

HB 889, HD2



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
P.O. Box 3378  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:  
File:

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH**

**H.B. 889, H.D. 2, RELATING TO HEALTH**

**Testimony of Loretta J. Fuddy, A.C.S.W., M.P.H.**

**Acting Director of Health**

**March 18, 2011, 3:00 p.m.**

1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health SUPPORTS HB 889, HD2.

2 **Fiscal Implications:** HB 889, HD2 allows the department to have access to healthcare associated  
3 infections (HAI) data and publish reports on HAI rates but does not mandate that the department  
4 develop such a program in the absence of funding to support the program.

5 **Purpose and Justification:** This bill seeks to reduce HAI by allowing DOH to access data reported to  
6 the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) and to report HAI rates for Hawaii. The department  
7 may also develop administrative rules to establish additional surveillance requirements.

8 The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has developed a timeframe, based on  
9 the reliability of NHSN, for phasing in reporting of different HAI conditions. NHSN is the national  
10 voluntary health care data reporting system created by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to  
11 facilitate developing methodology for data standardization and national reporting.

12 Adopting the reporting system proposed in this measure will assure that HAI data reported for  
13 Hawaii is consistent with national standards and comparable to data from other states. In addition,  
14 development of the proposed reporting system may also assist the Department in becoming more  
15 competitive should opportunities arise for future grant funding to reduce HAI.

16 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



## COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

### Hawaii State Senate

Senator Josh Green, M.D., Chair

Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice-Chair

Tuesday, March 1, 2011

State Capitol, Conference Room 308

### Supporting HB 889, HD2, Relating to Health

Chair Green, Vice-Chair Nishihara and Members of the Committee

The Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC) – Hawai'i Chapter, after reviewing the changes and additions to the original HB 889, is in support of HD 889, HD2.

Members of APIC-Hawai'i are infection preventionists who work in Hawai'i's healthcare organizations and our primary focus is the elimination of healthcare associated infections (HAIs) in the patients cared for in our facilities. While infection prevention efforts have occurred in Hawai'i's hospitals for over 35 years this effort was expanded in 2009 through a cooperative agreement between all 17 acute care facilities in the state, Hawai'i Medical Services Association (HMSA) and Johns Hopkins University Quality and Safety Research Group. The HAI that was the focus of this cooperative agreement was central-line related bloodstream infection (CLABSI) in patients in the intensive care unit. The methodology that was employed to reduce, and eventually eliminate, these infections was CUSP (Comprehensive Unit-base Safety Program) and the goal of On the CUSP-Stop BSI was elimination of bloodstream infections in patients in the intensive care units. This project has been extremely successful, with many ICUs in the participating hospitals achieving a zero CLABSI rate for greater than one year. And the reduction in CLABSIs statewide has been substantial. This same cooperative effort is now being used to address catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTI) and is being led by the Quality Committee of the Healthcare Association.

In addition, several acute care hospitals in Hawai'i are already reporting data on various HAIs to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN).

This bill represents the efforts of DOH, HAH, Mountain-Pacific Quality Health, and HHIC. It will assure that all of Hawai'i's healthcare facilities will be in compliance with reporting requirements established by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS). The proposed reporting system will also assure that HAI data reported for Hawai'i is done using approved CDC/NHSN definitions for HAIs, is consistent with national standards and is comparable with data from other states.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**Susan M. Slavish**, BSN, MPH, CIC  
APIC-Hawaii Legislative Representative

Cc: APIC-Hawaii file



SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Senator Josh Green, M.D., Chair

Conference Room 229  
March 18, 2011 at 3:00 p.m.

**Supporting HB 889 HD 2.**

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii (HAH) advocates for 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. Our members employ more than 40,000 people statewide, delivering quality care to the people of Hawaii. The Healthcare Association supports HB 889 HD 2, which requires hospitals to report certain hospital-acquired infections (HAIs) to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Healthcare Safety Network. The bill also authorizes that information to be made available to the Department of Health, which is required to issue reports of the HAIs to the public.

HAIs are of great concern to all hospitals, which are making many efforts to reduce and prevent them. The federal government is driving the effort to reduce HAIs. For example the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) has funded numerous HAI projects. In addition, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) plans to have hospitals report certain types of HAIs, including central line-associated bloodstream infections (CLABSI) and surgical site infections (SSI).

The reporting and analysis of HAI data involves issues such as confidentiality, infrastructure, and funding. DOH, HAH, and Mountain-Pacific Quality Health are working to coordinate government agencies and providers to maximize the effectiveness of all efforts to control HAIs.

In addition, the Healthcare Association has created a Quality Committee composed of representatives of hospitals, nursing homes, and home care agencies. The committee has adopted various initiatives to reduce and prevent HAIs and is collaborating with DOH, AHRQ, the American Hospital Association (AHA), and Johns Hopkins University Quality and Safety Research Group. The committee is addressing a range of different types of infections and is targeting catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTI) at this time.

DOH, HAH, Mountain-Pacific Quality Health, and HHIC have worked together to develop a comprehensive bill to provide for federal reporting of HAIs and provide for DOH to access the data submitted and prepare an annual public report on HAIs. HB 889 HD 2 reflects the work of these health care partners.

For the foregoing reasons, the Healthcare Association supports HB 889 HD 2.