

SCR 113

Testimony

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LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU
State of Hawaii
State Capitol
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Written Comments

SCR113, SD1

REQUESTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMITTEE TO DEVELOP A PLAN TO STUDY AND IMPLEMENT STRUCTURAL AND OPERATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS TO INCREASE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION AND ITS REGIONS

Comments by the Legislative Reference Bureau
Ken H. Takayama, Director

Presented to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Wednesday, April 7, 2010, 9:30 a.m.
Conference Room 211

Chair Mercado Kim and Members of the Committee:

Thank you very much for this opportunity to submit comments on Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 113, S.D. 1, concerning awareness of and support for persons with dyslexia.

The Legislative Reference Bureau (Bureau) takes **no position** either for or against the measure, but submits the following comments and concerns:

1. As always, if the Legislature wants us to undertake this project, we will do it to the best of our ability with the resources we have.
2. The Resolution requests the establishment of a committee to study and plan the transformation of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation to an organizational structure that responds more effectively to the needs of island communities.
3. The Bureau is requested (in the ninth "Resolved" clause) to "assist the Committee in drafting its recommendations and proposed legislation."
4. While the project requested of the Bureau by this particular measure appears in and of itself to be manageable, we are concerned about the cumulative effect of passage of a number of similar measures.

5. Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 113, S.D. 1, is one of approximately a dozen vehicles still "alive" that request the Bureau to draft proposed legislation, (and, as in this case, "recommendations" as well) for a task force, working group, or other entity. These measures are **in addition** to the usual complement of measures requesting studies.
6. We anticipate that many of these entities, left to their own devices, will not be formulating their proposed legislation until December or January, thus coinciding with the period of the Bureau's heaviest workload in terms of responding to requests for bills and other work from legislators in preparation for the 2011 session.
7. In view of the foregoing, we request that Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 113, S.D. 1, be amended to request the Committee to transmit its intended proposed legislation to the Bureau not later than November 1, 2010. This could be accomplished by amending the ninth "Resolved" clause as follows:

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to assist the Committee in drafting its recommendations and proposed legislation; *provided that the working group is requested to submit its proposals for legislation to the Legislative Reference Bureau for drafting not later than November 1, 2010; and*
8. We believe that this amendment will help to ensure that the working group's report is submitted to the Legislature in a timely manner.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to submit comments.



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The Twenty-Fifth Legislature
The Hawaii State Senate
Committee on Ways And Means

Testimony by
Hawaii Government Employees Association
April 7, 2010

SCR 113, SD1- REQUESTING THE ESTABLISHMENT
OF A COMMITTEE TO DEVELOP A PLAN TO
STUDY AND IMPLEMENT STRUCTURAL AND
OPERATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS TO INCREASE
THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE HAWAII HEALTH
SYSTEMS CORPORATION AND ITS REGIONS

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO supports SCR 113, SD1. This SCR proposes to convene a committee to plan and collaborate among various stakeholders and potential partners, examination of potential sources of funding of capitalization and transition costs, examination of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation's (HHSC) marketability and potential partnerships, and review of implementation of operational and organizational efficiencies identified in the audit conducted by Stroudwater Associates which was released in December 2009.

The SCR lists various "stakeholders" which now includes Regional Board Directors, HHSC Board Directors, Regional CEO's, the Corporate CEO, appointees by the Senate President and Speaker of the House, a State Administration representative, CEO of the Healthcare Association of Hawaii, HGEA representative, United Public Workers representative, two community members, and HHSC employee representative.

The HGEA now supports SCR 113, SD1 because our organization and a HHSC employee representative were added to the list as "stakeholders."

Thank you for the opportunity to submit our comments in support of SCR 113, SD1.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nora A. Nomura
Deputy Executive Director

From: [John J Barnett](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: [Karen Pellegrin](#); [sharon vitousek](#); [Robert Surber](#); [John Barnett](#); [Andy Levin](#)
Subject: Re: SCR 113, SD1 Testimony from Hawaii Island Healthcare Alliance
Date: Tuesday, April 06, 2010 2:29:29 PM
Attachments: [HIHA Members.xls](#)
[ATT00001.htm](#)

Dear Senator Kim and Committee members:

Re: SCR 113, SD1

The Hawaii Island Healthcare Alliance (HIHA), better known simply as "the Alliance," is a grass-roots effort to improve access to high-quality healthcare services on Hawaii Island. Our stakeholder membership includes business and community leaders, hospital CEOs, FQHCs, HMSA, Kaiser, Workforce Development, UHH College of Pharmacy, SHPDA, County and State government representatives, physicians, and others.

The Alliance is interested in the above resolution, and would like to urge that the reso be approved, with some suggested amendments. SCR 113, SD1 is a positive step forward and worthy of support.

