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HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. Ryan Yamane, Chair

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES  
Rep. John Mizuno, Chair

Conference Room 329  
Feb. 2, 2010 at 10:30 a.m.

**Supporting HB 1902.**

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii represents its member organizations that span the entire spectrum of health care, including all acute care hospitals, as well as long term care facilities, home care agencies, and hospices. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of HB 1902, which extends the Long Term Care Commission created by Act 224, SLH 2008 from 2010 to 2012, and delays its interim report to the Legislature from 2010 to 2011.

Long term care is a significant and growing social concern because of Hawaii's large and increasing elderly population. As the frail elderly population increases, the need for long term care will also increase. Long term care can be expensive. The cost of nursing home care, for example, is typically more than \$100,000 annually, and it is not covered by Medicare.

The responsibilities of the Long Term Care Commission include identifying problems related to long term care and developing a comprehensive long term care plan. The Commission is composed of representatives of a broad spectrum of the population. The job of the Commission is formidable, and the Commission needs more time to complete its work.

For the foregoing reasons, the Healthcare Association supports HB 1902.