

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR



LILLIAN B. KOLLER, ESQ.
DIRECTOR

HENRY OLIVA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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

April 03, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
House Committee on Finance

FROM: Lillian B. Koller, Director

SUBJECT: **S.B. 1142, S.D. 1 – RELATING TO PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS**
Hearing: Friday, April 03, 2009, 4:30 P.M.
Conference Room 308, 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

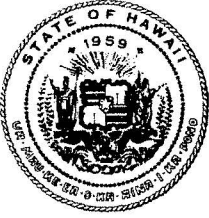
For the following roles, the individual or public benefit may not clearly exceed the potential harm, and DHS therefore does not support physician assistants:

- 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

April 3, 2009

TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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

**PRESENTATION OF THE
HAWAII MEDICAL BOARD**

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2009

Friday, April 3, 2009
4:30 p.m.

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL NO. 1142, S.D. 1, RELATING TO PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS.

TO THE HONORABLE MARCUS R. OSHIRO, CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEES:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on S.B. No. 1142, S.D. 1, Relating to Physician Assistants. 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; and to limit liability of physician assistants under good Samaritan laws.

The Hawaii Medical Board ("Board") supports the intent of this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written comments on this bill.



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 Finance**
The Hon. Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
The Hon. Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair

Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 1142, SD 1

Relating to Physician Assistants

Submitted by Beth Giesting, CEO

April 3, 2009 4:30 p.m. agenda, Room 308

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.

Alan D. Tice, MD, LLC

550 South Beretania St. Suite 400 Honolulu, HI 96813

Infections Limited Hawaii

Phone (808)544-2852 & (808)373-3488 / Fax (808) 585-0206

April 2, 2009

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
House Finance Committee

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants
Hearing date: 4/3/2009

I, Leslie D. Huddleston, RN, PA-C, support 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.

Leslie D. Huddleston, RN, PA-C
550 S. Beretania St, Suite 400
Honolulu, HI 96734

FINTestimony

From: Donald Traller [dotrasuva@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 02, 2009 8:44 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
House Finance Committee

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants
Hearing date: 4/3/2009

I, Donald W Traller, support SB 1142 SD1.

I am a PA who has practice on Kauai for the last 19 years at Kauai Medical Clinic now a part of Hawaii Pacific Health. PA's are part of the fabric of health care on Kauai. The laws need to be updated to reflect the essential role PA's play in the island's health care system.

The bill assists physicians in extending 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. 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. As you are well aware, allowing all qualified providers to deliver care in emergency or disaster situations is critical.

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.

FINTestimony

From: Christine Pratt [physicianassistant@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 02, 2009 9:15 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: SB 1142

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
House Finance Committee

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants
Hearing date: 4/3/2009

I, Christine Pratt PA-C, MPAS, support 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.

Christine Pratt PA-C, MPAS

FINTestimony

From: Yang Kim [yangk1m@yahoo.com]

Sent: Thursday, April 02, 2009 9:02 AM

To: FINTestimony



Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
House Finance Committee

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants
Hearing date: 4/3/2009

I, Yang K. Shin, support 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.

Regards,

Yang K. Shin, PA-C

Tripler Army Medical Center

FINTestimony

From: patsycolvin@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, April 02, 2009 8:23 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: Support of SB1142 SD1

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
House Finance Committee

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants
Hearing date: 4/3/2009

I, Patricia Colvin, support SB 1142 SD1.

The bill assists physicians in extending 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. 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. As you are well aware, allowing all qualified providers to deliver care in emergency or disaster situations is critical.

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.

Patricia A Colvin

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FINTestimony

From: Ann Davis [Ann@aapa.org]
Sent: Thursday, April 02, 2009 7:51 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: Please Vote "Yes" on Senate Bill 1142

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
House Finance Committee

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants
Hearing date: 4/3/2009

Dear Chairman Oshiro, Vice Chairman Lee and Members of the Committee:

The American Academy of Physician Assistants is the national professional organization for physician assistants (PAs). In this capacity the Academy represents nearly 75,000 PAs in practice across the United States.