SCR 113, SD1, calls for establishing a Committee on Transitioning the HHSC. It requires community meetings, which is very much appreciated. It also provides that the Committee would have two community members, which is good, but the reso is not explicit as to who would appoint them, nor what criteria would be used to select them. We would urge that there be specific language that the community members be neighbor island residents, since HHSC is so critical to the neighbor islands, and we would welcome a condition that they be members of, or individuals nominated by, community or grass roots organizations which have demonstrated a commitment to better healthcare for the people of Hawaii, such as the Alliance.

We would also like to comment on two other resolutions that are in WAM and deal with healthcare, in case this committee decides to incorporate any part of them into SCR 113:

SCR 122,SD1 has no reference to community input. There is a reference to "stakeholders" but we are not sure that anyone will think of "the community" in that context. Therefore we hope that SCR 122,SD1 might be amended to include a mandate that the committee being established hold public meetings, and that it seek community input. The Summit should be instructed to "seek input from consumers, community members and community groups, including from grass roots organizations such as the HIHA (the Alliance) on the Island of Hawaii..." And if possible, we would welcome language requiring that some of the appointees of the President and Speaker represent neighbor island communities, either our State or County elected officials or members of community groups dedicated to improving healthcare.

SCR 146,SD1 calls for a Task Force that includes "consumer advocates." This is close to what is needed, but the Alliance, as an example, is not so much a consumer advocate as a community advocate. Therefore we would ask for amendments here too, similar to those requested for SCR 113,SD1 and SCR 122,SD1

You will find attached the names of the membership who support this resolution.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

Robert Surber, Secretary
John Barnett, Treasurer

Hawaii Island Healthcare Membership

Howard	Ainsley	Hilo Medical Center
Jeane	Abe	HHSC
Alistair	Bairos, M.D.	Provider, Kona Community Hospital, NHCH
John J.	Barnett	Barnett Consulting Group, Facilitator
Barry	Blum, M.D.	Medical Director, Kona Community Hospital
Tom	Brown	Mass Transit, SAC
Teri	Byers	Director, SORH
R. Scott	Daniels	Department of Health, SORH
Romel	Dela Cruz	LTC
Rene	Dela Cruz	Community
Stephen	Denzer, M.D.	Provider, Kona Community Hospital
Linda	Dolan, M.D.	Provider, Hamakua Health Center
Dan	Domizio	PA, Provider
Christopher	Flanders, M.D., J	Provider Advocate
Michelle Malia	Hiraishe	Hui Malama Ola Na Oiwi
Earl	Greenia, FACHE	Kona Community Hospital
Blayne	Hanagami	Workforce Investment
Barbara A.	Hastings	Communications
Wayne	Higaki	North Hawaii Community Hospital
Michelle	Hiraishe	Hui Malama Ola Na Oiwi
Susan	Hunt	Hamakua Health Center
Dixie	Kaetsu	HCEOC
Shirley S.	Kidani	SHPDA
Harry	Kim	Retired, health advocate
Lorrin	Kim	Hawaii State Department of Health
David	Kowalski	State Veterans Home in Hilo
Vivian	Landrum	Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce
Wally	Lau	Mayor's Office
Andrew	Levin	Retired
Steve	Lung	HMSA
Monika	Mallick	President, Hilo Medical Center Foundation
Jessie	Marques	HIRHA
Richard	McDowell, M.D.	Provider, Kona Community Hospital
Pamela	McKenna, M.D.	Provider, North Hawaii Community Hospital
Emily	Mendez-Bryant	Kona Hospital Foundation
Cathy	Meyer-Uyehara	Hale Hoola Hamakua
Judy	Mikami	
Ed	Montell, M.D.	Provider, North Hawaii Community Hospital
Nicole	Moore	AHEC
Kathleen	Nielsen	County Office of Housing & Comm Dev
Delbert	Nishimoto	Senator Inouye Liaison
Eugene	Nishimura	
Alan	Parker	Hawaii County Office of Aging
Karen	Pellegrin	UH School of Pharmacy
Kathie	Pomeroy N.D.	University of Hawai'i at Manoa
PC	Rajan	Provider NHCH
Kaloa	Robinson	HMSA Hawaii Island Rep

Lori	Rogers	Hilo Hospital Foundation
Marcia	Sakai, Dr.	Dean of the UHH College of Business and Economics
David	Sakamoto, M.D.	JABSOM
Jo-Ann MD	Dr. Jo-Ann Sarub	Pres, Hilo Medical Society
Judy	Steinman	BioTechnoloLegal Services LLC
Paul	Strauss	Bay Clinic
Robert W.	Surber	Healthcare Consultant
Richard	Taaffe	West Hawaii Community Health Center
Nimr	Tamimi	Busines
Ronald	Taniquchi	UH College of Pharmacy
Leonard	Tanaka	Busines
Ron	Terry	SHPDA
Karen	Teshima	County of Hawaii
Araon A.	Ueno	DOH, District Health Office
Sharon	Vitousek, M.D.	North Hawaii Outcomes Project
Gail	Walker	Kaiser
John	White	North Hawaii Community Hospital
Kelley	Withy, M.D.	JABSOM