

**PRESENTATION OF THE  
BOARD OF PHARMACY**

**LATE**

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE  
Regular Session of 2010

Tuesday, March 16, 2010  
9:30 a.m.

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL NO. 2811, S.D. 2, RELATING TO  
PHARMACIES.**

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 testify on behalf of the Board. The Board opposes this bill that would mandate all pharmacies and remote dispensing pharmacies to maintain prescription records electronically and to be able to accept and transmit prescription information electronically or by facsimile in accordance with provisions of Chapter 328, Hawaii Revised Statutes ("HRS").

The Standing Committee Report (No. 2416) filed by the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection stated that this measure "will improve patient safety." It is unclear as to how maintaining electronic records will improve patient safety as there have been no compelling reasons or incidents to prove otherwise.

If the purpose of maintaining electronic records is so that those records may be "shared" with other healthcare providers, the sharing of confidential information may possibly violate Health Insurance Portability and Accountability

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Act ("HIPAA") regulations or other record protection and confidentiality regulations.

Currently, the Board allows pharmacies to maintain both reference materials and prescription records electronically and most pharmacies have the minimum capability of accepting and/or transmitting prescription information by facsimile. However, to **require** pharmacies to maintain prescription records electronically may impose a financial burden on some pharmacies that may not have the capability and would have to upgrade their current system.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 2811, S.D. 2.