The Academy would like to voice its support for Senate Bill 1142. This legislation, if enacted, will remove numerous technical but important barriers for physician-PA teams providing health care in Hawaii. Practicing as members of physician-directed teams, PAs are able to fill a wide variety of roles in health care. Physicians can provide patient care more efficiently when they can delegate to PAs the activities of immunization, signing forms, and providing state-required follow up and documentation. The provisions in Senate Bill 1142 have been enacted in many other states. None of the provisions in SB 1142 represent a change in PA scope of practice, nor in the profession's commitment to physician-PA team practice.

The Academy strongly supports Senate Bill 1142. Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.

Sincerely,

Ann Davis, PA-C
Director of State Government Affairs

FINTestimony

From: Richard Bidleman [rbidleman@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 02, 2009 7:29 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: SB 1142 SD1

The healthcare crises as been elevated further by the lack of practioners. Passage of this legislation will go a long ways toward mitigating the situation without compromising the quality of healthcare.

Rural healthcare suffers the most from the healthcare crises. I urge you to pass this legislation.

Mahalo,

Richard Bidleman
Treasurer, Puna Community Medical Center
Pahoa (Big Island)

FINTestimony

From: Richard Smith [medex@hawaii.rr.com]

Sent: Wednesday, April 01, 2009 10:27 PM

To: FINTestimony

Subject: SB 1142 SD1 Hearing Date 4/3/2009

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair

Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair

House Finance Committee

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants

Hearing date: 4/3/2009

I am writing in support of SB 1142 SD1.

I have seen the benefits for Hawaii's citizens that passage of this bill will bring.

I have seen patients' access to care improve quite dramatically when such support allows physicians and physician assistants to work collaboratively to better serve their patients.

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

Richard A. Smith, M.D.

666 Prospect Street #610

Honolulu, HI 96813-1933

FINTestimony

From: joseph morris [jwmorris58@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 01, 2009 9:54 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: SB 1142 SD1



Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
House Finance Committee

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants
Hearing date: 4/3/2009

Dear Representative Oshiro:

I, Joseph W. Morris, PA-C, support 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

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, April 02, 2009 7:58 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: dand@punahealth.org
Subject: Testimony for SB1142 on 4/3/2009 4:30:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/3/2009 4:30:00 PM SB1142

Conference room: 308
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
Phone: 808-930-6001
E-mail: dand@punahealth.org
Submitted on: 4/2/2009

Comments:
Finance Committee
Rep Oshiro, Chair
Rep Lee, Vice Chair
Committee members

Thank you for scheduling this hearing and allowing us to express STRONG SUPPORT for this important legislation.

This bill, if enacted, will help to allow maximal utilization of Physician Assistants who have long been under-utilized as service providers in Hawaii. There is little financial cost to this change. SB-1142 will allow PAs to be more effective as members of Hawaii's health care workforce. The public we serve will enjoy the benefit in a variety of ways.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.
Dan Domizio PA/MPH
Clinical Programs Director
Puna Community Medical Center
Pahoia, Hawaii.

FINTestimony

From: Jeff Robin [pajeffu@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 02, 2009 8:42 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: SB 1142 SD1

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair

Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair

House Finance Committee

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants

Hearing date: 4/3/2009

I, Jeffrey M. Robin PA-C, support SB 1142 SD1.

The bill assists physicians in extending 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. 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. As you are well aware, allowing all qualified providers to deliver care in emergency or disaster situations is critical.

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.

Jeffrey M. Robin MS, PA-C

FINTestimony

From: denalvaro@hawaii.rr.com
Sent: Thursday, April 02, 2009 8:44 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: SB1142 SD1

I, Dennis Alvaro, support SB 1142 SD1.

The bill assists physicians in extending 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. All items address 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. As you are aware, allowing all qualified providers to deliver care in emergency or disaster situations is critical.

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.

Dennis Alvaro, PA-C

FINTestimony

From: Panganiban, Brian J CPT MIL USA USARPAC [brian.panganiban@us.army.mil]
Sent: Wednesday, April 01, 2009 11:46 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: PA support

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair House Finance Committee

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants Hearing date: 4/3/2009

I, Brian J. Panganiban, support 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.

