

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

March 23, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Robert N. Herkes, Chair
House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

Honorable Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
House Committee on Judiciary

FROM: Lillian B. Koller, Director

SUBJECT: **S.B. 1142, S.D. 1 – RELATING TO PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS**
Hearing: Monday, March 23, 2009, 2:00 PM.
Conference Room 325 State Capitol

PURPOSE: The purpose of this bill is to authorize physician assistants to sign certain documents; to provide emergency medical care without supervision; to administer immunizations; to prescribe medications for patients suffering from human immunodeficiency virus or acquired immune deficiency syndrome without preauthorization; limit liability of physician assistants under good Samaritan laws.

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) takes a mixed position on this bill. DHS does support efforts to expand provider access to patients, particularly to Med-QUEST program clients, however, provided that quality of care and patient safety is assured.

DHS supports physician assistants providing unsupervised care only in the situations of emergencies, including Good Samaritan situations, public emergencies, mass casualty events,

and disaster conditions. In these cases of critical public health importance, DHS supports the physician assistant having all hospital privileges and liability limits that are afforded to physicians in the same situations. We also support limitations in liability as specified for the usual supervising physicians and the acting supervising physician in the emergency situation.

DHS also supports the expansion of physician assistants' roles in non-emergency situations only under the supervision of a physician as specified within a physician assistant's scope of practice and as the activities are clearly of net benefit to an individual's or the public's health. These roles include the following as specified in the bill:

- Documenting trauma when caring for a child believed to have been harmed
- Reporting information to law enforcement regarding treatment of suspicious or violent injuries
- Taking blood specimens for alcohol or drug concentrations and administering tests at the direction of law enforcement
- Authorizing handicapped persons to use life jackets or flotation devices in public pools
- Administering immunizations
- Documenting immunizations for a child entering school

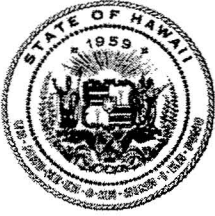
For the following roles, the individual or public benefit may not clearly exceed the potential harm, and DHS therefore does not support physician assistants:

- Prescribing medications for HIV/AIDS, hepatitis C, or transplant patients without prior authorizations
- Exempting anyone from immunizations
- Excusing a person from wearing a seatbelt
- Directing or administering care for persons taken into custody
- Documenting the need for self-administration of medicines at school by a student or administration of medicines to a student by a volunteer

The bill implies that all expansions of the non-emergency physician assistant roles specified are within a physician assistant's scope of practice and under a licensed physician's supervision; however, this should be explicitly stated for each role. In addition, for the expanded physician assistant roles supported by DHS, consideration should also be given to add Advanced Practice Registered Nurses who provide similar care in collaboration with licensed physicians.

We request comments that providers with any expanded roles as a result of this bill serve underserved areas and/or are accessible for Med-QUEST program clients.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

919 Ala Moana Boulevard, Room 101 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96814
Ph. (808) 586-8121 (V/TDD) • Fax (808) 586-8129

March 23, 2009

TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEES ON CONSUMER PROTECTION AND COMMERCE AND JUDICIARY

Senate Bill 1142, Senate Draft 1 – Relating to Physician Assistants

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) is a statewide board with seventeen (17) members appointed by the Governor, thirteen (13) of whom are persons with disabilities or family members. The Board's mission is to advocate and promote full inclusion, independence, equal access, and quality of life for persons with disabilities in society. This testimony represents a position voted upon by the Legislative Committee of the Board.

DCAB offered comments on the original version of Senate Bill 1142 - Relating to Physician Assistants that authorizes physician assistants to sign certain medical certification forms for their patients. Senate Bill 1142, Senate Draft 1 addressed our concerns.

Another suggestion we offer is that Section 17 on page 20, line 13 through page 21, line 2 is obsolete, with protections provided under the Americans with Disabilities Act, and should be repealed. However, if the Legislature chooses not to delete it entirely, language should be changed to reflect "people-first" terminology:

"SECTION 17. Section 347-13, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

"(c) Every ~~physically handicapped~~ person with a physical disability shall have the right to use a life jacket or other flotation device in a public swimming pool; provided that:

(1) The ~~handicapped~~ person ~~[suffers from]~~ a physical disability or condition which requires the use of a life jacket or other flotation device; and

(2) The ~~handicapped~~ person with a disability obtains a statement signed by a licensed physician or physician assistant attesting to the ~~handicapped~~ person's need to use a life jacket or other flotation device."

