



# OAHU FILIPINO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

P.O. Box 17531 · Honolulu · Hawaii 96817

## TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SCR 25

### Unit Organizations

Alliance of Residential  
Carehome Administrators  
Aloha Saguibsib Cultural  
Foundation, Inc.  
Annac ti Bado iti Hawaii  
Annac ti Batac  
Annac ti Caoayan 2002  
Annak ti Kailokuan iti  
America  
Annak ti Sinait iti Hawaii  
Asingan Organization of  
Hawaii  
Badoc-Pinili Aid  
Association of Hawaii  
Banna Association of  
Hawaii  
Bannatiran Association of  
Hawaii  
Batangas Association of  
Hawaii  
Bulacan Circle of Hawaii  
Caballeros de Dimasalang  
Cabugao Sons & Daughters  
of Hawaii  
Candonians of Hawaii  
Caoayan ISAH  
Cavitenians of Hawaii  
Dingras Association of  
Hawaii  
Divine Word College  
Alumni Association  
FilAm Sports USA  
Fil American Citizens  
League  
Filipino Business Women's  
Club  
Filipino Nurses Organization  
of Hawaii  
Filipino Women's Civic  
Club  
GUMIL Hawaii  
GUMIL Oahu  
Hawaii Filipino Women's  
Club  
Hawaii Council of Bilingual  
Educators  
ILAH  
Ilocos Nortonians of  
America  
INCAT Alumni Association  
of Hawaii  
International Filipino  
Society of Hawaii  
Kalayaan Phil.-Hi. Int.  
La Union Circle of  
Hawaii  
Lingayen Gulf Club of  
Hawaii

To:

Senate Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee  
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair & Senator David Ige, Vice Chair  
Senate Health Committee  
Senator David Ige, Chair & Senator Josh Green, M.D., Vice Chair

From: Cirvalina Longboy, President, OFCC

Date: March 30, 2009, 3:15 p.m., Conference Room 016

RE: SCR25, Requesting the Auditor to Assess the Social and  
Financial Effects of Requiring Health Insurers to Provide Parity of  
Coverage for Oral and Intravenous Chemotherapy

Chairs Baker and Ige and Members of the Committees:

My name is Cirvalina Longboy, president of the Oahu  
Filipino Community Council. OFCC is an umbrella organization  
that represents a network of non-profit civic groups with a  
unified vision to improve the lives of our Filipino communities.

I strongly support SCR 25, which asks the Auditor to  
assess the social and financial effects of requiring health insurers  
to provide parity of coverage for oral and intravenous  
chemotherapy.

This is an important action that is in keeping with our  
ongoing resolution to increase civic engagement to do  
something about cancer disparities, which affect Filipinos, Native  
Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders, Hispanics, and immigrants, more  
than any other groups in Hawai'i, because they are at greater  
risk for poorer health outcomes when diagnosed with cancer.

I respectfully ask that you pass this resolution. Thank you  
for allowing me to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

Cirvalina Longboy  
President  
Oahu Filipino Community Council

### Unit Organizations

Magsingal Association of  
Hawaii  
Narvacan/San Antonio Club of  
Hawaii  
Nueva Vizcaya Association of  
Hawaii  
Pasuquinos Association of  
Hawaii  
Philippine Cultural Foundation  
Philippine Nurses  
Association of Hawaii  
Piddig Association of Hawaii  
Sanchez Mira Association of  
Hawaii  
San Manuel Pangasinan  
Association of Hawaii  
San Nicolaneos USA  
San Nicolas Goodwill  
Foundation  
San Nicolas Teachers of  
Hawaii  
Santa Lucia Association of  
Hawaii  
Sarrat Association of Hawaii  
Sarrat International Inc.  
Sinait Nt. High School Alumni  
of Hawaii  
Solsona of Hawaii  
Tarlac Mutual Club of Hawaii  
TPCP  
Kalihi Ballroom, Inc.  
Sadiri ti San Nicolas iti Hawaii  
Samar Leyte Association of  
Hawaii  
Sampaguita/Sunflower Club of  
Hawaii  
San Juan Association of  
Hawaii  
San Nicolas Nat. High  
Santa Marians of Hawaii  
School Alumni  
Santa Nicolas Nat. High  
School Bingao Annex  
Tagalog Association of Oahu  
United Bacarreños of Hawaii  
United Group of Home  
Operators  
United Pangasinan of Hawaii  
United Urdaneta Club of  
Hawaii  
United Vintarinians of Hawaii  
Vigan Association of Hawaii



