



THE QUEEN'S MEDICAL CENTER

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Rep. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
Rep. Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

February 8, 2011 – 9:30 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 329

In Support of HB 597, Relating to Health Care

Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Morikawa and Members of the Committee,

My name is Cynthia Kamikawa. I am the Vice President of Nursing, Emergency and Trauma Services and the Chief Nursing Officer at The Queen's Medical Center. I am testifying on behalf of The Queen's Medical Center in support of HB 597 which provides peer review protections to HAH's Patient Safety and Quality Committee.

One of the cornerstones of modern medical care is an effective quality assurance program. Such a program must entail a recurrent, methodical and collaborative examination of actual patients and the treatments that they receive, both at an individual and systems level. This will then allow caregivers to identify problems and correct them as well as to improve upon already effective care.

The intent of this bill is to encourage full and free discussion that leads to effective changes in policies, procedures, or practices. In order to encourage open and voluntary participation by provider organizations represented by HAH members, it is necessary that HAH's Patient Safety and Quality Committee have similar protections as those committees formed by hospitals, health maintenance organizations and statewide trauma care systems.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.