

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



CHIYOME LEINAALA FUKINO, M.D.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P.O. Box 3378
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:
File:

House Committee on Finance

SB 2729, SD2, HD1 RELATING TO IMMUNIZATION

Testimony of Chiyome Leinaala Fukino, M.D.
Director of Health

March 25, 2010, 11:00 AM

- 1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health strongly supports this administration bill.
- 2 **Fiscal Implications:** None. No state funds are required to implement this proposal. The Hawai'i
- 3 Immunization Registry (HIR) is supported via a federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- 4 Immunizations and Vaccines for Children grant as well as a grant from the Hawaii Medical Services
- 5 Association Foundation.
- 6 **Purpose and Justification:** The intent of this proposal is to officially establish HIR in the Hawaii
- 7 Revised Statutes and grant the Department and other healthcare providers the authority to include patient
- 8 demographic and immunization information in HIR via implied patient or parent/guardian consent.
- 9 HIR is a secure, confidential, computerized system that has the capability to store immunization
- 10 information for individuals of all ages in the State of Hawai'i. As individuals and families move or
- 11 change health care providers, HIR will consolidate their immunization records, making them easily
- 12 accessible to new immunization providers and ensuring that patients receive the immunizations that they
- 13 need while preventing the receipt of unnecessary doses of vaccines. In the event of an influenza
- 14 pandemic or other public health emergency, HIR will provide the Department with the ability to record,
- 5 track, and monitor the administration of vaccinations as well as the distribution of antiviral and other
- 16 medications. This information is essential for the Department to rapidly assess who has been vaccinated

1 and identify under-immunized populations at risk for disease. This information is especially critical in
2 public health emergency situations to effectively direct scarce or otherwise limited Departmental
3 resources to the populations or areas most in need.

4 The Department strongly believes that an individual's right to privacy and the protection of
5 confidential information contained in HIR are critically important; therefore, rigorous safeguards to
6 ensure the confidentiality of the information have been engineered into the Registry system.

7 Confidentiality provisions have also been included in the proposed bill, and the Immunization Branch
8 has developed the Hawaii Immunization Registry Confidentiality and Privacy Policy that has been
9 reviewed and approved by the department's HIPAA Privacy Officer, Department of the Attorney
10 General, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Immunization Information Systems
11 Support Branch. The Department has shared the HIR Confidentiality and Privacy Policy and other HIR
12 privacy-related materials with the American Civil Liberties Union of Hawaii and has invited the group
13 to participate in the Hawaii Immunization Registry Coalition to ensure that their input regarding HIR
14 confidentiality and privacy practices and policies can be received on an ongoing basis.

15 Per the suggestion of a constituent stakeholder, the Department would like to request that the
16 definition of "Health care provider" (page one), be amended to include pharmacies. The suggested
17 definition would read:

18 "Health care provider" means a program, agency, clinic, health care center, pharmacy, physician
19 licensed under the provisions of chapter 453, advanced practice registered nurse recognized
20 under the provisions of chapter 457, pharmacist licensed under the provisions of chapter 461,
21 physician's assistant licensed under the provisions of chapter 453, or person authorized to
22 practice medicine as a physician or physician's assistant, or nursing as an advanced practice
23 registered nurse, in federal facilities located in the State, that administers immunizations in
24 Hawaii.

25 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.



CORRECTED COPY – FINAL VERSION

Via web@ www.capitol.hawaii.gov/emailtestimony

Hearing on: March 25, 2010 @ 11:00 a.m.

Conference Room 308

2 Copies Needed

DATE: March 23, 2010

TO: House Committee on Finance
Representative Marcus Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn Lee, Vice Chair

FROM: Dennis Arakaki, Executive Director

RE: SUPPORT FOR SB2729 SD2 HD1, Relating to Immunization

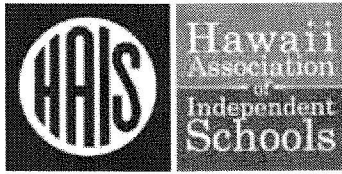
Honorable Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and members of the House Committee on Finance, I am Dennis Arakaki, **representing both the Hawaii Family Forum and the Hawaii Catholic Conference.**

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 Finance to establish and maintain a single repository of immunization records to be designated as the Hawaii Immunization Registry.