BRIAN J. PANGANIBAN
CPT, USA, APA-C

FINTestimony

From: Dave and Kathleen [jonellipacific@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 01, 2009 10:00 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: SUPPORT SB 1142 SD1

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
House Finance Committee

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants
Hearing date: 4/3/2009

As a physician in Hawaii, I, David Jones, MD, 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,
David R Jones, MD
Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center Waianae, Oahu

FINTestimony

From: Fielding Mercer [mercers.hawaii@gmail.com]

Sent: Wednesday, April 01, 2009 10:04 PM

To: FINTestimony

Subject: Support for SB 1142

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
House Finance Committee

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants
Hearing date: 4/3/2009

I, Fielding Mercer, support SB 1142 SD1.

Passage of this bill will allow patients better access to health care in medically under served 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.

Fielding Mercer, PA-C

FINTestimony

From: Kathleen Elliott [kathleen.elliott808@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 01, 2009 9:53 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: SUPPORT SB 1142 SD1

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair

Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair

House Finance Committee

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants

Hearing date: 4/3/2009

I, Kathleen Elliott, 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.

aloha,

Kathleen Elliott, PA-C

2045 Alaeloa St

Honolulu, HI 96821

808-732-9971

FINTestimony

From: Lindsay Chang [lchang79@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 02, 2009 9:00 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
House Finance Committee

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants
Hearing date: 4/3/2009

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

The bill assists physicians in extending 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. 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.

Lindsay Chang, PA-C

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
House Finance Committee

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants
Hearing date: 4/3/2009

I, Kanoi Roberson, P.A.-C., support 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.

Sincerely,

Kanoi Roberson, P.A.-C.

FINTestimony

From: Fielding Mercer [mercers.hawaii@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 01, 2009 10:02 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: Support for SB 1142 SD1

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
House Finance Committee

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants
Hearing date: 4/3/2009
Hawaii Academy of Physician Assistants

The Hawaii Academy of Physician Assistants supports 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 under served 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.

Fielding Mercer, PA-C
President
Hawaii Academy of Physician Assistants

FINTestimony

From: Scavelli, Robert A CPT MIL USA OSD [bob.scavelli@us.army.mil]
Sent: Thursday, April 02, 2009 11:04 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: SB 1142 SD1

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair House Finance Committee

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants Hearing date: 4/3/2009

I, Robert A. Scavelli, A-C, support 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.

Robert A. Scavelli
PA-C

FINTestimony

From: Lisa Kemp [dreamcatcherlk@msn.com]

Sent: Thursday, April 02, 2009 10:55 AM

To: FINTestimony

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
House Finance Committee

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants
Hearing date: 4/3/2009

I, Lisa Kemp, PA-C, support SB 1142 SD1.

The bill assists physicians in extending 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. 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. As you are well aware, allowing all qualified providers to deliver care in emergency or disaster situations is critical.

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.

Lisa Kemp, PA-C

FINTestimony

From: Anne Biedel [abiedel@mauimedical.com]

Sent: Thursday, April 02, 2009 10:25 AM

To: FINTestimony

Subject: SB 1142

On Maui we really need to have our Physician Assistants working side by side as professionals with doctors. As a family physician I know how instrumental PAs have been to my ability to offer comprehensive care and extended hours of operation. Please help us keep our excellent physician assistants, they are vital to our community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Anne E. Biedel, MD
Maui Medical Group

FINTestimony

From: matthew ota [pacman.ota@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 02, 2009 10:22 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: SB 1142 Testimony

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
House Finance Committee

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants
Hearing date: 4/3/2009

I, Matthew M. Ota, PA-C, support 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.

FINTestimony

From: dmessiii@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, April 02, 2009 1:02 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: support SB 1142 SD1.

I David H messer III, support SB 1142 SD1.

The bill assists physicians in extending 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. 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. As you are well aware, allowing all qualified providers to deliver care in emergency or disaster situations is critical.

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.

David H Messer III, PAC ,MPAS

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FINTestimony

From: Susan Weldon [makakilogirl@weldoncope.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 02, 2009 11:38 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: SB 1142 SD1

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
House Finance Committee

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants
Hearing date: 4/3/2009

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

The bill assists physicians in extending 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. 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. As you are well aware, allowing all qualified providers to deliver care in emergency or disaster situations is critical.

