



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Written Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Higher Education

February 9, 2010, 2:30 p.m.

By
Virginia S. Hinshaw, Chancellor
And
Michele Carbone, MD, PhD
Director
Cancer Research Center of Hawaii
And
Jerris R. Hedges, MD, MS, MMM
Dean and Professor of Medicine
Barry & Virginia Weinman Endowed Chair
John A. Burns School of Medicine
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

HCR 18/HR 9 – EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE CANCER RESEARCH CENTER OF HAWAII

Aloha, Chair Chang, Vice Chair Nakashima and members of the House Committee on Higher Education. Thank you for this opportunity to testify on behalf of House Concurrent Resolution 18/House Resolution 9 expressing strong support for the Cancer Research Center of Hawai'i (Center).

We deeply appreciate the expression of commitment for the Cancer Center, which is so very important for the health and well being of the people of Hawai'i and the Pacific Region. This endeavor is a top priority for the UH Regents, UH System and UH Mānoa and has received focused attention from those groups and the many hospital partners and cancer care givers committed to this effort. As this resolution indicates, significant progress is being made in the critical areas of recruitment, partnership formation, and the construction of a new research facility that will ensure we can deliver the most advanced research and care programs in the decades ahead. That progress has been possible because of the State's support and commitment. The resolution's message underscores the value of sustaining the Center's forward momentum and provides convincing evidence of Hawai'i's commitment to the National Cancer Institute (NCI).

Recently we have been able to recruit a number of new faculty members and a senior administrator to enhance our research efforts. These recruitments, in combination with the formation of a consortium with our local hospitals and the UH Mānoa John A. Burns

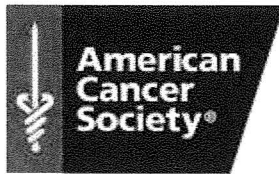
School of Medicine (JABSOM), will be instrumental in the development of a strong clinical program, which the NCI has mandated. This critical step will advance our ability to conduct cutting-edge translational research that can be quickly and efficiently transformed into successful treatment and therapy options for the patient.

As the resolution states, we have also made significant progress in the construction of a new facility in Kaka'ako that will provide unified and expanded research space for our current researchers and help us create an outstanding environment to attract talented new investigators to the Center. Both project management and design teams are in place and we are well on our way to breaking ground on the project later this year.

Our activities were recently reviewed by representatives from the NCI and they were impressed with our progress and with the strong support expressed by the legislators with whom they met. While we all acknowledge that there is much more work to be done, the NCI continues to be supportive of our efforts.

As stated in the resolution, the Center's mission is to reduce the burden of cancer through research, education, and service with an emphasis on the unique ethnic, cultural, and environmental characteristics of Hawai'i and the Pacific. Our citizens deserve first-class, state-of-the-art care that is delivered in these islands by researchers and health care professionals who have a constant eye on our own people. Researchers at the Cancer Center, along with members of the JABSOM faculty, have that commitment.

We greatly appreciate the Legislature's message of support for the Cancer Center and for its investment in a healthier future for the people of Hawai'i and throughout the Pacific Region.



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February 8, 2010

Committee on Higher Education
Representative Jerry Chang, Chair
Representative Mark Nakashima, Vice Chair

Hearing:

2:30 P.M. Tuesday, February 9, 2010
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 309

RE: HCR18 – Expressing Support for the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii

Testimony in Strong Support

Chair Chang, Vice Chair Nakashima, and members of the Committee on Higher Education. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of this resolution, which expresses support for the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii.

The American Cancer Society Hawaii Pacific, Inc., was founded in 1948, and is dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by preventing cancer, saving lives, and diminishing suffering from cancer, through research, education, advocacy, and service. In order to achieve this attainable goal we need to ensure that the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii will continue its research efforts in developing life-saving preventive and therapeutic approaches.

The Center's ongoing research in Epidemiology, Natural Products & Cancer Biology, Prevention & Control, and Thoracic Oncology has greatly benefited Hawaii's people, our Pacific island nation neighbors, and the Territory of Guam.

The Cancer Research Center of Hawaii and the American Cancer Society have enjoyed a collaborative relationship for many years, and we look forward to further collaborations in the future. Together we can win the battle to prevent and cure cancer.

On January 30, 2010, the American Cancer Society Hawaii Pacific, Inc. unanimously adopted a resolution fully supporting Dr. Michele Carbone in efforts to revitalize the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii and strongly recommended a one year extension of the National Cancer Institute's core grant (P-30) to the University of Hawaii.

