



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Written Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committees on Higher Education
and Health

February 5, 2009, 1:15 p.m.

by

Virginia S. Hinshaw, Chancellor

and

Mary G. Boland, DrPH, RN, FAAN

Dean and Professor

School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

SB 1046 RELATING TO HEALTH PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Sakamoto, Chair Ige, Vice Chair Green, and members of the Senate Committees on Higher Education and Health, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 1046 to address the shortage of health professionals in underserved rural communities in the State through the continued support of the Hawai'i Quentin Burdick rural health interdisciplinary training program.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa supports the intent of the bill only if it does not adversely affect our UH priorities as set in our budget request, most notably in health and safety and repairs and maintenance issues. Addressing these urgent needs is critical to our ability to perform our core mission for the State of Hawai'i. We recognize that you have many priorities and issues to weigh for the state, so the following substantive information on this program is provided to assist you in your decision-making process.

The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (UHM) and the UHM School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene is privileged to provide the home for the Hawai'i Quentin Burdick rural health interdisciplinary training program. The primary purpose of the program is to partner with rural underserved communities, health organizations, and educational institutions to enhance the health of rural communities by identifying relevant health issues and by recruiting students from a variety of disciplines who in the future would provide comprehensive, coordinated, cost-effective, and culturally appropriate services to address the health concerns of rural communities.

The program began in Hawai'i as the Quentin N. Burdick Program with funding by a federal grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Bureau of Health Professions, Health Resources and Services Administration. Since Spring 2006, the Hawaii State Legislature has approved funding that allows the program to continue.

The University of Hawai'i Mānoa and the School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene supports a collaborative approach to addressing the healthcare provider needs of Hawai'i and looks forward to our continued partnership with the legislature and community.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify, we appreciate all interest in the University, and want to emphasize that we will be able to perform better in all arenas and best serve the state with support of the current campus priorities approved by the Board of Regents.

HMSA



An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

February 5, 2009

The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
The Honorable David Ige, Chair

Senate Committees on Higher Education and Health

Re: SB 1046 – Relating to Health Professional Education

Dear Chair Tokuda, Chair Ige and Members of the Committees:

The Hawaii Medical Service Association (HMSA) appreciates the opportunity to testify in support of SB 1046 which would appropriate funds to support the Hawaii Quentin Burdick rural health interdisciplinary training program.

Through the Quentin Burdick rural health interdisciplinary training program, health science students from the University of Hawaii at Manoa participate in seminars to prepare them to work on interdisciplinary teams at Neighbor Island sites during the summer. This program is similar to one offered under the Area Health Education Center which HMSA has provided a grant of \$103,800 to help with travel expenses for up to 25 medical students to perform clinical rotations in rural clinics and community health settings.

We believe that programs such as these enhance physician recruitment for Neighbor Island practices by exposing students to Neighbor Island life, culture and communities and we encourage the legislature to support these worthwhile efforts. Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. We would respectfully urge the Committee's support of this measure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jennifer Diesman".

Jennifer Diesman
Assistant Vice President
Government Relations

LATE

**TESTIMONY OF ROBERT TOYOFUKU ON BEHALF OF THE HAWAII
ASSOCIATION FOR JUSTICE (HAJ) FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE
CONSUMER LAWYERS OF HAWAII IN SUPPORT OF S.B. NO. 1046,
RELATING TO HEALTH PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION**

February 5, 2009

To: Chairperson Jill Tokuda and Chairman David Ige and Members of the Senate Committee on Higher Education and Members of the Senate Committee on Health:

My name is Bob Toyofuku and I am testifying on behalf of the Hawaii Association for Justice (formerly known as CLH*) in support of S.B. No.1046.

This is a positive approach in attempting to solve the shortage of health care providers in rural areas and HAJ wholeheartedly supports this bill. We are also of the opinion that funds should be appropriated at this time in spite of the current economic situation.

I personally have been involved in various aspects of education and training through teaching and providing educational seminars for over 25 years and can vouch for the value of this type of training to assist toward solving the health professional shortages in rural areas.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in SUPPORT of S.B. No. 1046.

* CLH has changed its name to conform to the name of its national organization the American Association for Justice.

February 3, 2009

To: Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair
Senator Norman Sakamoto, Vice Chair
HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Senator David Ige, Chair
Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair
HEALTH COMMITTEE

From: Anuenue Washburn
Wai`anae Coast Comprehensive Health Center

Re: Testimony in Support of SB1046
RELATING TO HEALTH PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION
Description: *Appropriate funds to support the Hawaii Quentin Burdick rural health interdisciplinary training program.*

Thank you Senator Tokuda, Chair and Vice Chair Sakamoto of the HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE and Senator Ige, Chair and Vice Chair Green of the HEALTH COMMITTEE as well as other distinguished members of these committees for considering Senate Bill 1046.

My name is Anuenue Washburn, and I graduated with a Bachelor's of Science in Nursing from UH Manoa in Spring 2001. I participated in the Quentin Burdick rural health interdisciplinary training program during my last year of nursing school, choosing the island of Kaua`i as my training ground. I have been employed as a Nurse Educator with the Wai`anae Coast Comprehensive Health Center's Preventive Health Department since May 2003. I am still currently employed there even though I have lived on Kaua`i for the past 4 years. I love living and working in rural areas. The Quentin Burdick program gave me a valuable opportunity to immerse myself in the place I wanted to eventually live- developing friendships, networking, and learning more about the community. Even though I am not employed on Kaua`i, I gained valuable knowledge and experience working in rural/underserved areas through the Quentin Burdick program that has helped me in the community of Wai`anae, where I am employed.

I support SB1046, a bill for an act that will appropriate funds to support the Hawaii Quentin Burdick rural health interdisciplinary training program. There is a desperate shortage of health care professionals in rural communities across our state and this bill will do much to address this need.

