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To: **The House Committee on Health**  
The Hon. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair  
The Hon. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair

**Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 426**  
**Relating to Dentistry**  
**Submitted by David Derauf MD MPH, Executive Director**  
**Friday, March 13, 2009, 9:30 a.m. agenda, Room 329**

Kokua Kalihi Valley urges your support for this bill, which is needed to enable newly graduated dentists to participate in a planned pediatric residency program, of which Kokua Kalihi Valley will be playing a key role.

Hawai'i has an insufficient number of dentists who specialize in treating children and are able to accommodate children covered by the Medicaid program as well as the uninsured. Access to dental services for young children is a huge problem nationwide, and here in Hawaii many of our communities lag far behind national standards in regards to the oral health of our keiki.

This bill will make possible the planned pediatric dental residency which will help address this access to care problem by building a well trained pediatric dental workforce, with a focus on Hawaii's most disadvantaged communities. It will also support the recruitment and retention of dentists who work at Community Health Centers and will even provide some of the skills and facility linkages needed to improve access for adults with developmental disabilities.

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



## **Hawai'i Primary Care Association**

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To: **The House Committee on Health**  
The Hon. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair  
The Hon. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair

**Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 426**  
**Relating to Dentistry**  
**Submitted by Beth Giesting, CEO**  
**March 13, 2009 9:30 a.m. agenda, Room 329**

The Hawai'i Primary Care Association urges your support for this bill, which is needed to enable newly graduated dentists to participate in a planned pediatric residency program. Its passage will also allow the development other dental residency programs as needs and resources may occur in future.

Hawai'i has a modest number of dentists who specialize in treating children and a serious deficit in the number of dentists able to accommodate children covered by the Medicaid program. According to the National Maternal & Child Oral health Resource Center, "Head Start staff and parents report that the number one health issue affecting children enrolled in Head Start nationwide is access to oral health services." They further note that "many dentists do not feel comfortable providing services to infants and young children, despite agreement within the oral health community (Academy of General Dentistry, American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, and American Dental Association) that children should see a dentist by age 1."

The planned pediatric residency will help address such access problems by creating a well-trained pediatric dental workforce, support recruitment and retention of dentists who work at Community Health Centers where most of the residency program takes place, and will even provide some of the skills and facility linkages needed to improve access for adults with developmental disabilities.

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

**PRESENTATION OF THE  
BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS**

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE  
Regular Session of 2009

Friday, March 13, 2009  
9:30 a.m.

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL NO. 426, RELATING TO DENTISTRY.**

TO THE HONORABLE RYAN I. YAMANE, CHAIR,  
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Jeffrey Miyazawa, D.D.S., Chair of the Board of Dental Examiners ("Board"). The Board appreciates the opportunity to testify in support of S.B. No. 426, Relating to Dentistry.

The purpose of S.B. No. 426, is to grant dentists participating in an accredited dental residency program temporary licensure for the duration of their residency program.

The bill creates a new temporary license classification for persons enrolled in a post-doctoral residency program that is accredited by the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation ("CODA"), and authorizes them to practice dentistry exclusively under the auspices of the dental residency program. The temporary licensees shall be assigned to affiliated training sites that shall be visited and accredited by CODA and act under the direct supervision of a dental residency faculty licensed in Hawaii. This will result in increased access to dental services where it is critically needed.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of S.B. No. 426.