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this issue.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES W. FLEMING
Chairperson

FRANCINE WAI
Executive Director



Hawai'i Primary Care Association

345 Queen Street | Suite 601 | Honolulu, HI 96813-4718 | Tel: 808.536.8442 | Fax: 808.524.0347
www.hawaiipca.net

To: **The House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce**
The Hon. Robert N. Herkes, Chair
The Hon. Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

The House Committee on Judiciary
The Hon. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
The Hon. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 1142, SD 1
Relating to Physician Assistants
Submitted by Beth Giesting, CEO
March 23, 2009 2:00 p.m. agenda, Room 325

The Hawaii Primary Care Association urges your support of this bill which would expand the scope of practice of physician assistants and make them much more useful as providers in primary care and other settings.

We find that physician assistants are excellent clinicians who earn very high marks for clinical quality and patient satisfaction. In addition, with shortages in physicians and financial resources, Hawaii would be well-served to expand the scope of practice for all licensed health professionals to include all services such professionals are qualified to provide.

Thank you for the opportunity to add our support to this measure.



OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII

1360 S. Beretania St., Suite 301, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

Testimony by:

Virginia Tully, OTR, MBA

SB1142, SD1 Relating to Physician Assistants

House CPC/JUD Hearing – Monday, March 23, 2009

Room 329 – 2:00 PM

Position: Support Intent, With Recommendations

Chairs Herkes and Karamatsu and Members of the House CPC/JUD Committees:

I am Virginia Tully, OTR, and past-president of the Occupational Therapy Association of Hawaii, (OTAH), which represents 507 occupational therapists (OTs) licensed in Hawaii. OT's work in many settings throughout the State, including hospitals, schools, and prisons, to private facilities and community programs. We work with very young children, ages 0-3, as well as school aged children, adults, and the elderly, seeking to restore or develop social-emotional, physical, cognitive, communication and adaptive behavior challenges.

Through understanding of the effect of the consumer's disability, illness and impairment, the occupational therapist develops a program that will promote development and establish needed skills to be independent in daily living activities. Daily living skills include self-care such a bathing, dressing, and skills required for learning, work or social interaction. Often times, OTs must design/fabricate special devices or suggest modification to the home environment.

We support this measure because it will expedite access to care for the consumer by allowing physician assistants to sign orders and plans of care for physical and speech therapy services when the MD is not available. Currently, we see an increased number of referrals from physician assistants, which must be declined and resubmitted with an MD's signature. This delays services to the consumer. We support the recognition of the physician assistant and see this measure as in alignment with Medicare guidelines about physician assistants and referrals for care.

Recommendations:

Amend by adding under

453- Physician Assistant; authority to sign documents.

“orders for occupational therapy and plans of care.”

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. I can be reached at 544-3336 if further information is needed.

Virginia Tully

Sharon Sagayadoro

From: Brumley, James M MAJ MIL USA USARPAC [mike.brumley@us.army.mil]
Sent: Sunday, March 22, 2009 6:03 PM
To: CPCtestimony
Subject: Testimony for SB 1142

Rep. Robert N. Herkes, Chair, CPC

Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair, JGO

RE: SB 1142 SDI

3/23/09

Support of SB 1142 SDI: Relating to Physician Assistants

I, MAJ James M Brumley support SB 1142 SDI.

The bill makes numerous technical amendments to several sections of statute that govern health and health care. The legislation includes physician assistants (PAs) in the definition of health care provider, where appropriate, for the purpose of signing basic forms and certifications for patients. Physician assistants were not intentionally excluded from these definitions, but rather, these were unintentional omissions. All items addressed within the bill are within the current scope of practice for physician assistants licensed in Hawaii and practicing with physician supervision. There are no controversial issues within the bill. It simply seeks to properly address the definitions of health care provider in the State of Hawaii.

The bill includes PAs as providers under the Good Samaritan Law and in the definition of those who may provide care in disasters. The earthquake on the island of Hawaii illustrated the importance of allowing all qualified providers to deliver care in emergency or disaster situations. In some rural areas of the Big Island, PAs may be the only providers available to provide care in such situations.

Passage of this bill will allow patients better access to health care in medically underserved areas, be it geographically or by medical specialty and allow physicians to better serve their patients.

We would also like to ask you to consider amending the bill to authorize physician assistants the ability to write orders and plans for occupational therapy. This is in response to compelling testimony from the Occupational Therapy Association. Adding this amendment is in keeping with the intent of this bill.

