



HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

RANDY PERREIRA
Executive Director
Tel: 808.543.0011
Fax: 808.528.0922

NORA A. NOMURA
Deputy Executive Director
Tel: 808.543.0003
Fax: 808.528.0922

DEREK M. MIZUNO
Deputy Executive Director
Tel: 808.543.0055
Fax: 808.523.6879

The Twenty-Fifth Legislature, State of Hawaii
Hawaii State House of Representatives
Committee on Health

Testimony by
Hawaii Government Employees Association
January 26, 2010

H.B. 2084 RELATING TO THE
FEDERAL DISPROPORTIONATE
SHARE HOSPITAL FUNDS

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME, Local 152, AFL-CIO supports the purpose and intent of H.B. 2084. It is critical that that Medicaid coverage is made available for Hawaii's most vulnerable population. Hawaii's Congressional delegation has secured a federal disproportionate share hospital appropriation of \$15,000,000 for Hawaii. These funds may only be expended when the state provides a matching appropriation.

The legislature overrode the Governor's veto of a bill which would provide for the matching state funds during the 2009 legislative session. This bill became Act 23, Special Session: Laws of Hawaii 2009.

Providing health care for Hawaii's most vulnerable population is dependant on the legislature appropriating matching funds which would enable the state to tap into the federal Medicaid funds.

Therefore, we respectfully urge passage of this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to submit out testimony in support of H.B. 2084.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nora A. Nomura
Deputy Executive Director