

STATE OF HAWAI'I
OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR
465 S. King Street, Room 500
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813-2917



MARION M. HIGA
State Auditor

(808) 587-0800
FAX: (808) 587-0830

February 3, 2010

The Honorable Colleen Hanabusa
President of the Senate
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Madam President:

I transmit to you a copy of our report, *Study of Proposed Mandatory Health Insurance Coverage for Colorectal Cancer Screening*.

The 2009 Legislature asked that we assess the impacts mandating insurance coverage for colorectal cancer screening using the full range of options recommended by the American Cancer Society. We found that despite the availability of some screening coverage, mandatory insurance coverage would benefit a significant portion of Hawai'i's insured population with cost not barring the implementation of coverage. However, the proposed standard of care should include only the screening supported by empirical evidence as recommended by the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force in 2008. Therefore, enactment of an amended House Bill No. 823 is recommended. A draft bill is appended to this report.

We hope that the report will assist you in reviewing the issues examined. We will place the report on our website, www.state.hi.us/auditor, and release it to the public and press, on Thursday, February 4, 2010.

Sincerely,



Marion M. Higa
State Auditor

Enclosure

c: Carol Taniguchi, Senate Clerk

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STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE