

# LATE TESTIMONY



Representative Robert Herkes, Chair  
Representative Ryan Yamane, Vice Chair  
Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

Representative Gilbert S. C. Keith Agaran, Chair  
Representative Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair  
Committee on Judiciary

State Capitol, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

HEARING      Wednesday, March 30, 2011  
                    2:00 pm  
                    Conference Room 325

**RE:      SB40, SD2, HD1, Proposed HD2, Relating to Pseudoephedrine**

Chairs Herkes and Keith-Agaran, Vice Chairs Yamane and Rhoads, and Members of the Committees:

Retail Merchants of Hawaii (RMH) is a not-for-profit trade organization representing 200 members and over 2,000 storefronts, and is committed to support the retail industry and business in general in Hawaii.

**RMH supports the Proposed HD2 to SB40, SD2, HD1**, which requires electronic tracking of distribution of pseudoephedrine or any drug containing pseudoephedrine.

In 2008, in response to concerns about methamphetamine labs and related criminal activity, the Legislature passed Act 184 which "required pharmacies and retailers to maintain an electronic log of sales of pseudoephedrine and related products and transmit the information to the department of public safety narcotics enforcement division on a monthly basis."

- Retailers have implemented the system as required by Act 184.
- Consumers are now accustomed to standing in line, providing proper identification, and signing the log to obtain this effective cold and allergy relief medicine.
- This control and tracking program is very successful in Hawaii. According to the U.S. DEA website, there were no meth lab incidents in Hawaii from 2007 to 2010.

The online website for the Mayo Clinic (<http://www.mayoclinic.com/health/drug-information/DR601759>) provided this definition: "Pseudoephedrine is used to relieve nasal or sinus congestion caused by the common cold, sinusitis, and hay fever and other respiratory allergies. It is also used to relieve ear congestion caused by ear inflammation or infection." Sold under various brands, pseudoephedrine provides safe, reliable and accessible relief to millions of cold and allergy sufferers. Further restrictions are not warranted.

We respectfully urge you to pass SB40, SD2, HD1, Proposed HD2. Thank you for your consideration and for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Carol Pregill, President

RETAIL MERCHANTS OF HAWAII  
1240 Ala Moana Boulevard, Suite 215  
Honolulu, HI 96814  
ph: 808-592-4200 / fax: 808-592-4202