I ask your support in passing SB 1142 SDI. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

MAJOR JAMES M BRUMLEY, APA-C, AVIATION MEDICINE, 808-265-0740

Sharon Sagayadoro

From: Dara Ono [daraono@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 22, 2009 5:16 PM
To: CPCtestimony
Subject: Support of SB 1142 SD1

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants

I, Dara Ono support SB 1142 SD1.

The bill makes numerous technical amendments to several sections of statute that govern health and health care. The legislation includes physician assistants (PAs) in the definition of health care provider, where appropriate, for the purpose of signing basic forms and certifications for patients. Physician assistants were not intentionally excluded from these definitions, but rather, these were unintentional omissions. All items addressed within the bill are within the current scope of practice for physician assistants licensed in Hawaii and practicing with physician supervision. There are no controversial issues within the bill. It simply seeks to properly address the definitions of health care provider in the State of Hawaii.

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Passage of this bill will allow patients better access to health care in medically underserved areas, be it geographically or by medical specialty and allow physicians to better serve their patients.

We would also like to ask you to consider amending the bill to authorize physician assistants the ability to write orders and plans for occupational therapy. This is in response to compelling testimony from the Occupational Therapy Association. Adding this amendment is in keeping with the intent of this bill.

I ask your support in passing SB 1142 SD1. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Dara Ono, PA-C

Rep. Robert N. Herkes, Chair, CPC
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair, JGO
RE: SB 1142 SD1
3/23/09

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants

I, Laura Reifsteck, support SB 1142 SD1.

The bill makes numerous technical amendments to several sections of statute that govern health and health care. The legislation includes physician assistants (PAs) in the definition of health care provider, where appropriate, for the purpose of signing basic forms and certifications for patients. Physician assistants were not intentionally excluded from these definitions, but rather, these were unintentional omissions. All items addressed within the bill are within the current scope of practice for physician assistants licensed in Hawaii and practicing with physician supervision. There are no controversial issues within the bill. It simply seeks to properly address the definitions of health care provider in the State of Hawaii.

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We would also like to ask you to consider amending the bill to authorize physician assistants the ability to write orders and plans for occupational therapy. This is in response to compelling testimony from the Occupational Therapy Association. Adding this amendment is in keeping with the intent of this bill.

I ask your support in passing SB 1142 SD1. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sharon Sagayadoro

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 22, 2009 8:51 AM
To: CPCtestimony
Cc: dand@punahealth.org
Subject: Testimony for SB1142 on 3/23/2009 2:00:00 PM

Testimony for CPC/JUD 3/23/2009 2:00:00 PM SB1142

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Dan Domizio PA/MPH
Organization: Puna Community Medical Center
Address: 15-2662 Pahoia Village Rd, Ste 306 Pahoia, HI
Phone: 808-930-6001
E-mail: dand@punahealth.org
Submitted on: 3/22/2009

Comments:
REP ROBERT HERKES, CHAIR CPC
REP J R KARAMATSU, CHAIR JUD
HONORABLE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

WE OFFER STRONG SUPPORT FOR THIS LEGISLATION WHICH, WHEN PASSED, WILL BENEFIT BOTH OUR PUBLIC, AND THE PHYSICIANS AND CLINICS WHICH UTILIZE PAs. TOO MANY YEARS HAVE PASSED WITHOUT ALL THE ADVANTAGES THIS LEGISLATION WILL LEND TO HAWAII'S HEALTH SERVICE DELIVERY. PAs MAKE OUR SYSTEM COST EFFECTIVE WHILE MAINTAINING EXCELLENCE OF CARE. PASSING THIS BILL WILL ACHIEVE A LOT AND COST TAXPAYERS NOTHING.

THANK YOU FOR CONSIDERING THIS IMPORTANT LEGISLATION.

DAN DOMIZIO
CLINICAL PROGRAMS DIRECTOR.
PUNA COMMUNITY MEDICAL CENTER.

Sharon Sagayadoro

From: Lindsay Chang [lchang79@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 22, 2009 8:28 AM
To: CPCtestimony

Rep. Robert N. Herkes, Chair, CPC
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair, JGO
RE: SB 1142 SD1
3/23/09

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants

I, Lindsay Chang PA-C, support SB 1142 SD1.

The bill makes numerous technical amendments to several sections of statute that govern health and health care. The legislation includes physician assistants (PAs) in the definition of health care provider, where appropriate, for the purpose of signing basic forms and certifications for patients. Physician assistants were not intentionally excluded from these definitions, but rather, these were unintentional omissions. All items addressed within the bill are within the current scope of practice for physician assistants licensed in Hawaii and practicing with physician supervision. There are no controversial issues within the bill. It simply seeks to properly address the definitions of health care provider in the State of Hawaii.