Finance 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 Finance to establish this registry.

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



Thursday, March 25, 2010
11:00 a.m.
Conference Room 308

TESTIMONY TO
THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

RE: SB 2729, SD2, HD1 – Relating to Immunization

Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and Members of the Committee:

My name is Robert Witt and I am executive director of the Hawaii Association of Independent Schools (HAIS), which represents 99 private and independent schools in Hawaii and educates over 33,000 students statewide.

The Association is in support of Senate Bill 2729, SD2, HD1 – Relating to Immunization which authorizes the Department of Health to establish and maintain a single repository of immunization records to be designated as the “Hawaii Immunization Registry” in order to aid, coordinate, and help promote efficient and cost-effective screening, prevention, and control of vaccine preventable diseases, including pandemic influenza.

The Hawaii Immunization Registry (HIR) will help to ensure that all of Hawaii’s people are protected from vaccine-preventable diseases. HIR has the capability to store and track immunization information, consolidate immunizations given by multiple providers into one record and make them available to authorized immunization providers.

The Registry will not require any additional reporting by schools; it will reduce school personnel workloads by allowing authorized school personnel access to student immunization information to quickly and easily determine a student’s compliance with Hawaii’s mandatory student immunization requirements.

HAIS believes that establishment of the Hawaii Immunization Registry will protect the health and safety of the public as well as an individual’s right to privacy and the protection of confidential information.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

Testimony of
John M. Kirimitsu
Legal and Government Relations Consultant

Before:
House Committee on Finance
The Honorable Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
The Honorable Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair

March 25, 2010
11:00 am
Conference Room 308

Re: SB 2729, SD2, HD1 Relating to Immunization

Chair Oshiro 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 Registry have proven to be valuable tools for the management and reporting of immunization information for health care providers.

In particular, Kaiser Permanente agrees that patient immunization information is available in the Registry without requiring prior patient authorizations for inclusion, and that any preference for exclusion needs to be expressed in writing, to facilitate the transferring of the most accurate and complete information to authorized immunization providers.

Thank you for your consideration.

March 25, 2010

To: Committee on Finance – Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair and Rep. Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair

RE: Testimony in SUPPORT of SB 2729: Relating to Immunization

Aloha,

Been waiting for this a long time. Started practicing Pediatrics at Kalihi-Palama Health Center over twenty years ago. For the underserved children who needed medical care, holding onto that “yellow card” never was a priority amongst all the other issues that had to be dealt with. Calling other doctors for shot records, waiting for the faxes and checking with the hospitals didn’t seem particularly efficient or effective.

In this age of Electronic Medical Records, it is critical to have the Hawaii Immunization Registry. Without the ready transfer of vaccination information between providers, the system is basically crippled. The functionality of the registry and the trust from the very providers that will benefit is dependent on how well the system works. This is critical from a public health standpoint in order to prevent serious illness.

SB2729 is a move towards a better way to access immunization information in Hawaii.

Mahalo,

Ricardo C. Custodio, M. D., M.P.H.
Pediatrician
Medical Director – Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center
Associate Professor – Waianae Hub, A. T. Stills University Program

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
sent: Monday, March 22, 2010 9:39 PM
to: FINTestimony
Cc: ronaldt@hawaii.edu
Subject: Testimony for SB2729 on 3/25/2010 11:00:00 AM

Testimony for FIN 3/25/2010 11:00:00 AM SB2729

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Ronald Taniguchi, PharmD
Organization: Individual
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E-mail: ronaldt@hawaii.edu
Submitted on: 3/22/2010

Comments: