

**SCR 210**

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LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU  
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## Written Comments

### SCR210, SD1

# REQUESTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE CREATION OF A HAWAII ALL-PAYER HEALTH CLAIMS DATABASE FOR THE PURPOSE OF TRANSPARENT PUBLIC REPORTING OF HEALTH CARE INFORMATION

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

Presented to the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Wednesday, April 7, 2010, 10:00 a.m.  
Conference Room 229

Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

Thank you very much for this opportunity to submit comments on Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 210, S.D. 1, concerning the creation of a Hawaii all-payer health claims database.

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 Insurance Commissioner to establish an advisory committee to make recommendations regarding the creation and maintenance of a Hawaii all-payer claims database.
3. The Bureau is requested (in the ninth "Resolved" clause) to "assist the Committee in drafting its recommendations and proposed legislation."
4. While the task 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. 210, S.D. 1, is one of approximately a dozen vehicles still "alive" that request the Bureau to draft proposed legislation (and often "recommendations" in addition) 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. 210, S.D. 1, be amended to request the advisory 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 Committee is requested to submit its recommendations and proposals for legislation to the Legislative Reference Bureau not later than November 1, 2010*; and

8. We believe that this amendment will help to ensure that the Committee's report is submitted to the Legislature in a timely manner.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to submit comments.



SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION  
Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair

Conference Room 229  
April 7, 2010 at 10:00 a.m.

**Supporting SCR 210 SD 1.**

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii represents its member organizations that span the entire spectrum of health care, including all acute care hospitals, as well as long term care facilities, home care agencies, and hospices. Thank you for this opportunity to comment on SCR 210 SD 1, which requests the Insurance Commissioner to establish an advisory committee to make recommendations on the creation and maintenance of a database consisting of all health care claims in Hawaii.

States have begun to develop methods of collecting and distributing uniform health care information. Comprehensive all-payer, all-claims databases are being viewed as a driver for health care delivery improvement because of the ability to provide uniform data that can be utilized for comparisons and analysis. The data collected can be used for multiple purposes, including accountability of public dollars, payment reform development, decision-making tools for consumers, provider performance comparisons, and targeting public health projects. All-payer claims data collection programs consist of claims paid by all health care payers, including health insurance companies and third party administrators.

This concurrent resolution convenes all parties that have a stake in an all-payer claims database so they can begin to develop it. The Healthcare Association of Hawaii is named as one of the members of the committee, and we welcome the opportunity to represent our members in this effort.

For the foregoing reasons, the Healthcare Association of Hawaii supports SCR 210 SD 1.



**HAWAII MEDICAL ASSOCIATION**

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**Wednesday, April 07, 2010, 10:00 a.m., Conference Room 220**

**To:** COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION  
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
Senator David Y. Ige, Vice Chair

**From:** Hawaii Medical Association  
Gary A. Okamoto, MD, Legislative Co-Chair  
Linda Rasmussen, MD, Legislative Co-Chair  
April Donahue, Executive Director  
Lauren Zirbel, Government Affairs  
Dick Botti, Government Affairs

**RE:** SCR 210 Requesting the Establishment of an Advisory Committee to make Recommendations Regarding the Creation of a Hawaii All-Payer Health Claims Database for the Purpose of Transparent Public Reporting of Health Care Information.

In support

**Chairs & Committee Members:**

Hawaii Medical Association supports this resolution and is grateful to be included in the membership of the advisory committee. We also supported SB2529 as a measure to help provide comprehensive, accurate health insurance claims data collection for Hawaii. An All-Payer Health Claims Database can allow greater public awareness of the costs of health care, allow insurers and providers the ability to compare claims data across the state, and eventually help identify ways to stem the continued rise of health care expenses.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

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