I urge your support of SB1046 and \$400,000 funding for the Hawaii Quentin Burdick Rural Health Interdisciplinary Program. This program has been addressing the shortage of health care professionals in our rural communities in Hawaii since 2000. The program provides the opportunity for University of Hawaii students from a variety of disciplines including medicine, nursing, social work, medical technology, public health, psychology, dental hygiene, nutrition, pharmacy, education and others, to gain experience working on interdisciplinary teams in Hawaii's rural areas.

In the short term these students work with professionals and community members to provide culturally and place appropriate health promotion and disease prevention services for vulnerable rural residents from *keiki* to *kupuna*. In the long term this opportunity encourages students to consider working in rural communities and provides them with opportunities to be recruited to the most underserved areas of Hawaii.

Participation in the program is a significant way to recruit health professionals to our most underserved rural communities. Since 2000, 53 teams comprised of a total 168 students from 11 disciplines have participated. As of the last alumni census report dated January 2009, Of the alumni who have graduated, 15 work on the neighbor islands (7 on the Island of Hawaii, 4 on Maui, 2 on Molokai, 1 on Lanai and 1 on Kauai) and 14 work on Oahu (3 in rural areas and 11 with underserved and/or at-risk populations). These alumni include participants from medicine, nursing, social work, education, nutrition and psychology. In addition, one works on the island of Guam and another works in a small rural community in Vermont. Forty-six participants are still in school and 17 are currently finishing their medical residencies. The remaining program alumni who are still in school have been encouraged by their rural health interdisciplinary training experience to live and work in a rural underserved area upon graduation. A survey of the 2008 students confirmed that their participation in the program had increased their interest in and commitment to living and working in a rural community upon graduation.

This program began in 1988 when Senators Daniel Inouye and Quentin N. Burdick co-wrote and sponsored legislation to fund a rural health interdisciplinary training program to improve access to health care in America's rural communities. The program was funded by the US Department of Health until Congressional budget cuts eliminated the funding in June 2006 and the federal funding has not been restored.

The Hawaii State Legislature has approved funding for the program from July 2006 – June 2009. In order to keep this valuable program in Hawaii, we are looking again to the State for funds to support its continuation in this upcoming biennium (2009-2011).

The funding in this bill for **Hawaii's only rural health interdisciplinary training program** will allow University of Hawaii students from many health disciplines to gain knowledge and experience in working on interdisciplinary teams with professionals and people from rural communities and agencies. **Without this funding there will be NO opportunity for students from the health professions to work on interdisciplinary teams in rural areas of Hawaii.**

Thank you for considering funding for the Hawaii Quentin Burdick Rural Health Interdisciplinary Training Program, an **important and proven program that addresses the health care worker shortages in Hawaii's rural areas.**

February 3, 2009

To: Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair
Senator Norman Sakamoto, Vice Chair
HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Senator David Ige, Chair
Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair
HEALTH COMMITTEE

From: Amy Hubbard

Re: Testimony in Support of SB1046
RELATING TO HEALTH PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION
Description: *Appropriate funds to support the Hawaii Quentin Burdick rural health interdisciplinary training program.*

Thank you Senator Tokuda, Chair and Vice Chair Sakamoto of the HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE and Senator Ige, Chair and Vice Chair Green of the HEALTH COMMITTEE as well as other distinguished members of these committees for considering Senate Bill 1046.

My name is Amy Hubbard and I am an interdisciplinary faculty member and faculty liaison for the Hanalei, Kauai site of the Hawaii Quentin Burdick Rural Health Interdisciplinary Training Program. For the teams that I directly supervised in Hanalei, Kauai over the past five years, I have seen the immediate benefits of the Hawaii Quentin Burdick training program. Not only does this program attract and recruit nursing students and other allied health disciplines to later live and work in rural communities, but during their time in the program, they also directly help these rural communities. For example, in Hanalei, the Hawaii Quentin Burdick Interdisciplinary Training Program students (or "QBs" as they are affectionately known as in the community), design and implement health education activities for elementary-aged children and teenagers who come from Hanalei, Kilauea, and Anahola at the Hale Halawai Ohana O'Hanalei community center. The children learn about such diverse health topics as ocean safety, bicycle safety, how germs are spread, the effect of germs in the family and in the community, the importance of healthy meals, the size of various organs in our bodies, increasing self-esteem, defense mechanisms in our bodies, and physical fitness. The QBs also mentor the teenagers and enrich their understanding and appreciation of health occupations. I have even heard some teenagers in Hanalei say that they are now considering a career in health. Thus, by investing money into this program, you will not only be providing an avenue for college students to be trained in rural health issues and practices in an interdisciplinary team, but you will also be encouraging future college students to pursue careers in rural health.

I support SB1046, a bill for an act that will appropriate funds to support the Hawaii Quentin Burdick rural health interdisciplinary training program. There is a desperate shortage of health care professionals in rural communities across our state and this bill will do much to address this need.

I urge your support of SB1046 and \$400,000 funding for the Hawaii Quentin Burdick Rural Health Interdisciplinary Program. This program has been addressing the shortage of health care professionals in our rural communities in Hawaii since 2000. The program provides the opportunity for University of Hawaii students from a variety of disciplines including medicine, nursing, social

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Thank you for considering funding for the Hawaii Quentin Burdick Rural Health Interdisciplinary Training Program, an **important and proven program that addresses the health care worker shortages in Hawaii's rural areas.**

February 3, 2009

To: Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair
Senator Norman Sakamoto, Vice Chair
HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Senator David Ige, Chair
Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair
HEALTH COMMITTEE

From: June T. Kunimoto
Chair, Community Advisory Board
Quentin Burdick Rural Health Interdisciplinary Training Program

Re: Testimony in Support of SB1046
RELATING TO HEALTH PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION
Description: *Appropriate funds to support the Hawaii Quentin Burdick rural health interdisciplinary training program.*

Thank you Senator Tokuda, Chair and Vice Chair Sakamoto of the HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE and Senator Ige, Chair and Vice Chair Green of the HEALTH COMMITTEE as well as other distinguished members of these committees for considering Senate Bill 1046.

