

LATE

Castle Medical Center
Wellness & Lifestyle Medicine
Adventist Health

Wellness & Lifestyle Medicine Center
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February 9, 2011

To: Senator Roz Baker, Chair, Senate Committee on CPN
Senator Josh Green, M.D., Chair, Senate Committee on HTH
Senator Brian Taniguchi, Vice Chair, Senate Committee on CPN
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, Senate Committee on HTH
Members, Senate Joint Committee on Commerce & Consumer Protections and Health

Re: Support for SB 1452 with recommendations
HTH/CPN Cmte; February 10, 2011 at 8:30 a.m. in Room 229

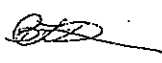
Thank you for opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB 1452. My name is Beth Davidann. I serve as the Director of the Castle Wellness & Lifestyle Medicine Center, which provides evidence-based tobacco treatment services to patients in the hospital, as well as for the general community.

Because of chronic tobacco use, we see patients with a great deal of health difficulties. Once a patient makes the decision to quit, they need to be preparing for a long journey ahead. Nicotine withdrawal, combined with the ill health effects of smoking (depression, difficulty breathing, etc.) makes the quitting process one of the most difficult behavior changes our patients will attempt to do. Those who receive support through intensive counseling and quit aides, such as we provide, have tripled their chances of succeeding. Our community members deserve to be assisted by professionals with evidence-based medicine.

Mandating that insurers cover cessation services as recommended by the US Preventive Services Task Force and mandating that these insurers educate those who are covered will increase the number of people who will seek help to quit. I urge you to make sure two quit attempts per year are covered and there are no lifetime limits to the number of quit attempts. Quitting is a difficult process. Relapse is part of the process. We don't want lack of insurance coverage to prevent someone from quitting.

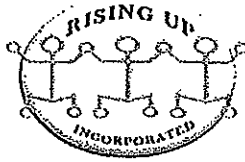
I appreciate your efforts to keep our precious state and residents healthy by giving them every chance to be tobacco-free. I urge you to pass this measure.

Beth Davidann, M.P.H.



Director, Wellness & Lifestyle Medicine Center

Rising Up, Inc.



LATE

Strengthening Community Potential through Fiscal Sponsorship Services

February 9, 2011

To: Senator Roz Baker, Chair, Senate Committee on CPN
Senator Josh Green, M.D., Chair, Senate Committee on HTH
Senator Brian Taniguchi, Vice Chair, Senate Committee on CPN
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair, Senate Committee on HTH
Members, Senate Joint Committee on Commerce & Consumer Protections and Health

Re: **Support for HB SB 1452 with recommendations**
HTH/CPN Cmte; February 10, 2011 at 8:30 a.m. in Room 229

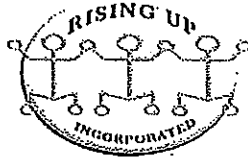
Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of SB 1452. My name is Cara Sadira. I am the CEO of Rising Up, Inc. and the Director of the Tobacco Education & Assistance Program, which currently provides evidence-based tobacco treatment training to physicians, pharmacists, and university students throughout the State of Hawaii.

Over the years, TEAP has provided tobacco treatment services to the rural communities of Kauai and East Hawaii Island. Most of the clients that TEAP served were clients with mental illness or other disabling conditions. These are the clients who are not able to quit on their own. High percentages of them had chronic medical conditions. We train providers to provide treatment to these types of clients, with several diagnoses. These are difficult patients to treat. They need assistance from qualified providers. Those who receive support through intensive counseling and quit aides triple their chances of succeeding. Our community members deserve to be assisted by professionals with evidence-based medicine.

Mandating that insurers cover cessation services as recommended by the US Preventive Services Task Force and mandating that these insurers educate those who are covered will increase the number of people who will seek help to quit.

Rising Up, Inc, is a Registered 501©3 Nonprofit Organization
Providing Umbrella Nonprofit Status to Charitable Community Projects * Tax ID: 41-1731788
Contact: CEO & Board Chair, Cara Sadira, Master of Nonprofit Management * Telephone (808) 557-4838
E-mail cara@risingupinc.org * Website: www.risingupinc.org

Rising Up, Inc.



LATE

Strengthening Community Potential through Fiscal Sponsorship Services

I urge you to make sure two quit attempts per year are covered and there are no lifetime limits to the number of quit attempts. Quitting is a difficult process. Relapse is part of the process. We don't want lack of insurance coverage to prevent someone from quitting.

I appreciate your efforts to keep our precious state and residents healthy by giving them every chance to be smoke-free. I urge you to pass this measure out.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cara M Sadira".

Cara Sadira

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LATE



NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

BRIAN SCHATZ
LT. GOVERNOR

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EVERETT KANESHIGE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION
AND HEALTH

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2011

Thursday, February 10, 2011
8:30 a.m.

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL NO. 1452 – RELATING TO HEALTH INSURANCE.

TO THE HONORABLE ROSAYLN H. BAKER AND JOSH GREEN, M.D., CHAIRS,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEES:

My name is Gordon Ito, State Insurance Commissioner, testifying on behalf of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department"). The Department takes no position on this bill which creates a mandated benefit for specified types of smoking cessation methods. Mandated benefits help some people, but impose costs on other people. We believe this trade off is best left to the wisdom of the Legislature, following the review by the Legislative Auditor required under HRS section 23-51.

We thank this Committee for the opportunity to present testimony on this matter.