1371 which directs funding provided by the Federal Government's 2009 economic stimulus package towards health care programs.

The Federal Government is working towards the passage of a stimulus package that is aimed at assisting states in these difficult economic times. This measure is expected to gain approval and be signed by the President by the end of next week.

HB 1371 is extremely proactive by requesting that part of any federal stimulus monies that are directed to Hawaii go towards increasing Medicaid reimbursements, providing Disproportionate Share Hospital funding (DSH) and reinstating the Hawaii Children's Health Care Program. The provision of dollars to each of these programs will undoubtedly provide assistance to the neediest in our community.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 1371.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Diesman  
Assistant Vice President  
Government Relations