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.

Cordially,

Susan Rinaldi-Weldon, PA-C
JABSOM Dept of OB/Gyn
University Women's Health Specialists
808-671-0090

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
House Finance Committee

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants
Hearing date: 4/3/2009

I, MAJ James M Brumley US Army Physician Assistant, support 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.

MAJ James M Brumley US Army Physician Assistant

FINTestimony

From: Dara Ono [daraono@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 02, 2009 2:05 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: SB 1142

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
House Finance Committee

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants
Hearing date: 4/3/2009

I, Dara Ono, support 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.

Dara Ono

FINTestimony

From: Dorothy.W.Toni@kp.org
Sent: Thursday, April 02, 2009 2:35 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
House Finance Committee

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants
Hearing date: 4/3/2009

I, Dorothy Toni Maurice, support SB 1142 SD1.

The bill assists physicians in extending 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. 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. As you are well aware, allowing all qualified providers to deliver care in emergency or disaster situations is critical.

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.

Dorothy Toni Maurice, PA-C, MsCMS
Physician Assistant, NCCPA Board Certified
The Aesthetic Center, Kaiser Permanente New Ventures
Cosmetic Dermatology
Honolulu and Hawaii Kai clinics
Wk: 808.432.2810 Fax: 808.432.2616
Email: Dorothy.w.toni@kp.org

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4/2/2009

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
House Finance Committee

Support of SB 1142 SD1: Relating to Physician Assistants
Hearing date: 4/3/2009

I, Sharon Vitousek MD strongly, support SB 1142 SD1.

The bill will improve access to healthcare providers. It assists supervising physicians to 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. This corrects the inadvertent exclusion of Physician Assistants who were not intentionally excluded from these definitions. 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 an overdue 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. This will improve access to care especially on the neighbor islands where it is such a big problem.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sharon Vitousek MD

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, April 03, 2009 12:07 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: tullyv001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1142 on 4/3/2009 4:30:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/3/2009 4:30:00 PM SB1142

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Virginia Tully
Organization: Occupational Therapy Association of Hawaii
Address:
Phone: 544-3336
E-mail: tullyv001@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 4/3/2009

Comments:

April 3, 2009

SB 1142, SD 1 Relating to Physician Assistants
House Committee on Finance – Friday, April 3, 2009
Room 308 – 4:30 p.m.

Position: Support Intent, with Recommendations

Chair Marcus Oshiro, Vice Chair Marilyn Lee and Members of the Finance Committee:

I am Avis Sakata, OTR and current president of the Occupational Therapy Association of Hawaii (OTAH). I regret that I will be unable to be present for this afternoon's hearing. OTAH represents 507 occupational therapy practitioners in Hawaii. Occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants are employed in various settings – hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, schools, mental health facilities along with community based programs and private facilities. Our clientele ranges from newborns in the neonatal intensive care units at Kapiolani Medical Center; young children in the 0-3 age programs; school aged children in our public schools to adults and the elderly that have sustained physical, cognitive, social-emotional challenges. Occupational Therapy is a skilled treatment that focuses on enabling an individual to participate in meaningful and purposeful activities of daily life.

We support SB 1142, SD 1 which would allow the physician assistant to sign orders and plans of care for physical and speech therapy services as this will expedite access to care for our consumers. However, we propose an amendment by also adding occupational therapy.

Amend by adding under 453 – Physician Assistant; authority to sign documents.

“orders for occupational therapy and plans of care:”

Due to the shortage of physicians in some of the rural areas and neighbor islands, we have been receiving orders from the physician assistant, however, these orders must be declined and resubmitted with an MD's signature. This in turn delays occupational therapy care for the consumer. With this bill and the recommendation of the amendment, the consumer will be able to receive care in a timely manner.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony on behalf of OTAH. If you have further questions, please contact me at 522-4602.

Sincerely,

Avis Sakata, OTR
President, Occupational Therapy Association of Hawaii
1360 South Beretania Street, Suite 301
Honolulu, HI. 96814