



HAWAII PACIFIC HEALTH

Kapi'olani • Pali Momi • Straub • Wilcox

L A T E

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Monday - March 15, 2010 – 3:15pm
Room 016

The Senate Committee on Health

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

From: Virginia Pressler, MD MBA
Executive Vice President

Re: **Testimony in Support of HB 2575 HD2 Relating to Trauma**

My name is Virginia Pressler, Executive Vice President at Hawai'i Pacific Health (HPH). Hawai'i Pacific Health is a nonprofit health care system and the state's largest health care provider, committed to providing the highest quality medical care and service to the people of Hawai'i and the Pacific Region through its four affiliated hospitals, 44 outpatient clinics and more than 2,200 physicians and clinicians. The network is anchored by its four nonprofit hospitals: Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children, Kapi'olani Medical Center at Pali Momi, Straub Clinic & Hospital and Wilcox Memorial Hospital. Collectively, they lead the state in the areas of women's health, pediatric care, cardiovascular services, bone and joint services and cancer care. Hawai'i Pacific Health ranks among the top 3.8 percent of hospitals nationwide in electronic medical record adoption, with system-wide implementation that allows its hospitals to offer integrated, coordinated care throughout the state. Learn more at: <http://www.hawaiiipacifichealth.org>

We support HD 2575 HD2 Relating to Trauma which provides protection from discovery for the Department of Health trauma care multiagency and multidisciplinary peer review and quality assurance committees. This bill will allow the Department of Health to create a *system-wide* Trauma Multidisciplinary Quality Assurance (QA) and Peer Review (PR) committees to assure the same protections already offered within individual hospitals and health maintenance organizations from discovery. The protections provided by HB 2575 HD1 will allow the benefits of these committees to be applied toward the development and sharing of useful and systematic analysis of trauma outcomes towards the goal of improving quality.

A statewide trauma health system requires continuous improvement and collaboration amongst physicians, nurses, and other health care practitioners to discuss events involving patients. Being able to discuss these events without fear of reprisal is necessary to foster a candid and open environment for quality improvements to thrive across the trauma care system. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



Affiliates of Hawai'i Pacific Health