

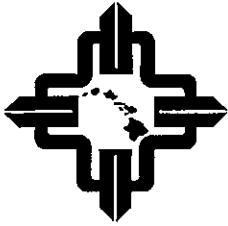
SCR 170

**Measure
Title:**

**REQUESTING THE HAWAII STATE
LEGISLATURE TO CONVENE A HAWAII
HEALTH CARE SUMMIT TO DEVELOP A
STRATEGIC AND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
FOR HEALTH CARE IN HAWAII.**

**Report
Title:**

Hawaii Health Care Summit



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

"Touching Lives Everyday"

**Senate Committee on Health
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Josh Green, M.D., Chair**

**Wednesday, April 1, 2009
2:45 P.M.
Conference Room 016
Hawaii State Capitol**

Testimony Supporting SCR 170

Requesting the Hawaii State Legislature to convene a Hawaii Health Care Summit to develop a strategic and comprehensive plan for health care in Hawaii.

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

On behalf of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) Corporation Board of Directors, thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of SCR 170 Requesting the Hawaii State Legislature to convene a Hawaii Health Care Summit to develop and strategic and comprehensive plan for health care in Hawaii.

Hawaii's health care system has many positive aspects; however, there are also major challenges that threaten its future. The proposed Hawaii Health Care Summit is a reflection of the continued commitment of Hawaii's leadership in reforming and improving its health system through a collaborative effort with broad representation, expertise and multi-dimensional perspectives, including medical, business and community interests. HHSC would be honored to participate in the proposed Hawaii Health Care Summit and join in the development of a strategic and comprehensive plan for health care in Hawaii.

Hawai'i Health Information Exchange

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

To: The Senate Committee on Health
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Josh Green, M.D., Vice Chair

Testimony in Support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 170
Relating to Convening a Hawaii Health Care Summit
Submitted by: Christine Maii Sakuda, President Hawaii Health Information Exchange
April 1, 2009, 2:45 p.m. agenda, Room 016

Dear Honorable Chair, Vice Chair and committee members,

The Hawaii Health Information Exchange supports this resolution: to convene a Hawaii health care summit which includes in its strategic and comprehensive plan, a Health IT plan to accelerate electronic health records in the state.

HHIE is an organization dedicated to addressing these issues in Hawaii. Board members include the state's two leading laboratories, two of the largest hospital systems, the largest health care insurer, one of the largest health care databases providing administrative data for analysis and reporting, industry experts, providers and community organizations. A list of Board members is attached.

HHIE is a non-profit corporation formed in 2006 by a group of community health leaders committed to improving health care in the state of Hawaii through the electronic exchange of health information. HHIE is a member based organization whose members represent a cross section of healthcare stakeholders including the major hospital facilities, laboratories, health consumer organizations, clinics and physicians in the community who have come together to create a roadmap for Hawaii's HIE. The HHIE and its members hold the following guiding principles - Hawaii's HIE shall:

- Utilize the federated model of health data exchange.
- Be patient centered
- Ensure secure and accurate exchange of electronic health information from various databases
- Based on standards both national and those set by HHIE members for community specific needs
- Promote choice of vendors, devices, providers, etc. HHIE shall be independent and open to working with all stakeholders

Thank you for the opportunity to support this measure.



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 Senate Committee on Health**
The Hon. David Y. Ige, Chair
The Hon. Josh Green, MD, Vice Chair

Testimony in Support of SCR 170
Requesting the Hawaii State Legislature to Convene a
Hawaii Health Care Summit to Develop a Strategic and
Comprehensive Plan for Health Care in Hawaii
Submitted by Beth Giesting, CEO
April 1, 2009, 2:45 p.m. agenda, Room 016

The Hawaii Primary Care Association supports this resolution and will be happy to participate in the planned Hawaii Health Care Summit. This is a very timely proposal with national health care reform a real possibility, evolving needs based on changes in demographics and health status, the emergence of new technologies and approaches to care, and shifts in the availability and viability of some of our basic health care institutions.

We agree with the six elements identified in the resolution to be included in the plan and suggest several additional items that the Committee might want to add:

- A plan for reorienting our health care delivery and payment systems to emphasize primary care, prevention, and continuity;
- Consideration of the role of professional scope of practice in the availability of appropriate clinical providers; and
- Adequacy and geographic distribution of facilities for community health centers and hospitals.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this measure.

Testimony of
Phyllis Dendle
Director Government Relations

Before:
Senate Committee on Health
The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair
The Honorable Josh Green M.D., Vice Chair

April 1, 2009
2:45 pm
Conference Room 016

**SCR 170 REQUESTING THE HAWAII STATE LEGISLATURE TO CONVENE A
HAWAII HEALTH CARE SUMMIT TO DEVELOP A STRATEGIC AND
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR HEALTH CARE IN HAWAII.**

Chair Ige and committee members, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on this resolution which requests the legislature to convene a health care summit.

Kaiser Permanente Hawaii supports this measure.

This resolution makes clear that health care is more than having insurance to pay for a visit to a doctor. The health care system in Hawaii is in some ways progressive and leading edge in others ways it is vulnerable. However, it is always changing.