# **UNITED FILIPINO COUNCIL OF HAWAII**

P.O. BOX 498, Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0498

## **TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SCR 25**

**TO:** Senate Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee  
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair and Senator David Ige, Vice Chair  
Senate Health Committee  
Senator David Ige, Chair and Senator Josh Green, M.D., Vice Chair

**FROM:** Eddie Agas, President, United Filipino Council of Hawaii

**DATE:** March 30, 2009, 3:15 p.m., Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 016

**RE:** **SCR25, Requesting the Auditor to Assess the Social and Financial Effects of Requiring Health Insurers to Provide Parity of Coverage for Oral and Intravenous Chemotherapy**

Chairs Baker and Ige and Members of the Committees:

My name is Eddie Agas. I am the president of the United Filipino Council of Hawaii (UFCH). I submit this testimony to strongly support this bill on behalf of UFCH, an umbrella organization with member organizations from six islands. UFCH membership is comprised of nearly 5,000 individual members. This resolution is important because it benefits not only members of our Filipino community, but also all of Hawaii's people.

I strongly support SCR 25, which asks the Auditor to assess the social and financial effects of requiring health insurers to provide parity of coverage for oral and intravenous chemotherapy.

UFCH has adopted a resolution to address public health disparities, including cancer disparities. We are deeply concerned about Hawai'i's diverse communities, including our members who belong to Filipino civic and faith-based organizations that are represented by island councils. Neighbor islanders and rural Oahu residents are at a disadvantage when diagnosed with cancer, because they must make multiple trips to Honolulu for cancer treatment. As a result, transportation, lodging, and missed time off from work are factors that contribute to lack of access to cancer care. This resolution is needed to provide health care systems, insurers, policy makers, and community advocates the needed information to address these barriers to cancer treatment.

I respectfully ask that you pass this resolution. Thank you for allowing me to provide testimony.

Respectfully submitted,

Eddie Agas, President, United Filipino Council of Hawaii



## **TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SCR25**

Senate Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee

Senate Health Committee

March 30, 2009, 3:15 p.m. | Hawai'i State Capitol | Conference Room 016

To: Senate Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee  
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
Senator David Ige, Vice Chair

Senate Health Committee  
Senator David Ige, Chair  
Senator Josh Green, M.D., Vice Chair

From: Ron Menor, Chair, NaFFAA Region XII

Re: SCR25, Requesting the Auditor to Assess the Social and Financial Effects of Requiring Health Insurers to Provide Parity of Coverage for Oral and Intravenous Chemotherapy

My name is Ron Menor. I am submitting this testimony in my position as Chair of the National Federation of Filipino American Associations, Pacific Region XII which includes Hawaii, Guam, and the Commonwealth of Northern Marianas Islands. NaFFAA is a non-profit, non-partisan national advocacy organization that promotes issues of concern to Filipinos and Filipino Americans in Hawaii and throughout the United States. The membership of NaFFAA Pacific Region XII includes numerous Filipino community leaders and organizations in Hawaii.

I would like to state for the record our support for this resolution. Establishing parity of coverage could significantly promote and facilitate treatment of this debilitating disease as well as provide a cost effective treatment option for cancer patients. This issue is of particular concern to the Filipino community given the high cancer rates among Filipino women.

I respectfully ask that you pass this resolution. Thank you for allowing me to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

Ron Menor, Chair, NaFFAA Region XII