



HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS
C O R P O R A T I O N

"Touching Lives Every Day"

Revised

Committee on Health
Representative Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
Representative Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 24, 2009
9:30 a.m.
Conference Room 329
Hawaii State Capitol

Testimony for HCR53 and HR43 Requesting the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation to Establish a Blue Ribbon Panel to Conduct a Health Care Needs Assessment and Operational Structure Analysis.

By Thomas M. Driskill, Jr.
President and Chief Executive Officer
Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC)

On behalf of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) Corporate Board of Directors, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HCR 53 and HR 43 requesting the HHSC to establish a blue ribbon panel to conduct a health care needs assessment and operational structure analysis.

We appreciate this resolution in support of the June 30, 2008 request to Speaker of the House Calvin Say, signed by the board chair and Finance & Information Systems & Audit Committee chair for the HHSC Corporate Board of Directors, and by the board chairs for the regional systems boards of directors for the East Hawaii Region, and the Kauai Region, and the Oahu Region and the West Hawaii Region, calling for the establishment of a blue ribbon panel:

"We are also advocating a system-wide proposal to convene a new "Blue Ribbon Panel" to recommend HHSC's long range structure in terms of the state's future role in the provision of "safety net" healthcare. The sooner we can do this, the better, so please consider agreeing to initiation of this "Blue Ribbon" Panel effort now so that we could have recommendations ready for the next legislative session."

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While time and events did not facilitate the establishment of a blue ribbon panel in time for provision of report and recommendations for the 2009 legislative session, it is our desire to establish and facilitate the work of a blue ribbon panel to provide recommendations for the 2010 legislative session.

We have no objection to the proposed membership in HCR 53 and HR 43 for the blue ribbon panel.

We agree with the request in HCR 53 and HR 43 for HHSC "...to provide administrative, technical, and clerical support for the Blue Ribbon Panel".

Your support for HCR 53 and HR 43 is greatly appreciated.

Thank you.