I support SB1046, a bill for an act that will appropriate funds to support the Hawaii Quentin Burdick rural health interdisciplinary training program. There is a desperate shortage of health care professionals in rural communities across our state and this bill will do much to address this need.

I urge your support of SB1046 and \$400,000 funding for the Hawaii Quentin Burdick Rural Health Interdisciplinary Program. This program has been addressing the shortage of health care professionals in our rural communities in Hawaii since 2000. The program provides the opportunity for University of Hawaii students from a variety of disciplines including medicine, nursing, social work, medical technology, public health, psychology, dental hygiene, nutrition, pharmacy, education and others, to gain experience working on interdisciplinary teams in Hawaii's rural areas.

In the short term these students work with professionals and community members to provide culturally and place appropriate health promotion and disease prevention services for vulnerable rural residents from *keiki* to *kupuna*. In the long term this opportunity encourages students to consider working in rural communities and provides them with opportunities to be recruited to the most underserved areas of Hawaii. In addition, rural high school students are invited to participate with the interdisciplinary teams during the summer practicum, thus providing these high school students with a hands-on opportunity to learn more about health careers.

Participation in the program is a significant way to recruit health professionals to our most underserved rural communities. Since 2000, 53 teams comprised of a total 168 students from 11 disciplines have participated. As of the last alumni census report dated January 2009, Of the alumni who have graduated, 15 work on the neighbor islands (7 on the Island of Hawaii, 4 on Maui, 2 on Molokai, 1 on Lanai and 1 on Kauai) and 14 work on Oahu (3 in rural areas and 11 with underserved and/or at-risk populations). These alumni include participants from medicine, nursing, social work, education, nutrition and psychology. In addition, one works on the island of Guam and another works in a small rural community in Vermont. Forty-six participants are still in school and 17 are currently finishing their medical residencies. The remaining program alumni who are still in school have been encouraged by their rural health interdisciplinary training experience to live and work in a rural underserved area upon graduation. A survey of the 2008 students confirmed that their participation in the program had increased their interest in and commitment to living and working in a rural community upon graduation.

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Thank you for considering funding for the Hawaii Quentin Burdick Rural Health Interdisciplinary Training Program, an **important and proven program that addresses the health care worker shortages in Hawaii's rural areas.**

February 3, 2009

To: Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair
Senator Norman Sakamoto, Vice Chair
HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Senator David Ige, Chair
Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair
HEALTH COMMITTEE

From: Dan Hudak, M.D.
Staff Surgeon, Hilo Medical Center

Re: Testimony in Support of SB1046
RELATING TO HEALTH PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION
Description: *Appropriate funds to support the Hawaii Quentin Burdick rural health interdisciplinary training program.*

Thank you Senator Tokuda, Chair and Vice Chair Sakamoto of the HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE and Senator Ige, Chair and Vice Chair Green of the HEALTH COMMITTEE as well as other distinguished members of these committees for considering Senate Bill 1046.

My name is Dan Hudak, M.D. and I am presently a staff surgeon at the Hilo Medical Center. I participated in the Hawaii Quentin Burdick rural health interdisciplinary training program at the Lahaina Family Practice Clinic in the summer of 2000. Participating in this training program solidified my future plan of practicing in a rural setting on the neighbor islands.

I support SB1046, a bill for an act that will appropriate funds to support the Hawaii Quentin Burdick rural health interdisciplinary training program. There is a desperate shortage of health care professionals in rural communities across our state and this bill will do much to address this need.

I urge your support of SB1046 and \$400,000 funding for the Hawaii Quentin Burdick Rural Health Interdisciplinary Program. This program has been addressing the shortage of health care professionals in our rural communities in Hawaii since 2000. The program provides the opportunity for University of Hawaii students from a variety of disciplines including medicine, nursing, social work, medical technology, public health, psychology, dental hygiene, nutrition, pharmacy, education and others, to gain experience working on interdisciplinary teams in Hawaii's rural areas.

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Participation in the program is a significant way to recruit health professionals to our most underserved rural communities. Since 2000, 53 teams comprised of a total 168 students from 11 disciplines have participated. As of the last alumni census report dated January 2009, Of the alumni who have graduated, 15 work on the neighbor islands (7 on the Island of Hawaii, 4 on Maui, 2 on Molokai, 1 on Lanai and 1 on Kauai) and 14 work on Oahu (3 in rural areas and 11 with underserved and/or at-risk populations). These alumni include participants from medicine, nursing, social work, education, nutrition and psychology. In addition, one works on the island of Guam and another works in a small rural community in Vermont. Forty-six participants are still in school and 17 are currently finishing their medical residencies. The remaining program alumni who are still in school have been encouraged by their rural health interdisciplinary training experience to live and work in a rural underserved area upon graduation. A survey of the 2008 students confirmed that their participation in the program had increased their interest in and commitment to living and working in a rural community upon graduation.

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The Hawaii State Legislature has approved funding for the program from July 2006 – June 2009. In order to keep this valuable program in Hawaii, we are looking again to the State for funds to support its continuation in this upcoming biennium (2009-2011).

The funding in this bill for **Hawaii's only rural health interdisciplinary training program** will allow University of Hawaii students from many health disciplines to gain knowledge and experience in working on interdisciplinary teams with professionals and people from rural communities and agencies. **Without this funding there will be NO opportunity for students from the health professions to work on interdisciplinary teams in rural areas of Hawaii.**

Thank you for considering funding for the Hawaii Quentin Burdick Rural Health Interdisciplinary Training Program, an **important and proven program that addresses the health care worker shortages in Hawaii's rural areas.**

January 29, 2009

To: HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE

From: Allison Seales, Ph.D.
Na Pu'uwai Clinical Services, Moloka'i

Re: Testimony in Support of **SB1046**
RELATING TO HEALTH PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION
Description: *Appropriate funds to support the Hawaii Quentin Burdick rural health interdisciplinary training program.*

Thank you Senators and other distinguished members of the committee for considering **SB1046**.