Efforts have been made in the past to plan for the future of health care in Hawaii; the most notable being the Governor's Blue Ribbon Panel on Health Care in 1992, the Vision 2000 Health Care Congress in 1995, the Governor's Blue Ribbon Panel on Cancer Care in 2002, the Hawaii Uninsured Project in 2005, and Hawaii Health Care Task Force in 2006.

We can build on the work done over the last 18 years as we review our health care system now and understand the broad range of needs in our community. It is also valuable to understand the interconnectedness of our health issues as we look forward to a possible national health care coverage program.

We urge the legislature to pass this resolution and ask that Kaiser Permanente Hawaii be included in the work of this task force. We think we can bring a unique perspective and we would be delighted to work with the legislature on the issues outlined in the resolution.

Thank you for your consideration.



March 31, 2009

Committee on Health
Senator David Ige, Chair
Senator Josh Green, MD, Vice Chair

Hearing:

2:45 P.M., Wednesday, April 1, 2009
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 016

RE: SRC170, Requesting the Hawaii State Legislature to Convene a Hawaii Health Care Summit to Develop a Strategic and Comprehensive Plan for Health Care in Hawaii

Testimony in Strong Support

Chair Ige and Vice Chair Green, and members of the Committee on Health. My name is George Massengale and I am here today on behalf of the American Cancer Society Hawaii Pacific Inc. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SCR170.

The American Cancer Society Hawaii Pacific Inc. was formed in 1959, and is a community-based, voluntary health organization dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by preventing cancer, saving lives, and diminishing suffering from cancer, through research, education, advocacy, and service. This also includes advocating for public health policies that improve our access to health care.

Two years ago the American Cancer Society launched a Health Access Campaign to foster debate on how to fix problems with our current health care structure. We believe that convening a Hawaii Health Care Summit is the first step in addressing the complexities of health care reform.

Although the Society does not endorse any particular plan for healthcare reform, we do believe that the health care summit focus on four key principles in defining health care in Hawaii:

- **Adequate:** People must have timely access to the full range of health care, including prevention and early detection.
- **Affordable:** Health care cost should be based on the patient's ability to pay.
- **Available:** Our residents need to have coverage no matter what their health status is or what treatments they've had in the past.
- **Administratively simple:** The health care process should be easy to understand and navigate.

We truly believe that if a concerted effort were undertaken to develop a comprehensive health care plan in Hawaii we would be able to provide quality health care to all our residents regardless of insurance status, or current medical condition and need.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this resolution.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Massengale".

George S. Massengale, JD
Director of Government Relations

American Cancer Society Hawai'i Pacific, Inc., 2370 Nu'uau Avenue, Honolulu, Hawaii 96817-1714
●Phone: (808) 595-7500 ●Fax: (808) 595-7502 ●24-Hour Cancer Info: (800) 227-2345 ●<http://www.cancer.org>

HMSA



An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

April 1, 2009

The Honorable David Ige, Chair
The Honorable Josh Green M.D., Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Health

Re: SCR 170 – Requesting the Hawaii State Legislature to Convene a Hawaii Health Care Summit to Develop a Strategic and Comprehensive Plan for Health Care in Hawaii

Dear Chair Ige, Vice Chair Green and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Medical Service Association (HMSA) appreciates the opportunity to testify in support of SCR 170.

We appreciate the intent of SCR 170 to gather together key stakeholders from across the health care community in order to develop a comprehensive plan to shape the future of health care in Hawaii. With the Obama Administration's keen interest in overhauling health care convening a summit to explore local health care issues could assist with any planning that is necessary in conjunction with federal legislation.

While the language in SCR 170 is thorough and direct we would like to propose one small change to the whereas clause on page 2, lines 6-9. We believe the language below better captures the spirit of the statement and request this be changed to:

WHEREAS, reimbursements to hospitals and physicians from private insurers are under severe economic pressure to compensate for costs shifted from government health programs such as Medicare and Medicaid; and

We look forward to working with all health care stakeholders in the community as we shape Hawaii's health care future. Thank you for the opportunity to testify today.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Diesman
Assistant Vice President
Government Relations



Wednesday, April 1, 2009, 2:45 pm, CR 016

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Josh Green, M.D., Vice Chair

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

RE: SCR170 REQUESTING THE HAWAII STATE LEGISLATURE TO CONVENE A HAWAII HEALTH CARE SUMMIT TO DEVELOP A STRATEGIC AND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR HEALTH CARE IN HAWAII. (Hawaii Health Care Summit)

Chairs and Committee Members:

Hawaii Medical Association strongly believes that a collaborative effort is needed in developing strategy for health care in Hawaii. It is crucial that representation from physicians, hospitals, and other providers of care be involved in this discussion.