The bill includes PAs as providers under the Good Samaritan Law and in the definition of those who may provide care in disasters. The earthquake on the island of Hawaii illustrated the importance of allowing all qualified providers to deliver care in emergency or disaster situations. In some rural areas of the Big Island, PAs may be the only providers available to provide care in such situations.

Passage of this bill will allow patients better access to health care in medically underserved areas, be it geographically or by medical specialty and allow physicians to better serve their patients.

We would also like to ask you to consider amending the bill to authorize physician assistants the ability to write orders and plans for occupational therapy. This is in response to compelling testimony from the Occupational Therapy Association. Adding this amendment is in keeping with the intent of this bill.

I ask your support in passing SB 1142 SD1. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Lindsay Chang PA-C

Rep. Robert N. Herkes, Chair, CPC
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair, JGO
RE: SB 1142 SD1
3/23/09: Hearing Date

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants

I, Robert Aaron Frankel, support SB 1142 SD1.
Passage of this bill will allow patients better access to health care in medically underserved areas, thereby allowing physicians and physician assistants to better serve their patients.

Gentlemen ask your support in passing SB 1142 SD1.
Thank you for this opportunity to testify. I am currently the sole medical provider on Cooper Island, Palmyra Atoll, else I would be there to testify in person.

Sincerely,

Robert Frankel, PA-C

PO Box1902, Kailua, HI 96734

Sharon Sagayadoro

From: Susan Weldon [makakilogirl@weldoncope.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 21, 2009 7:35 PM
To: CPCtestimony
Subject: SB 1142 SD1

Rep. Robert N. Herkes, Chair, CPC
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair, JGO
RE: SB 1142 SD1
3/23/09

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants

I, Susan Rinaldi Weldon, PA-C, support SB 1142 SD1.

The bill makes numerous technical amendments to several sections of statute that govern health and health care. The legislation includes physician assistants (PAs) in the definition of health care provider, where appropriate, for the purpose of signing basic forms and certifications for patients. Physician assistants were not intentionally excluded from these definitions, but rather, these were unintentional omissions. All items addressed in the bill are within the current scope of practice for physician assistants licensed in Hawaii and practicing with physician supervision. There are no controversial issues within the bill. It simply seeks to properly address the definitions of health care provider in the State of Hawaii.

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Passage of this bill will allow patients better access to health care in medically underserved areas, be it geographically or by medical specialty and allow physicians to better serve their patients.

We would also like to ask you to consider amending the bill to authorize physician assistants the ability to write orders and plans for occupational therapy. This is in response to compelling testimony from the Occupational Therapy Association. Adding this amendment is in keeping with the intent of this bill.

I ask your support in passing SB 1142 SD1. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Susan Rinaldi Weldon, PA-CJABSOM-Dept of OB/GynUniversity Women's Health Specialists8086710090

Sharon Sagayadoro

From: Larry Alfrey [fredwgarfield@hotmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 21, 2009 6:54 PM
To: CPCtestimony

Rep. Robert N. Herkes, Chair, CPC

Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair, JGO

RE: SB 1142 SD1

3/23/09

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants

I, Larry Alfrey, support SB 1142 SD1.

The bill makes numerous technical amendments to several sections of statute that govern health and health care. The legislation includes physician assistants (PAs) in the definition of health care provider, where appropriate, for the purpose of signing basic forms and certifications for patients. Physician assistants were not intentionally excluded from these definitions, but rather, these were unintentional omissions. All items addressed within the bill are within the current scope of practice for physician assistants licensed in Hawaii and practicing with physician supervision. There are no controversial issues within the bill. It simply seeks to properly address the definitions of health care provider in the State of Hawaii.

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We would also like to ask you to consider amending the bill to authorize physician assistants the ability to write orders and plans for occupational therapy. This is in response to compelling testimony from the Occupational Therapy Association. Adding this amendment is in keeping with the intent of this bill.

I ask your support in passing SB 1142 SD1. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sharon Sagayadoro

From: Christine Pratt [physicianassistant@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 21, 2009 2:44 PM
To: CPCtestimony
Subject: SB 1142

Rep. Robert N. Herkes, Chair, CPC
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair, JGO
RE: SB 1142 SD1
3/23/09

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants

I, Christine Pratt PA-C, MPAS support SB 1142 SD1.

