

Testimony of
Phyllis Dendle
Director Government Relations

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

March 12, 2010
9:30 am
Conference Room 329

SB2770 SD1 RELATING TO REMOTE DISPENSING PHARMACY

Chair Yamane and committee members, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on SB2770 SD1 which amends the definitions of remote dispensing machine and remote dispensing pharmacy to permit the implementation of Act 96-2009.

Kaiser Permanente Hawaii supports this bill.

In 2009 the legislature passed and the governor signed Act 96 which was SB 585 making amendments to the remote dispensing law to permit remote dispensing in rural areas and by HMO's in their own facilities. It has not been possible to implement this law because two definitions are too narrowly written. This bill removes the requirement that only drugs acquired under the federal 340B program be remotely dispensed. Drugs gotten under this program are only available to people without insurance. The intent of SB 585 was to provide better availability of medication for patients regardless of whether or not they have insurance.

We support remote dispensing as a way to have improved compliance with drug therapy because patients will have immediate access to their prescriptions. This secure technology will supply necessary medication when and where patients need it and ultimately improve their health.

We urge you to pass this bill so that remote dispensing can be implemented as the legislature intended. Thank you for your consideration.

**PRESENTATION OF THE
BOARD OF PHARMACY**

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2010

Friday, March 12, 2010
9:30 a.m.

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL NO. 2770, S.D. 1, RELATING TO REMOTE
DISPENSING PHARMACY.**

TO THE HONORABLE RYAN I. YAMANE, CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Dr. Elwin Goo, Chair of the Board of Pharmacy ("Board") and I appreciate the opportunity to present written comments on behalf of the Board. At its February 18, 2010 meeting, the Board discussed this bill but could not come to a consensus. Three members supported the bill, one member opposed the bill, and another member recused himself due to a possible conflict of interest. Two members were excused. The Board will be discussing this bill again at its March 18, 2010 meeting.

Thank you for the opportunity to present written comments on Senate Bill No. 2770, S.D. 1.