I am a Quentin Burdick Rural Health Interdisciplinary Training Program alumni, who was given the opportunity to train on the Big Island at the Bay Clinic in Pahoehoe. Because of my experiences and exposure to that rural community and the wonderful training I received from the Quentin Burdick program, I decided that I wanted to live and work as a community psychologist. I have now moved to the island of Moloka'i and bought a home, as I plan to practice here. Before this program, I was planning to live and work in Honolulu. My life changed as I gained a love for the rural lifestyle and practice.

I support **SB1046**, a bill for an act that will appropriate funds to support the Hawaii Quentin Burdick rural health interdisciplinary training program. There is a desperate shortage of health care professionals in rural communities across our state and this bill will do much to address this need.

I urge your support of SB1046 and \$400,000 funding for the Hawaii Quentin Burdick Rural Health Interdisciplinary Program. This program has been addressing the shortage of health care professionals in our rural communities in Hawaii since 2000. The program provides the opportunity for University of Hawaii students from a variety of disciplines including medicine, nursing, social work, medical technology, public health, psychology, dental hygiene, nutrition, pharmacy, education and others, to gain experience working on interdisciplinary teams in Hawaii's rural areas.

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Participation in the program is a significant way to recruit health professionals to our most underserved rural communities.

This program began in 1988 when Senators Daniel Inouye and Quentin N. Burdick co-wrote and sponsored legislation to fund a rural health interdisciplinary training program to improve access

to health care in America's rural communities. The program was funded by the US Department of Health until Congressional budget cuts eliminated the funding in June 2006 and the federal funding has not been restored.

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February 3, 2009

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Senator Norman Sakamoto, Vice Chair
HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Senator David Ige, Chair
Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair
HEALTH COMMITTEE

From: Jan Shoultz, Program Director

Re: Testimony in Support of SB1046
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Thank you Senator Tokuda, Chair and Vice Chair Sakamoto of the HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE and Senator Ige, Chair and Vice Chair Green of the HEALTH COMMITTEE as well as other distinguished members of these committees for considering Senate Bill 1046.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide information and seek your support for the Hawaii Quentin Burdick Rural Health Interdisciplinary Training Program, I am Dr. Jan Shoultz, the Program Director.

I support SB 1046, a bill for an act that will appropriate funds to support the Hawaii Quentin Burdick rural health interdisciplinary training program. There is a desperate shortage of health care professionals in rural communities across our state and this bill will do much to address this need.

I urge your support of SB1046 and \$400,000 funding for the Hawaii Quentin Burdick Rural Health Interdisciplinary Program. This program has been addressing the shortage of health care professionals in our rural communities in Hawaii since 2000. The program provides the opportunity for University of Hawaii students from a variety of disciplines including medicine, nursing, social work, medical technology, public health, psychology, dental hygiene, nutrition, pharmacy, education and others, to gain experience working on interdisciplinary teams in Hawaii's rural areas.

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In addition, the program engages high school students from the local rural community in working with the health science students providing multiple opportunities for mentoring

and encouraging the high school students to consider studying to become a health professional. This mentoring can help to develop the future workforce for the rural community residents by encouraging these high school students to consider becoming a health care provider and returning to their own community with skills that will improve the health and health care of rural underserved residents.

Participation in the program is a significant way to recruit health professionals to our most underserved rural communities. Since 2000, 53 teams comprised of a total 168 students from 11 disciplines have participated. As of the last alumni census report dated January 2009, Of the alumni who have graduated, 15 work on the neighbor islands (7 on the Island of Hawaii, 4 on Maui, 2 on Molokai, 1 on Lanai and 1 on Kauai) and 14 work on Oahu (3 in rural areas and 11 with underserved and/or at-risk populations). These alumni include participants from medicine, nursing, social work, education, nutrition and psychology. In addition, one works on the island of Guam and another works in a small rural community in Vermont. Forty-six participants are still in school and 17 are currently finishing their medical residencies. The remaining program alumni who are still in school have been encouraged by their rural health interdisciplinary training experience to live and work in a rural underserved area upon graduation. A survey of the 2008 students confirmed that their participation in the program had increased their interest in and commitment to living and working in a rural community upon graduation.

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Thank you for considering funding for the Hawaii Quentin Burdick Rural Health Interdisciplinary Training Program, an **important and proven program that addresses the health care worker shortages in Hawaii's rural areas.**

February 2, 2009

To: Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair
Senator Norman Sakamoto, Vice Chair
HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Senator David Ige, Chair
Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair
HEALTH COMMITTEE

From: Joint hearing of the Health and the Higher Education committees

Re: Testimony in Support of SB1046
RELATING TO HEALTH PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION
Description: *Appropriate funds to support the Hawaii Quentin Burdick rural health interdisciplinary training program.*

Thank you Senator Tokuda, Chair and Vice Chair Sakamoto of the HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE and Senator Ige, Chair and Vice Chair Green of the HEALTH COMMITTEE as well as other distinguished members of these committees for considering Senate Bill 1046.

I am the Site Coordinator for the Quentin Burdick (QB) rural health training program for the Pahoehoe site on the island of Hawaii. I have participated with the QB program for 12 years and can attest to the success of the QB program. I personally know of 10 QB student participants, ranging from social workers, nursing and medical students that have returned to the Big Island upon their graduation to begin their careers. It is wonderful to see the students come back to where they have had their training, to give back to our community and make a difference in the health care provider shortage. The health care provider shortage is still a major issue; this is why I am asking for your support of SB 1046

I support SB 1046, a bill for an act that will appropriate funds to support the Hawaii Quentin Burdick rural health interdisciplinary training program. There is a desperate shortage of health care professionals in rural communities across our state and this bill will do much to address this need.

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consider working in rural communities and provides them with opportunities to be recruited to the most underserved areas of Hawaii.

Participation in the program is a significant way to recruit health professionals to our most underserved rural communities. Since 2000, 53 teams comprised of a total 168 students from 11 disciplines have participated. As of the last alumni census report dated January 2009, Of the alumni who have graduated, 15 work on the neighbor islands (7 on the Island of Hawaii, 4 on Maui, 2 on Molokai, 1 on Lanai and 1 on Kauai) and 14 work on Oahu (3 in rural areas and 11 with underserved and/or at-risk populations). These alumni include participants from medicine, nursing, social work, education, nutrition and psychology. In addition, one works on the island of Guam and another works in a small rural community in Vermont. Forty-six participants are still in school and 17 are currently finishing their medical residencies. The remaining program alumni who are still in school have been encouraged by their rural health interdisciplinary training experience to live and work in a rural underserved area upon graduation. A survey of the 2008 students confirmed that their participation in the program had increased their interest in and commitment to living and working in a rural community upon graduation.

This program began in 1988 when Senators Daniel Inouye and Quentin N. Burdick co-wrote and sponsored legislation to fund a rural health interdisciplinary training program to improve access to health care in America's rural communities. The program was funded by the US Department of Health until Congressional budget cuts eliminated the funding in June 2006 and the federal funding has not been restored.

The Hawaii State Legislature has approved funding for the program from July 2006 – June 2009. In order to keep this valuable program in Hawaii, we are looking again to the State for funds to support its continuation in this upcoming biennium (2009-2011).

The funding in this bill for **Hawaii's only rural health interdisciplinary training program** will allow University of Hawaii students from many health disciplines to gain knowledge and experience in working on interdisciplinary teams with professionals and people from rural communities and agencies. **Without this funding there will be NO opportunity for students from the health professions to work on interdisciplinary teams in rural areas of Hawaii.**

Thank you for considering funding for the Hawaii Quentin Burdick Rural Health Interdisciplinary Training Program, an **important and proven program that addresses the health care worker shortages in Hawaii's rural areas.**

Sincerely,
Eileen Lovell, MSN, PHN, APRN

February 4, 2009

To: Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair
Senator Norman Sakamoto, Vice Chair
HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Senator David Ige, Chair
Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair
HEALTH COMMITTEE

From: Kelley Withy, MD, PhD
Health Workforce Researcher

Re: Testimony in Support of SB1046
RELATING TO HEALTH PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION
Description: *Appropriate funds to support the Hawaii Quentin Burdick rural health interdisciplinary training program.*

Thank you Senator Tokuda, Chair and Vice Chair Sakamoto of the HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE and Senator Ige, Chair and Vice Chair Green of the HEALTH COMMITTEE as well as other distinguished members of these committees for considering Senate Bill 1046.

I support SB1046, a bill for an act that will appropriate funds to support the Hawaii Quentin Burdick rural health interdisciplinary training program. There is a desperate shortage of health care professionals in rural communities across our state and this bill will do much to address this need.

I urge your support of SB1046 and \$400,000 funding for the Hawaii Quentin Burdick Rural Health Interdisciplinary Program. This program has been addressing the shortage of health care professionals in our rural communities in Hawaii since 2000. The program provides the opportunity for University of Hawaii students from a variety of disciplines including medicine, nursing, social work, medical technology, public health, psychology, dental hygiene, nutrition, pharmacy, education and others, to gain experience working on interdisciplinary teams in Hawaii's rural areas.

In the short term these students work with professionals and community members to provide culturally and place appropriate health promotion and disease prevention services for vulnerable rural residents from *keiki* to *kupuna*. In the long term this opportunity encourages students to consider working in rural communities and provides them with opportunities to be recruited to the most underserved areas of Hawaii.

Participation in the program is a significant way to recruit health professionals to our most underserved rural communities. Since 2000, 53 teams comprised of a total 168 students from 11 disciplines have participated. As of the last alumni census report dated January 2009, Of the alumni who have graduated, 15 work on the neighbor islands (7 on the Island of Hawaii, 4 on Maui, 2 on Molokai, 1 on Lanai and 1 on Kauai) and 14 work on Oahu (3 in rural areas and 11

with underserved and/or at-risk populations). These alumni include participants from medicine, nursing, social work, education, nutrition and psychology. In addition, one works on the island of Guam and another works in a small rural community in Vermont. Forty-six participants are still in school and 17 are currently finishing their medical residencies. The remaining program alumni who are still in school have been encouraged by their rural health interdisciplinary training experience to live and work in a rural underserved area upon graduation. A survey of the 2008 students confirmed that their participation in the program had increased their interest in and commitment to living and working in a rural community upon graduation.

This program began in 1988 when Senators Daniel Inouye and Quentin N. Burdick co-wrote and sponsored legislation to fund a rural health interdisciplinary training program to improve access to health care in America's rural communities. The program was funded by the US Department of Health until Congressional budget cuts eliminated the funding in June 2006 and the federal funding has not been restored.

The Hawaii State Legislature has approved funding for the program from July 2006 – June 2009. In order to keep this valuable program in Hawaii, we are looking again to the State for funds to support its continuation in this upcoming biennium (2009-2011).

The funding in this bill for **Hawaii's only rural health interdisciplinary training program** will allow University of Hawaii students from many health disciplines to gain knowledge and experience in working on interdisciplinary teams with professionals and people from rural communities and agencies. **Without this funding there will be NO opportunity for students from the health professions to work on interdisciplinary teams in rural areas of Hawaii.**

Thank you for considering funding for the Hawaii Quentin Burdick Rural Health Interdisciplinary Training Program, an **important and proven program that addresses the health care worker shortages in Hawaii's rural areas.**

February 4, 2009

To: Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair
Senator Norman Sakamoto, Vice Chair
HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Senator David Ige, Chair
Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair
HEALTH COMMITTEE

From: James Mariano, MSW

Re: Testimony in Support of SB1046
RELATING TO HEALTH PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION
Description: *Appropriate funds to support the Hawaii Quentin Burdick rural health interdisciplinary training program*

Thank you Senator Tokuda, Chair and Vice Chair Sakamoto of the HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE and Senator Ige, Chair and Vice Chair Green of the HEALTH COMMITTEE as well as other distinguished members of these committees for considering Senate Bill 1046.