The bill makes numerous technical amendments to several sections of statute that govern health and health care. The legislation includes physician assistants (PAs) in the definition of health care provider, where appropriate, for the purpose of signing basic forms and certifications for patients. Physician assistants were not intentionally excluded from these definitions, but rather, these were unintentional omissions. All items addressed within the bill are within the current scope of practice for physician assistants licensed in Hawaii and practicing with physician supervision. There are no controversial issues within the bill. It simply seeks to properly address the definitions of health care provider in the State of Hawaii.

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Passage of this bill will allow patients better access to health care in medically underserved areas, be it geographically or by medical specialty and allow physicians to better serve their patients.

We would also like to ask you to consider amending the bill to authorize physician assistants the ability to write orders and plans for occupational therapy. This is in response to compelling testimony from the Occupational Therapy Association. Adding this amendment is in keeping with the intent of this bill.

I ask your support in passing SB 1142 SD1. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Christine Pratt PA-C, MPAS

Sharon Sagayadoro

From: Gabe Merrill [gabenlynette1@earthlink.net]
Sent: Saturday, March 21, 2009 10:35 AM
To: CPCtestimony
Subject: SB 1142 SD1, in support

Rep. Robert N. Herkes, Chair, CPC
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair, JGO

RE: SB 1142 SD1
3/23/09: Hearing Date

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants

I, Gabriel Merrill, MSPA-C support SB 1142 SD1.

Passage of this bill will allow patients better access to health care in medically underserved areas thereby allowing physicians and physician assistants to better serve their patients.

We ask your support in passing SB 1142 SD1.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Gabriel Merrill, MSPA-C
WorkStar Injury and Recovery Center
HMC – West, CSS
91-2135 Fort Weaver Road, Suite 170
Ewa Beach, HI. 96706
(808) 676-5331

Sharon Sagayadoro

From: Larry Alfrey [fredwgarfield@hotmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 21, 2009 10:48 AM
To: CPCtestimony

Rep. Robert N. Herkes, Chair, CPC
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair, JGO
RE: SB 1142 SD1
3/23/09: Hearing Date

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants

I, Larry Alfrey, PA-C, support SB 1142 SD1.

Passage of this bill will allow patients better access to health care in medically underserved areas, thereby allowing physicians and physician assistants to better serve their patients.
We ask your support in passing SB 1142 SD1.
Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Larry Alfrey, PA-C

Express your personality in color! Preview and select themes for Hotmail®. [See how.](#)

Sharon Sagayadoro

From: Richard Smith [medex@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 21, 2009 10:55 AM
To: CPCtestimony
Subject: RE: SB 1142 SD1

Rep. Robert N. Herkes, Chair, CPC
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair, JGO
RE: SB 1142 SD1
3/23/09: Hearing Date

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants

I, Richard A. Smith, M.D., support SB 1142 SD1.

I see passage of this bill as a significant step forward in providing improved health care services for our state's underserved populations.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of SB 1142 SD1.

Richard A. Smith, M.D.

666 Prospect Street #610

Honolulu, HI 91813-1933

Sharon Sagayadoro

From: Frank Hollister [fhollister@mauimedical.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 21, 2009 8:58 AM
To: CPCtestimony
Subject: SB 1142 SD1 SUPPORT

Rep. Robert N. Herkes, Chair, CPC
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair, JGO
RE: SB 1142 SD1
3/23/09: Hearing Date

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants

I, FRANK HOLLISTER support SB 1142 SD1.

Passage of this bill will allow patients better access to health care in medically underserved areas, thereby allowing physicians and physician assistants to better serve their patients.

We ask your support in passing SB 1142 SD1.
Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Rep. Robert N. Herkes, Chair, CPC
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair, JGO
RE: SB 1142 SD1
3/23/09

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants

I, Kanoi Roberson, P.A.-C., support of SB 1142 SD1.

The bill assists supervising physicians extend care by including physician assistants (PAs) in the definition of health care provider, in certain instances, for the purpose of signing basic forms and certifications for the benefit of their patients. Physician assistants were not intentionally excluded from these definitions, but rather, these were unintentional omissions. All items addressed within the bill are within the current scope of practice for physician assistants licensed in Hawaii and practicing under the supervision of physicians. There are no controversial issues within the bill, but rather, it is a housekeeping issue to properly address the definitions of health care provider in the State of Hawaii.

The bill includes PAs as providers under the Good Samaritan Law and in the definition of those who may provide care in disasters. The earthquake on the island of Hawaii illustrated the importance of allowing all qualified providers to deliver care in emergency or disaster situations. In some rural areas of the Big Island, PAs may be the only providers available to provide care in such situation.

