



Email to: HLTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov
Hearing on: February 5, 2010 @ 9:30 a.m.
Conference Room 329

DATE: February 3, 2010

TO: House Committee on Health
Representative Ryan Yamane, Chair
Rep. Scott Nishimoto, Vice Chair

FROM: Dennis Arakaki, Executive Director

RE: SUPPORT FOR HB 2576, Relating to Immunization

LATE

Honorable Chair Representative Yamane, Vice Chair Nishimoto and members of the House Committee on Health, I am Dennis Arakaki, **representing both the Hawaii Family Forum and the Roman Catholic Church in the State of Hawaii.**

Hawaii Family Forum is a non-profit, pro-family education organization committed to preserving and strengthening families in Hawaii, representing a network of over 250 Christian churches. The Hawaii Catholic Conference is the public policy voice for the Roman Catholic Church in Hawaii, which under the leadership of Bishop Larry Silva, represents over 220,000 Catholics in Hawaii. I also speak today in behalf our community partner, the Catholic Schools of Hawaii.

We are in strong support this bill that authorizes the department of Health to establish and maintain a single repository of immunization records to be designated as the Hawaii Immunization Registry.

Health care for children and youth has long been a priority of the House and you, chair Yamane, know as well as I do, that prevention and early intervention not only saves money but saves lengthy and expensive treatment costs when children develop chronic illnesses. It is far better to prevent the illness rather than providing the treatment and cure. This registry, along with other registries that track immunizations, treatment and prevalence related to childhood diseases, will provide valuable information and data regarding effective prevention, intervention and treatment strategies, especially when dealing with pandemic diseases. I urge you to pass this measure and allow the department of health to establish this registry.

Thank you for allowing me to testify and share my mana'o regarding this very critical measure.

Testimony of
John M. Kirimitsu
Legal and Government Relations Consultant

Before:
House Committee on Health
The Honorable Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
The Honorable Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair

LATE

February 5, 2010
9:30 am
Conference Room 329

Re: HB 2576 Relating to Immunization

Chair Yamane and committee members thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on this bill relating to immunization.

Kaiser Permanente supports this bill.

Kaiser Permanente appreciates that the Hawaii Immunization Registry (“Registry”) will help ensure that Hawaii’s population is protected from vaccine-preventable diseases. Kaiser Permanente recognizes that nationwide, immunization registries like the Hawaii Immunization Registry have proven to be valuable tools for the management and reporting of immunization information for parents/guardians, public and private health care providers, and public health professionals.

Kaiser Permanente agrees that patient immunization information should be available in the Registry without requiring prior patient authorizations for inclusion to facilitate the transferring of the most accurate and complete information to authorized immunization providers.

Thank you for your consideration.



LATE

February 5, 2010

The Hawaii Immunization Coalition is strongly in support of House Bill 2576 and Senate Bill 2729 establishing an immunization registry in Hawaii.

The concept of an immunization registry is not a new concept. Immunization registries are operational in 47 other states and are excellent tools that record and track immunization dates of children and adults.

Immunization registries are important tools for assuring children and adults receive their immunizations according to recommended schedules and can prevent over-immunizing and missed vaccinations. Once fully implemented, the immunization registry will collect immunization information from multiple physician offices and health care plans and track immunization records relating to children and adults.

The Hawaii Immunization Registry will also generate reminder and recall vaccination notices for each child, provide official vaccination forms required by schools, and monitor vaccination coverage in Hawaii.

If there are questions, please contact me at 808-734-7614 or via email at hic@immunizehawaii.com.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judy Strait-Jones".

Judy Strait-Jones
President
Hawaii Immunization Coalition

Our Mission: HIC is a team of health & business professionals, private & public organizations, & concerned community members partnering to achieve the protection of Hawaii's families against vaccine-preventable diseases through immunization education & advocacy. The Hawaii Immunization Coalition is a 501C3 nonprofit organization. Tax ID # 20-2164266. Website: www.Immunizehawaii.com