My name is James Mariano and I am an alumnus of the Quentin Burdick Rural Health Interdisciplinary Project. I participated in this project in the spring and summer semesters of 2003 as part of my graduate social work internship at UH Manoa. I found interest in this project because it focused on rural communities and promoting good health. As a future social worker, this resonated in me. My team was based in Waimea, Kauai working with middle and high school students for a summer health program focusing on health education and promotion. I worked alongside a nursing student and two medical students. The whole experience working with professionals, community leaders, my team, Quentin Burdick staff, the youth and their families was both rewarding and memorable. A few weeks after I finished this internship, I earned my master's in social work degree. I most recently completed four and a half years as a DHS social worker on Oahu working with the Adult & Community Care Services with identified elderly and disabled clients in communities like Waianae and Waimanalo. Now, I've moved to Maui and work as a program specialist and planner for the Maui County Office on Aging. I am now involved with programs and services for the rural communities of Maui Nui (Maui, Molokai and Lanai).

I support SB1046, a bill for an act that will appropriate funds to support the Hawaii Quentin Burdick rural health interdisciplinary training program. There is a desperate shortage of health care professionals in rural communities across our state and this bill will do much to address this need.

I urge your support of SB1046 and \$400,000 funding for the Hawaii Quentin Burdick Rural Health Interdisciplinary Program. This program has been addressing the shortage of health care professionals in our rural communities in Hawaii since 2000. The program provides the opportunities for college students from a variety of disciplines including medicine, nursing, social work, medical technology, public health, psychology, dental hygiene, nutrition, pharmacy, education and others, to gain experience working together on interdisciplinary teams in Hawaii's diverse rural areas.

In the short term these students work with professionals and community members to provide culturally and place appropriate health promotion and disease prevention services for vulnerable rural residents from *keiki* to *kupuna*. In the long term this opportunity encourages students to consider working in rural communities and provides them with opportunities to be recruited to the most underserved areas of Hawaii.

Participation in the program is a significant way to recruit health professionals to our most underserved rural communities. Since 2000, 53 teams comprised of a total 168 students from 11 disciplines have participated. As of the last alumni census report dated January 2009, of the alumni who have graduated, 15 work on the neighbor islands (7 on the Island of Hawaii, 4 on Maui, 2 on Molokai, 1 on Lanai and 1 on Kauai) and 14 work on Oahu (3 in rural areas and 11 with underserved and/or at-risk populations). The remaining program alumni who are still in school have been encouraged by their rural health interdisciplinary training experience to live and work in a rural underserved area upon graduation. A survey of the 2008 students confirmed that their participation in the program had increased their interest in and commitment to living and working in a rural community upon graduation.

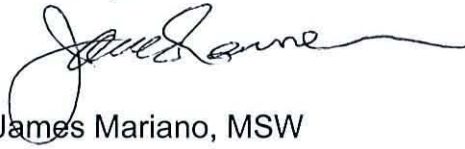
This program began in 1988 when Senators Daniel Inouye and Quentin N. Burdick co-wrote and sponsored legislation to fund a rural health interdisciplinary training program to improve access to health care in America's rural communities. The program was funded by the US Department of Health until Congressional budget cuts eliminated the funding in June 2006 and the federal funding has not been restored.

The Hawaii State Legislature has approved funding for the program from July 2006 – June 2009. In order to keep this valuable program in Hawaii, we are looking again to the State for funds to support its continuation in this upcoming biennium (2009-2011).

The funding in this bill for **Hawaii's only rural health interdisciplinary training program** will allow University of Hawaii students from many health disciplines to gain knowledge and experience in working on interdisciplinary teams with professionals and people from rural communities and agencies. **Without this funding there will be NO opportunity for students from the health professions to work on interdisciplinary teams in rural areas of Hawaii.** Ultimately, the citizens in rural communities lose out on the potential assistance that continues to grow in their communities.

Thank you for considering funding for the Hawaii Quentin Burdick Rural Health Interdisciplinary Training Program, an important and proven program that addresses the health care worker shortages in Hawaii's rural areas.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Mariano", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

James Mariano, MSW

February 4, 2009

Testimony in Support of SB1046, RELATING TO HEALTH PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

TO:
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair
Senator Norman Sakamoto, Vice Chair
HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE

TO:
Senator David Ige, Chair
Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair
HEALTH COMMITTEE

From: Johanna Ventura
Business Manager for non profit Hale Halawai 'Ohana 'O Hanalei, Hanalei, Kauai

Mahalo nui loa Senator Tokuda, Chair and Vice Chair Sakamoto of HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE and also to Senator Ige, Chair and Vice Chair Green of HEALTH COMMITTEE as well as other distinguished members of these committees for considering **Senate Bill 1046**.

I urge your support of SB1046 and \$400,000 funding for the Hawaii Quentin Burdick Rural Health Interdisciplinary Program. I work for a non-profit in the town of Hanalei. While all of Kauai is basically underserved, Kauai's North Shore residents are especially vulnerable to the impacts of inaccessible health and social services because almost all of the island's health and social services are concentrated in Lihue, about an hour's drive away.

For the last several years, our organization has partnered with the Quentin Burdick (QB) program because we believe it is effective in its goal to introduce up and coming health professionals (and students in related fields) to the joys and realities of living and working in Hawaii's rural communities in the hope that a significant number of the student participants will eventually choose to live and work on an outer island.