Passage of this bill will allow patients better access to health care in medically underserved areas, be it geographically or by medical specialty and allow physicians to better serve their patients.

I ask your support in passing SB 1142 SD1. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Kanoi Roberson, P.A.-C.

Sharon Sagayadoro

From: Susanna Cheng [syc10@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2009 11:54 PM
To: CPCtestimony
Subject: Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants

Rep. Robert N. Herkes, Chair, CPC
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair, JGO
RE: SB 1142 SD1
3/23/09

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants

I, Susanna Cheng, support of SB 1142 SD1.

The bill assists supervising physicians extend care by including physician assistants (PAs) in the definition of health care provider, in certain instances, for the purpose of signing basic forms and certifications for the benefit of their patients. Physician assistants were not intentionally excluded from these definitions, but rather, these were unintentional omissions. All items addressed within the bill are within the current scope of practice for physician assistants licensed in Hawaii and practicing under the supervision of physicians. There are no controversial issues within the bill, but rather, it is a housekeeping issue to properly address the definitions of health care provider in the State of Hawaii.

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Passage of this bill will allow patients better access to health care in medically underserved areas, be it geographically or by medical specialty and allow physicians to better serve their patients.

I ask your support in passing SB 1142 SD1. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Susanna Cheng, PA-C
Waikiki Health Center
277 Ohua St.
Honolulu, HI 96826

Rep. Robert N. Herkes, Chair, CPC
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair, JGO
RE: SB 1142 SD1
3/23/09: Hearing Date

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants

I, Kanoi Roberson, P.A.-C., support SB 1142 SD1.

Passage of this bill will allow patients better access to health care in medically underserved areas, thereby allowing physicians and physician assistants to better serve their patients. We ask your support in passing SB 1142 SD1.
Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Kanoi Roberson, P.A.-C.

Sharon Sagayadoro

From: joseph morris [jwmorris58@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2009 11:44 PM
To: CPCtestimony
Subject: SB 1142

Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair, JGO
RE: SB 1142 SD1
3/23/09: Hearing Date

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants

I, Joseph W. Morris, PA-C support SB 1142 SD1.

Passage of this bill will allow patients better access to health care in medically underserved areas, thereby allowing physicians and physician assistants to better serve their patients.

We ask your support in passing SB 1142 SD1.
Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully;

Joseph W. Morris, PA-C

Sharon Sagayadoro

From: joseph morris [jwmorris58@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2009 11:40 PM
To: CPCtestimony
Subject: SB 1142

Rep. Robert N. Herkes, Chair, CPC
RE: SB 1142 SD1
3/23/09

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants

I, Joseph W. Morris, PA-C support of SB 1142 SD1.

The bill assists supervising physicians extend care by including physician assistants (PAs) in the definition of health care provider, in certain instances, for the purpose of signing basic forms and certifications for the benefit of their patients. Physician assistants were not intentionally excluded from these definitions, but rather, these were unintentional omissions. All items addressed within the bill are within the current scope of practice for physician assistants licensed in Hawaii and practicing under the supervision of physicians. There are NO controversial issues within the bill, but rather, it is a housekeeping issue to properly address the definitions of health care provider in the State of Hawaii.

The bill includes PAs as providers under the Good Samaritan Law and in the definition of those who may provide care in disasters. The earthquake on the island of Hawaii illustrated the importance of allowing all qualified providers to deliver care in emergency or disaster situations. In some rural areas of the Big Island, PAs may be the only providers available to provide care in such situation.

Passage of this bill will allow patients better access to health care in medically underserved areas, be it geographically or by medical specialty and allow physicians to better serve their patients.

I ask your support in passing SB 1142 SD1. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully:

Joseph W. Morris, PA-C

Sharon Sagayadoro

From: joseph morris [jwmorris58@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2009 11:42 PM
To: CPCtestimony
Subject: SB 1142

Categories: Purple Category

Rep. Robert N. Herkes, Chair, CPC
RE: SB 1142 SD1
3/23/09: Hearing Date

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants

I, Joseph W. Morris, PA-C support SB 1142 SD1.

Passage of this bill will allow patients better access to health care in medically underserved areas, thereby allowing physicians and physician assistants to better serve their patients.

We ask your support in passing SB 1142 SD1.
Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully;

Joseph W. Morris, PA-C

Sharon Sagayadoro

From: Ann Davis [Ann@aapa.org]
Sent: Sunday, March 22, 2009 4:15 AM
To: CPCtestimony
Subject: Support: SB1142 SD1

Rep. Robert N. Herkes, Chair, CPC
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair, JGO
RE: SB 1142 SD1
3/23/09

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants

Dear Chairman Herkes and Chairman Karamatsu:

The American Academy of Physician Assistants is the national professional society for physician assistants (PAs). In this capacity the Academy represents over 75,000 physician assistants practicing in the United States.