As such, if this measure is passed we respectfully request adding a requirement that representatives of the Hawaii Medical Association and vital specialty and primary care societies be included in the membership of the Hawaii Health Care Summit.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

OFFICERS

Gary Okamoto, MD
President

Robert Marvit, MD
President Elect

Cynthia Jean Goto, MD
Immediate Past President

Thomas Kosasa, MD
Secretary

Jonathan Cho, MD
Treasurer

April Donahue
Executive Director

Hawaii Medical Association
1360 S. Beretania St.
Suite 200
Honolulu, HI 96814
(808) 536-7702
(808) 528-2376 fax
www.hmaonline.net



Senate Health Cmte
Wed, April 1, 2009
2:45 pm
room 016

National Association of Social Workers

Hawaii Chapter

March 29, 2009

TO: Senator David Ige, Chair
Members of the Senate Health Committee
FROM: Debbie Shimizu, LSW
National Association of Social Workers

RE: SCR 170 Requesting the Hawaii State Legislature to Convene a Hawaii Health Care Summit to Develop a Strategic and Comprehensive Plan for Health Care in Hawaii - **SUPPORT if social workers are included.**

Chairman Ige and members of the Senate Health Committee, I am Debbie Shimizu, Executive Director of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW), Hawaii Chapter. NASW is the largest professional organization for social workers in Hawaii. We are testifying in **SUPPORT of SCR 170 and request that social workers be included in any strategic and comprehensive plan for health care in Hawaii.**

Social workers are important components of the health care system. We provide services to individuals and their families navigating complex system of services. From health clinics to schools, hospitals to public welfare agencies, elder care agencies to child welfare agencies, social workers are often responsible for coordinating a range of care services for their clients. These services can include housing referrals, income maintenance, protective and preventive services, and health care services. We are a discipline that connects people to services and other important community resources. Social workers are the "key" that opens doors of access to many services.

Social work professionals are also a crucial force in addressing and eliminating health care disparities, not only because of their experience in health care environments, but also because of their commitment to clients who are likely to face such disparities in a variety of settings. We hope that the health care summit will also address disparities in health care.

In 2004, NASW (national) established a Center for Workforce Studies to conduct studies of the current social work labor force as well as collect information from other sources in order to serve as a unique clearinghouse for educators, policy makers, social workers, and public and private work force planners. A study was conducted of licensed social workers in health care settings and it concluded that the "aging-out" of the frontline social worker providing direct services to clients in a wide range of community agencies was a serious concern. Social work will experience a "double squeeze" as a result of the Baby Boomer phenomenon. There will be an explosion in the demand for health and social services provided by social workers as an estimated 70 million people will be over age 65 by 2030. At the same time, a substantial cohort of frontline social workers will be leaving the workforce. According to data projections of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, social work is one of the occupations most affected by Baby Boomer retirements, Occupations dominated by women, like social work, are especially vulnerable with an aging workforce because women's level of workforce participation is lower than men's as they approach retirement age (Toossi, 2005). Additional studies about how the growing demand for health care services will affect the role and numbers of social workers needed in key settings will be useful to assure that adequate number of health care social workers are recruited and supported in this field.

We hope you will include social workers as part of the health care summit. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Eileen Shimose
PO Box 160923
Honolulu, HI 96816

March 29, 2009

To: Senator David Ige, Chair
Members of the Senate Health Committee
From: Eileen Shimose, ACSW, LSW, MSW

RE: SCR 170 Requesting the Hawaii State Legislature to Convene a Hawaii Health Care Summit to Develop a Strategic and Comprehensive Plan for Health Care in Hawaii –**Please consider Social Work participation at the summit.**

I wish to provide written testimony on the need to have social workers at the summit table to give valuable input on planning for Hawaii Health care. I write as a medical social worker for an HMO and have 18 years of experience in both the hospital and clinic settings.

Medical social work input is vital to any healthcare plan for effective cost containment of skyrocketing healthcare costs.

Concern over the shortage of physicians doesn't necessarily have to mean more physicians. Cost containment can mean freeing up the physician to practice medicine, see more patients, and allow the social worker to address the costly barriers to medical compliance which can lead to preventable hospitalizations. Social workers know how to link patients to available resources and assist families to understand the need to take on a bigger responsibility. A medical social worker's scope of practice includes but is not limited to:

- **Counseling a patient with an unplanned pregnancy and help them to plan for the future**
- **Counseling and assuring safety planning for child protection, adult protection, domestic violence.**
- **Provide physician support to mandated reporting.**
- **Finding affordable long term care for seniors who are no longer safe at home.**
- **Circumventing costly crisis planning by assisting patients to plan for their long term needs with options for aging and dying in place affordably.**
- **Counsel and complete the psychosocial assessments for the feasibility of organ transplants, working with families to plan for out of pocket costs, medical compliance, continued medical coverage and plan for their family's needs.**
- **Link the homeless, disabled, mentally challenged, or mentally ill with services and plans for supervised care.**
- **Complete the myriad of paperwork needed to initiate services on behalf of patients**

Social workers are paid a fraction of a physician's compensation. Social work presence is cost containment and thereby allows the same physician to see more patients within their scope of practice while a social worker can deal with the social barriers to medical compliance.

I hope that you will consider social work participation in this very important health care summit for Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.