

# HMSA



An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

February 2, 2010

The Honorable Ryan Yamane, Chair  
The Honorable Scott Nishimoto, Vice Chair  
House Committee on Health

**Re: HB 2829 – Relating to Health**

Dear Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Nishimoto and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Medical Service Association (HMSA) appreciates the opportunity provide testimony on HB 2829 which would require hospitals to report on infection rates. HMSA supports the intent of this measure.

This legislative session has already seen a plethora of measures wishing to gain more transparency from the health care system. Unfortunately at this time each bill only targets a single aspect of the system, such as the one before you today. We appreciate the intent of this measure as it attempts to work towards providing potentially useful information specifically related to hospital infection rates.

However, we do believe that in order for true transparency to be meaningful and useful, it needs to involve all stakeholders within the health care system, not just hospitals. The language in this measure would be useful to be included in a more comprehensive transparency effort and we hope that as the session moves forward, the dialogue on transparency will continue and be used to spur true change throughout the system.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Diesman  
Vice President  
Government Relations