



Hawai'i Primary Care Association

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To: **House Committee on Human Services**

The Hon. John M. Mizuno, Chair

The Hon. Tom Brower, Vice Chair

House Committee on Health

The Hon. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair

The Hon. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair

Testimony in Support of House Bill 1454

Relating to Health Care

Submitted by Beth Giesting, CEO

February 12, 2009, 10:00 a.m. agenda, Room 329

The Hawaii Primary Care Association supports this bill. We strongly champion the rights of QUEST enrollees to choose their health plan and provider; however, when literacy and language challenges meet letters from DHS misunderstandings are likely to result. In addition, QUEST enrollees are fairly mobile and mailed notices often do not reach them. We believe that so-called positive enrollment should be minimized as it causes confusion for clients, additional work for both state and private workers to sort out unintended reassignments, and likely disruption of patient-plan-provider relationships.

We support the process outlined in this measure will help ensure that patient care is not sacrificed unnecessarily for relatively modest economic benefits. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.