Mahalo, for giving us the opportunity to offer our testimony here today in strong support of HCR18.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jackie Young".

Jackie Young, Ph.D.
Chief Staff Officer for Mission



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American Cancer Society Hawai'i Pacific, Inc.
2370 Nu'uuanu Avenue
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96817-1714

**AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY
HAWAII PACIFIC, INC.
RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
JANUARY 30, 2010**

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2009-2010 Corporate
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Chief Staff Officer

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Chief Staff Officer

WHEREAS, the Cancer Research Center of Hawai'i (CRCH) of the University of Hawai'i is the NCI-designated center for cancer research serving Hawai'i and the Pacific; and

WHEREAS, Michele Carbone, MD, PhD, has recently been appointed as the Director of the CRCH; and

WHEREAS, Dr Carbone has initiated efforts to create a consortium which addresses the statewide needs of Hawai'i's people; and

WHEREAS, partners in this consortium include the Queen's Medical Center, Hawai'i Pacific Health, and Kuakini Medical Center; and

WHEREAS, the Dean of the John A. Burns School of Medicine is enthusiastically supportive of this endeavor; and

WHEREAS, the neighbor islands welcome this new effort to reach out beyond the confines of O'ahu.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the American Cancer Society Hawaii Pacific, Inc. unanimously supports Dr Michele Carbone in his efforts to revitalize the Cancer Research Center of Hawai'i; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the American Cancer Society Hawai'i Pacific, Inc. strongly recommends that the National Cancer Institute extend the core grant (P-30) to the University of Hawai'i through 2011 because the Board is confident that the Cancer Research Center will be successful in its re-application under the new leadership; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the National Cancer Institute, the University of Hawai'i, and the Cancer Research Center of Hawai'i.

Dated at Honolulu, Hawai'i, this 30th day of January, 2010.

Telephone:
808.595.7500
Fax:
808.595.7502

24-Hour Cancer Information
1.800.227.2345

<http://www.cancer.org>



The Official Sponsor of Birthdays

February 8, 2010

Committee on Higher Education
Representative Jerry Chang, Chair
Representative Mark Nakashima, Vice Chair

Hearing:

2:30 P.M. Tuesday, February 9, 2010
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 309

RE: HC9 – Expressing Support for the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii

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Mahalo, for giving us the opportunity to offer our testimony here today in strong support of HR9.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jackie Young".

Jackie Young, Ph.D.
Chief Staff Officer for Mission

American Cancer Society Hawai'i Pacific, Inc., 2370 Nu'uuanu Avenue, Honolulu, Hawaii 96817-1714
●Phone: (808) 595-7500 ●Fax: (808) 595-7502 ●24-Hour Cancer Info: (800) 227-2345 ●<http://www.cancer.org>



55 Merchant Street
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Tuesday, February 9, 2010, 2:30 p.m.
Conference Room 309

The House Committee on Higher Education

To: Representative Jerry L. Chang, Chair
Representative Mark M. Nakashima, Vice Chair

From: Chuck Sted
President and CEO

Virginia Pressler, MD, MBA
Executive Vice President

Re: Testimony in Strong Support of HCR 18 and HR 9

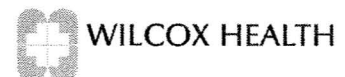
Our names are Chuck Sted, President and CEO, and Virginia Pressler Executive Vice President at Hawaii Pacific Health (HPH). Hawaii Pacific Health is a nonprofit health care system and the state's largest health care provider, committed to providing the highest quality medical care and service to the people of Hawaii 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. Hawaii 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.hawaiipacifichealth.org>

We are writing in strong support of HCR 18 and HR 9, resolutions expressing strong support for the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii.

It is estimated that 1,300,000 people in the United States will be diagnosed with cancer this year, and in Hawaii approximately 5,000 individuals are diagnosed with cancer each year. The mission of the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii is to reduce the burden of cancer through research, education, and outreach. Its emphasis has been on the unique ethnic, cultural and environmental characteristics of Hawaii and the Pacific.

The Cancer Research Center of Hawaii is one of only sixty-five National Cancer Institute designated centers in the United States. It is the only designated cancer center in Hawaii. A state-of-the art cancer research facility in Hawaii will not only benefit our citizens, but will also attract and retain top tier researchers, physicians and students to the state. We at HPH are committed to the growth of the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii.

