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Rep. Ryan Yamane, Chair
Rep. Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair
Committee on Health

Thursday, Mar 9, 2010, at 10:00 AM.
Conference Room 329

Good morning Chair Yamane, Vice-Chair Nishimoto and Committee members.

My name is Glenn Ida. I'm a Kaneohe resident, I strongly support SB 2919, SD1 Relating to the State Hospital.

The security situation at the State Hospital is very disturbing. From time to time, we have to endure the uncertainty and dangers of escapees from a secure psychiatric facility. We need security professionals with arrest authority to be able to apprehend and bring back patients who are trying to leave the premises without proper authorization.

It is my understanding that some of the patients are being placed there by the State Court System, therefore I believe the State has a responsibility to provide enough security to safeguard the residents of Kaneohe especially since the facilities are in close proximity to the student population of Windward Community College and is next to Kaneohe District park where our children and seniors congregate.

If not, then perhaps those patients should be treated in prison where there would be adequate security and less chances of an escape into the surrounding community.

I strongly support, SB 2919, SD1, Relating to the State Hospital.

Thank you for allowing me to testify on this important matter.

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