

SB2770

Testimony of
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Before:
Senate Committee on Health
The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair
The Honorable Josh Green, M.D., Vice Chair

February 8, 2010
2:45 pm
Conference Room 016

SB2770 RELATING TO REMOTE DISPENSING PHARMACY

Chair Ige and committee members, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on SB2770 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 remote 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.

We believe this will permit better service and access for KP members that will improve medication compliance by patients and ultimately improve their health. We urge you to pass this bill and thank you for your consideration.