The American Academy of Physician Assistants is in support of SB 1142 SD 1.

This bill makes technical changes to Hawaii law by specifically adding physician assistants to the definition of health care provider for the purpose of signing basic forms and certifications. It also modifies provisions to allow physician assistants to be maximally effective during disaster situations that call for medical response in the field. These sorts of modifications have been added to law in other states.

The proposed revisions are consistent with existing Hawaii law and the physician assistant philosophy. Physician assistants practice as members of physician-directed teams. When teams can effectively certify health, order immunizations and care for patients with HIV – all of which are addressed in the bill – patient care is improved.. All items addressed within the bill are within the current scope of practice for physician assistants licensed in Hawaii and practicing with physician supervision.

If possible, we would like to request that you consider a small technical amendment, not currently in the bill. The Occupational Therapy Association has pointed out, through testimony on B 1610, that current law does not specifically authorize PAs to order occupational therapy. We would request that you consider amending the bill to include giving physician assistants the ability to write orders and plans for occupational therapy. This amendment is consistent with the intent of this bill. A draft amendment is included at the end of this testimony.

We appreciate your consideration of this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.

Sincerely,

Ann Davis, PA-C
Director of State Government Affairs
American Academy of Physician Assistants

1) Proposed amendment below in red. This is a simple addition of number 10.

...

SECTION 2. Chapter 453, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

"§453- Physician assistant; authority to sign documents. Any physician assistant who holds a current, valid, and permanent license to practice medicine pursuant to this chapter, and who is under the supervision of a licensed physician or osteopathic physician, shall have the authority to sign the following documents:

(1) Certification of psychiatric medical condition of the parents of a child applicant for aid from the temporary assistance for needy families program;

(2) Evaluation forms for Hansen's disease patients;

(3) Orders for physical therapy and plans of care;

(4) Pharmacist orders to assist in monitoring and management of anticoagulation anemia and atrial fibrillation;

(5) Orders for speech therapy and plans of care;

(6) Applications for bracelets indicating compassionate care only;

(7) Admissions applications for foster homes;

(8) Dietary consultations forms; and

(9) Medicaid application forms for nursing care facility admission."

(10) Orders for Occupational Therapy and plans of care.

Sharon Sagayadoro

From: Larry Alfrey [fredwgarfield@hotmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 21, 2009 6:56 PM
To: CPCtestimony
Subject: Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants

From: fredwgarfield@hotmail.com
To: cpctestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov
Subject:
Date: Sat, 21 Mar 2009 18:53:56 -1000

Rep. Robert N. Herkes, Chair, CPC

Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair, JGO

RE: SB 1142 SD1

3/23/09

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants

I, Larry Alfrey, support SB 1142 SD1.

The bill makes numerous technical amendments to several sections of statute that govern health and health care. The legislation includes physician assistants (PAs) in the definition of health care provider, where appropriate, for the purpose of signing basic forms and certifications for patients. Physician assistants were not intentionally excluded from these definitions, but rather, these were unintentional omissions. All items addressed within the bill are within the current scope of practice for physician assistants licensed in Hawaii and practicing with physician supervision. There are no controversial issues within the bill. It simply seeks to properly address the definitions of health care provider in the State of Hawaii.

The bill includes PAs as providers under the Good Samaritan Law and in the definition of those who may provide care in disasters. The earthquake on the island of Hawaii illustrated the importance of allowing all

qualified providers to deliver care in emergency or disaster situations. In some rural areas of the Big Island, PAs may be the only providers available to provide care in such situations.

Passage of this bill will allow patients better access to health care in medically underserved areas, be it geographically or by medical specialty and allow physicians to better serve their patients.

We would also like to ask you to consider amending the bill to authorize physician assistants the ability to write orders and plans for occupational therapy. This is in response to compelling testimony from the Occupational Therapy Association. Adding this amendment is in keeping with the intent of this bill.

I ask your support in passing SB 1142 SD1. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Larry Alfrey, PA-C

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Sharon Sagayadoro

From: mercers@hawaii.rr.com
Sent: Saturday, March 21, 2009 12:19 AM
To: CPCtestimony
Attachments: The Hawaii Academy of Physician Assistants is in support of SB 1142.doc.jgo.3.23.09.doc;
OT Testimony.3.20.09.jpg

Rep. Robert N. Herkes, Chair, CPC
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair, JGO
RE: SB 1142 SDI
3/23/09

Support of SB 1142 SDI: Relating to Physician Assistants The Hawaii Academy of Physician Assistants is in support of SB 1142.

The bill assists supervising physicians extend care by including physician assistants (PAs) in the definition of health care provider, in certain instances, for the purpose of signing basic forms and certifications for the benefit of their patients. Physician assistants were not intentionally excluded from these definitions, but rather, these were unintentional omissions. All items addressed within the bill are within the current scope of practice for physician assistants licensed in Hawaii and practicing under the supervision of physicians. There are no controversial issues within the bill, but rather, it is a housekeeping issue to properly address the definitions of health care provider in the State of Hawaii.

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Passage of this bill will allow patients better access to health care in medically underserved areas, be it geographically or by medical specialty and allow physicians to better serve their patients.

We ask your support in passing SB 1142.

We would also like to ask your consideration in amending the bill to include giving physician assistants the ability to write orders and plans for Occupational Therapy.

This is in response to compelling testimony from the Occupational Therapy Association on SB 1610. The testimony is attached. Adding an amendment as follows is in keeping with the intent of this bill and not including Occupational Therapists in the original bill is believed to have been an oversight and not intentional.

We appreciate your consideration of this bill and for the opportunity to testify.

Unfortunately, I will be out of state and unable to give verbal testimony on 3/23/09.

Fielding Mercer

President

Hawaii Academy of Physician Assistants

1) Considered amendment below in red. This is a simple addition of number 10.

2) Occupational Therapy testimony follows.

...
SECTION 2. Chapter 453, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

"§453- Physician assistant; authority to sign documents. Any physician assistant who holds a current, valid, and permanent license to practice medicine pursuant to this chapter, and who is under the supervision of a licensed physician or osteopathic physician, shall have the authority to sign the following documents:

- (1) Certification of psychiatric medical condition of the parents of a child applicant for aid from the temporary assistance for needy families program;
- (2) Evaluation forms for Hansen's disease patients;
- (3) Orders for physical therapy and plans of care;
- (4) Pharmacist orders to assist in monitoring and management of anticoagulation anemia and atrial fibrillation;
- (5) Orders for speech therapy and plans of care;
- (6) Applications for bracelets indicating compassionate care only;
- (7) Admissions applications for foster homes;
- (8) Dietary consultations forms; and
- (9) Medicaid application forms for nursing care facility admission."
- (10) Orders for Occupational Therapy and plans of care.

SECTION 3. Section 11-117, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

"(a) Any candidate may withdraw not later than 4:30 p.m. on the day immediately following the close of filing for any reason and may withdraw after the close of filing up to 4:30 p.m. on the twentieth day prior to an election for reasons of ill health. When a candidate withdraws for ill health, the candidate shall give notice in writing to the chief election officer if the candidate was seeking a congressional or state office, or the candidate shall give notice in writing to the county clerk if the candidate was seeking a county office. The notice shall be accompanied by a statement from a licensed physician or physician assistant indicating that such ill health may endanger the candidate's life." ...

mail2web - Check your email from the web at <http://link.mail2web.com/mail2web>

Sharon Sagayadoro

From: Fielding Mercer [mercers.hawaii@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 21, 2009 12:10 AM
To: CPCtestimony
Subject: SB 1142 SD1
Attachments: OT Testimony.3.20.09.jpg

Rep. Robert N. Herkes, Chair, CPC
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair, JGO
RE: SB 1142 SD1
3/23/09

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants

The Hawaii Academy of Physician Assistants is in support of SB 1142. The bill assists supervising physicians extend care by including physician assistants (PAs) in the definition of health care provider, in certain instances, for the purpose of signing basic forms and certifications for the benefit of their patients. Physician assistants were not intentionally excluded from these definitions, but rather, these were unintentional omissions. All items addressed within the bill are within the current scope of practice for physician assistants licensed in Hawaii and practicing under the supervision of physicians. There are no controversial issues within the bill, but rather, it is a housekeeping issue to properly address the definitions of health care provider in the State of Hawaii.

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We appreciate your consideration of this bill and for the opportunity to testify. Unfortunately, I will be out of state and unable to give verbal testimony on 3/23/09.

Fielding Mercer
President
Hawaii Academy of Physician Assistants

- 1) Considered amendment below in red. This is a simple addition of number 10.
- 2) Occupational Therapy testimony attached.

...

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