Therefore, we urge the passage of HCR 18 and HR 9. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on these measures.



Affiliates of Hawaii Pacific Health

The Pacific Resource
PARTNERSHIP



Testimony of C. Mike Kido
External Affairs
The Pacific Resource Partnership

House Committee on Higher Education
Representative Jerry Chang, Chair
Representative Mark Nakashima, Vice Chair

HCR 18/HR 9 – Expressing Support for the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii
Tuesday, February 9, 2010
2:30 P.M.
Conference Room 309

Chair Jerry Chang and members of the committee:

My name is C. Mike Kido, External Affairs for the Pacific Resource Partnership (PRP), a labor-management consortium representing over 240 signatory contractors and the Hawaii Carpenters Union.

PRP **supports** HCR 18/HR 9 – Expressing Support for the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii.

PRP understands and appreciates the difficulty faced by the Legislature in determining ways to achieve quick economic recovery and thus support the construction of the new Cancer Research Center of Hawaii. The new facility will help attract more researchers and physicians; the project will result in the generation of construction and other related jobs that are much needed in our State's economy.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our opinion and we kindly ask for your support of HCR 18/HR 9.



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Rep. Jerry L. Chang, Chair
Rep. Mark M. Nakashima, Vice Chair
COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

February 9, 2010 – 2:30 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

In Support of H.C.R. 18 and H.R. 9 Expressing Support for The Cancer Research Center of Hawaii

Chair Chang, Vice Chair Nakashima, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Art Ushijima, President and Chief Executive Officer of The Queen's Health Systems. I am pleased to provide supporting testimony to the University of Hawaii's Cancer Research Center, the development of its new cancer research facilities in Kakaako and the formation of the Hawaii State Cancer Consortium, whose goal is improve cancer research and clinical care in our community.

The Cancer Research Center of Hawaii (CRCH) is a National Cancer Institute (NCI) designated cancer center – one of only sixty five in the nation and serves a national resource for cancer research and state-of-the-art treatment. We believe Hawaii's population significantly benefits from CRCH maintaining its prestigious NCI cancer center designation, focusing on the depth, breadth, and level of integration among its three research areas of laboratory, population-based, and clinical research. We believe a collaborative model, where the resources of Queen's, Hawaii Pacific Health, Kuakini along with the University of Hawaii and other community providers could be directed to create a state-wide cancer center which attracts federal government support through the NCI and which garners academic and financial support for research and treatment.

The CRCH external advisory board has specified three key priorities in order to maintain CRCH's NCI designation: (1) Preserve the cigarette tax funding in order to expand CRCH's research facilities; (2) recruit federally-funded investigators – scientists who bring expertise and a reputation for advancing cancer research and care; and (3) develop tumor site-specific clinical research in order to advance and improve cancer care.

We very much appreciate that the Legislature has maintained its commitment for the cigarette tax funding in the last legislative session and we ask for the continuance of this funding which is critical for CRCH's new facilities. Tangible progress is being made in the recruitment of notable scientists and we along with Hawaii Pacific Health and Kuakini Health System are making annual funding commitments up to \$2.2 million to support this endeavor. We have actively supported clinical research activities for specific types of cancers such as breast cancer and have seen significant increases in patient accruals for clinical trials.

In a brief period of about twelve months, remarkable progress has been made because of an inclusive, collaborative approach to cancer research and care. We as providers of cancer care are coming together in an unprecedented manner because we recognize that to optimize resources to support Hawaii's cancer patients requires an inclusive, "matrix" model approach. It is also most cost-effective and efficient. Dr. Michele Carbone's leadership in promoting collaboration and inclusion has enabled the dialogue among providers so that we could focus our energies and resources toward the greater good of our patients and the community.

The road to building a great cancer program has many challenges with numerous speed bumps and twists and turns. But the direction today is very clear and focused. We have come together as a community of healthcare providers and professionals with a unified purpose and goal to improve cancer care for the people of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2010 9:51 AM
To: HEDtestimony
Cc: erinann815@aol.com
Subject: Testimony for HCR18 on 2/9/2010 12:00:00 AM

Testimony for HED 2/9/2010 12:00:00 AM HCR18

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: erin rutherford
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: erinann815@aol.com
Submitted on: 2/8/2010

Comments:

As a UH student, I have taken part in research studies from the cancer research center and i fully ussport them and allthe good work they do.