Each summer, we host a interdisciplinary team of UH students who create a health curriculum for our organization's summer enrichment program for area children. While they are here, not only does the QB team of UH students share health related knowledge with our children, but they also provide excellent role models in a community where "going off to college" is still not really the norm for many families. We value the many distinctive and creative approaches used by each year's team which have also included health educational outreaches to our community at large

Through interdisciplinary teamwork and through shadowing opportunities with professionals in related fields, the QB students get a taste of how professionals in rural communities often have an opportunity to wear many hats and what roles they fill. Students come from several disciplines including medicine, nursing, social work, medical tech., public health, psychology, dental hygiene, nutrition, pharmacy, education and others.

Participation in UH's QB program significantly increases the awareness of UH student participants about our most underserved rural communities. As of the Jan/09 alumni census of 168 program graduates- 15 work on the neighbor islands, 14 work on Oahu (3 in rural areas and 11 with underserved and/or at-risk populations), and over 60 participants are still working towards degrees or finishing residencies. A survey of 2008 QB participants confirmed their participation in the program increased their interest in and commitment to living and working in a rural community upon graduation.

The QB program was funded by the US Department of Health until Congressional budget cuts eliminated the funding in June 2006 and the federal funding has not been restored. The Hawaii State Legislature approved program funding for from July 2006 – June 2009. We hope for similar support so as to continue in this upcoming biennium (2009-2011).

Because it is Hawaii's only rural health interdisciplinary training program, without this funding there will be NO opportunity for students from the health professions to work on interdisciplinary teams in rural areas of Hawaii.

Thank you for considering funding for the Hawaii Quentin Burdick Rural Health Interdisciplinary Training Program.

Mahalo nui loa,
Johanna Ventura
P.O. Box 452, Hanalei, HI 96714

February 4, 2009

To: Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair
Senator Norman Sakamoto, Vice Chair
HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Senator David Ige, Chair
Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair
HEALTH COMMITTEE

From: Tracy Kealoha, MSW
Program Director with Imua Family Services on Maui
Former Quentin Burdick Interdisciplinary team member

Re: Testimony in Support of SB1046
RELATING TO HEALTH PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION
Description: *Appropriate funds to support the Hawaii Quentin Burdick rural health interdisciplinary training program.*

Thank you Senator Tokuda, Chair and Vice Chair Sakamoto of the HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE and Senator Ige, Chair and Vice Chair Green of the HEALTH COMMITTEE as well as other distinguished members of these committees for considering Senate Bill 1046.

As a graduate student in the Master of Social Work program, I participated in the Quentin Burdick rural health project. Through this project I met and worked alongside other graduate students, all from different fields of work. Our team included a nursing student, a psychology student, a medical student, and a social work student. In the summer of 2002, our team was given the opportunity to work on the west side of Kauai, in the rural community of Waimea. We worked very closely with members of the Waimea community to put together a summer program for middle school children who would otherwise have had no structured activity for the summer. Looking back on my experience with the Quentin Burdick rural health project, I learned many skills that I use every day in both my personal and professional life. The outcome of this project is positive: Rural communities in Hawaii have so much knowledge and a “way of life” to share, and students have an opportunity to learn and a chance to give back. I currently work with many rural communities on the island of Maui and am often reminded of my summer spent on Kauai with the Quentin Burdick rural health project.

I support SB1046, a bill for an act that will appropriate funds to support the Hawaii Quentin Burdick rural health interdisciplinary training program. There is a desperate shortage of health care professionals in rural communities across our state and this bill will do much to address this need.

I urge your support of SB1046 and \$400,000 funding for the Hawaii Quentin Burdick Rural Health Interdisciplinary Program. This program has been addressing the shortage of health care professionals in our rural communities in Hawaii since 2000. The program provides the opportunity for University of Hawaii students from a variety of disciplines including

medicine, nursing, social work, medical technology, public health, psychology, dental hygiene, nutrition, pharmacy, education and others, to gain experience working on interdisciplinary teams in Hawaii's rural areas.

In the short term these students work with professionals and community members to provide culturally and place appropriate health promotion and disease prevention services for vulnerable rural residents from *keiki* to *kupuna*. In the long term this opportunity encourages students to consider working in rural communities and provides them with opportunities to be recruited to the most underserved areas of Hawaii.

Participation in the program is a significant way to recruit health professionals to our most underserved rural communities. Since 2000, 53 teams comprised of a total 168 students from 11 disciplines have participated. As of the last alumni census report dated January 2009, Of the alumni who have graduated, 15 work on the neighbor islands (7 on the Island of Hawaii, 4 on Maui, 2 on Molokai, 1 on Lanai and 1 on Kauai) and 14 work on Oahu (3 in rural areas and 11 with underserved and/or at-risk populations). These alumni include participants from medicine, nursing, social work, education, nutrition and psychology. In addition, one works on the island of Guam and another works in a small rural community in Vermont. Forty-six participants are still in school and 17 are currently finishing their medical residencies. The remaining program alumni who are still in school have been encouraged by their rural health interdisciplinary training experience to live and work in a rural underserved area upon graduation. A survey of the 2008 students confirmed that their participation in the program had increased their interest in and commitment to living and working in a rural community upon graduation.

This program began in 1988 when Senators Daniel Inouye and Quentin N. Burdick co-wrote and sponsored legislation to fund a rural health interdisciplinary training program to improve access to health care in America's rural communities. The program was funded by the US Department of Health until Congressional budget cuts eliminated the funding in June 2006 and the federal funding has not been restored.

The Hawaii State Legislature has approved funding for the program from July 2006 – June 2009. In order to keep this valuable program in Hawaii, we are looking again to the State for funds to support its continuation in this upcoming biennium (2009-2011).

