



LATE TESTIMONY

Wednesday, April 8, 2009, 3:00 pm, CR 325

To: COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE
Rep. Robert N. Herkes, Chair
Rep. Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

From: Hawaii Medical Association
Gary A. Okamoto, MD, President
Linda Rasmussen, MD, Legislative Co-Chair
April Donahue, Executive Director
Richard C. Botti, Government Affairs
Lauren Zirbel, Government Affairs

Re: HCR97 REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO ANALYZE A MEASURE TO REGULATE RESPIRATORY CARE PRACTITIONERS.

OFFICERS

Gary Okamoto, MD
President

Robert Marvit, MD
President Elect

Cynthia Jean Goto, MD
Immediate Past President

Thomas Kosasa, MD
Secretary

Jonathan Cho, MD
Treasurer

April Donahue
Executive Director

Chairs & Committee Members:

Hawaii Medical Association supports this resolution as an important step in protecting patients from medical errors by providing assurance that educational requirements and qualifications are met for respiratory practitioners, who currently have no educational requirements by any government agency.

Forty-eight other states have oversight of respiratory care practitioners. This not only provides patient protection, but provides assurance to hospitals and medical professionals who contract with respiratory care practitioners that when they do there is some guarantee that the practitioners meet educational requirements of knowledge for their profession.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

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(808) 528-2376 fax
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Testimony in Favor of H.C.R. 97

LATE TESTIMONY

Renwick V.I. Tassill

Wednesday, April 8th. 2009

In opposition of H.C.R. 97

Chairman Robert Herkes

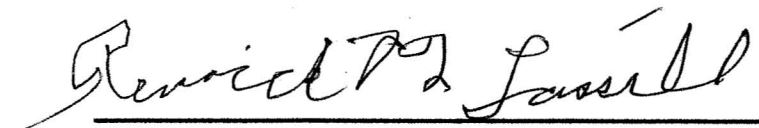
Vice-Chairman Glenn Wakai

And members of the Consumer Protection and
Commerce Committee;

1. My name is, Renwick V. I. Tassill, former
Hawaii State Capitol Tour Coordinator for 18 years
now retired.

2. I am representing myself.

3. I am involved with the effort to pass H.C.R. 97,
related to licensing of respiratory therapist. Hawaii is
one of two states in the union that do not require a
license to practice such an important part of the
medical care industry. I ask the members of the
(CPC) committee to please pass H.C.R. 97 so a study
could be done during the interim to address the
regulatory sunrise requirement of respiratory therapy.
Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to testify on
such an important issue that the citizens of Hawaii
especially the elders of our community.



Renwick V.I. Tassill