The funding in this bill for **Hawaii's only rural health interdisciplinary training program** will allow University of Hawaii students from many health disciplines to gain knowledge and experience in working on interdisciplinary teams with professionals and people from rural communities and agencies. **Without this funding there will be NO opportunity for students from the health professions to work on interdisciplinary teams in rural areas of Hawaii.**

Thank you for considering funding for the Hawaii Quentin Burdick Rural Health Interdisciplinary Training Program, an **important and proven program that addresses the health care worker shortages in Hawaii's rural areas.**



Na Pu'uwai
Native Hawaiian Health Care System
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LATE

Na Pu'uwai Fitness Center (808) 553-5848 • Na Pu'uwai Clinical Services: (808) 553-8288 • Fax (808) 553-8277
• Ke Ola Hou O Lana'i • PO Box 630713 Lana'i City, Hawaii 96763 • (808) 565-7204 • Fax (808) 565-9319

February 5, 2009

To: Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair
Senator Norman Sakamoto, Vice Chair
HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Senator David Ige, Chair
Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair
HEALTH COMMITTEE

From: Judith Mikami, RN, MPH and Director of Resource Development
Na Pu'uwai Native Hawaiian Health Care System, Moloka'i and Lana'i
Site Coordinator, Quentin Burdick Rural Health Interdisciplinary Team Training

Re: Testimony in Support of **SB1046**
RELATING TO HEALTH PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION
Description: *Appropriate funds to support the Hawaii Quentin Burdick rural health interdisciplinary training program.*

Thank you Senator Tokuda, Chair and Senator Sakamoto, Vice Chair of the HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE and Senator Ige, Chair and Senator Green, Vice Chair of the HEALTH COMMITTEE and other distinguished members of these committees for considering **Senate Bill 1046**.

On behalf of the communities of Moloka'i and Lana'i who have both benefited from the Quentin Burdick Rural Health Interdisciplinary Training Program (QB), I would like to thank you for considering Senate Bill 1046 that would appropriate funds to support and continue the QB program in Hawaii. The rural areas of Hawaii experience a dearth of qualified and committed health care providers and when we are fortunate enough to have any health care provider come to live and work in our communities, we count it a true blessing. The QB program would enable health career students to live and work in rural communities (6 throughout Hawaii) for the summer. Beginning with seminars that address challenges of living and working in rural and remote areas, cultural sensitivity to these challenges and other topics addressing rural health, the program prepares interested health career students representing up to 11 disciplines to experience rural health.

We have supported QB students from the program's inception, and our community has embraced these students and the activities they develop and implement for our community. Through the years, there have been sustainable projects such as advance directives for our kupuna, a locally-oriented guide to college preparation and application that includes the ohana responsibility of supporting a student planning to attend college, website development for agencies, and other worthy projects. They have mentored our youth who also express an interest in the health care arena. More importantly, the QB Program is a forum to recruit and retain qualified health care professionals to the rural areas. On Moloka'i, there have been at least (5) students who have returned to live and work in the community they participated in as QB students. This scenario has happened at the other island sites as well. The loss of funding for the QB Program would negatively impact the opportunities that have been established due to the students living and working here as well as the potential influences these QB students would have on especially our youth who need this type of positive mentoring.

We support SB1046, a bill for an act that will appropriate funds to support the Hawaii Quentin Burdick rural health interdisciplinary training program. There is a desperate shortage of health care professionals in rural communities across our state and in our rural and remote areas, such as Moloka`i and Lana`i, and this bill will do much to address this need.

Again, I urge your support of SB1046 and the \$400,000 funding for the Hawaii Quentin Burdick Rural Health Interdisciplinary Program. This program has been addressing the shortage of health care professionals in our rural communities in Hawaii since 2000. The program provides the opportunity for University of Hawaii students from a variety of disciplines including medicine, nursing, social work, medical technology, public health, psychology, dental hygiene, nutrition, pharmacy, education and others, to gain experience working on interdisciplinary teams in Hawaii's rural areas.

To reiterate what I outlined above related to the QB Program in our specific communities on Moloka`i and Lana`i, these students work with professionals and community members to provide culturally and place appropriate health promotion and disease prevention services for vulnerable rural residents from *keiki* to *kupuna*. Ultimately, this opportunity encourages students to consider working in rural communities and provides them with opportunities to be recruited to the most underserved areas of Hawaii.

Participation in the program is a significant way to recruit health professionals to our most underserved rural communities. The data collected since 2000 finds that 53 teams comprised of a total 168 students from 11 disciplines have participated. As of the last alumni census report dated January 2009, Of the alumni who have graduated, 15 currently work on the neighbor islands (7 on the Island of Hawaii, 4 on Maui, **3 on Molokai, 1 on Lanai** and 1 on Kauai) and 14 work on Oahu (3 in rural areas and 11 with underserved and/or at-risk populations). These alumni include participants from medicine, nursing, social work, education, nutrition and psychology. Forty-six participants are still in school and 17 are currently finishing their medical residencies. The remaining program alumni who are still in school have been encouraged by their rural health interdisciplinary training experience to live and work in a rural underserved area upon graduation. A survey of the 2008 students confirmed that their participation in the program had increased their interest in and commitment to living and working in a rural community upon graduation.

This program began in 1988 when Senators Daniel Inouye and Quentin N. Burdick co-wrote and sponsored legislation to fund a rural health interdisciplinary training program to improve access to health care in America's rural communities. The program was funded by the US Department of Health until Congressional budget cuts eliminated the funding in June 2006 and the federal funding has not been restored.

We have appreciated that the Hawaii State Legislature had approved funding for the program from July 2006 – June 2009. In order to keep this valuable program in Hawaii, we are looking again to the State for funds to support its continuation in this upcoming biennium (2009-2011). The funding in Senate Bill 1046 for **Hawaii's only rural health interdisciplinary training program** will allow University of Hawaii students from many health disciplines to gain knowledge and experience in working on interdisciplinary teams with professionals and people from rural communities and agencies. **Without this funding there will be NO opportunity for students from the health professions to work on interdisciplinary teams in rural areas of Hawaii.**

Thank you for considering funding through SB 1046 for the Hawaii Quentin Burdick Rural Health Interdisciplinary Training Program, an **important and proven program that addresses the health care worker shortages in Hawaii's rural areas, such as Moloka`i and Lana`i.**

If there are any questions, please contact me at (808) 560-3653 or via e-mail at jasmikami@yahoo.com.

Mahalo.