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GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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In reply, please refer to:
File:

Senate Committee on Health

SB 793, RELATING TO HEALTH

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

February 16, 2011, 2:45 p.m.

1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health SUPPORTS SB 793.

2 **Fiscal Implications:** SB 793 allows the department to have access to healthcare associated infections
3 (HAI) data and publish reports on HAI rates but does not mandate that the department develop such a
4 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.

14 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



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

Conference Room 229
Feb. 16, 2011 at 2:45 p.m.

Supporting the intent of SB 793, and proposing an amendment.

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii 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. Thank you for this opportunity to testify on SB 793, which authorizes the Department of Health to issue reports to the public about healthcare-associated infections (HAIs). The Healthcare Association supports the intent of the bill and proposes an amendment.

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.

A bill similar to SB 793 has been introduced in the House, specifically HB 889, which has been heard by the House Health Committee. DOH, HAH, Mountain-Pacific Quality Health, and HHIC have worked together with the introducer of HB 889, as well as the House Health Committee Chair, to amend the bill. The result is HB 889 HD 1, which requires the Department of Health to report certain types of HAIs to the public. Since it has broad support, the Healthcare Association recommends that SB 793 be amended by deleting its substance and replacing it with the substance of HB 889 HD 1.

With the amendment, the Healthcare Association supports SB 793.



COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Hawaii State Senate

Senator Josh Green, M.D., Chair

Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair

Wednesday, February 16, 2011 – 2:45pm

State Capitol, Conference Room 229

SB 793, Relating to Health

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

My name is Susan M. Slavish. I am an Infection Preventionist and Legislative Liaison for the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC) – Hawaii chapter. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on SB 793 requiring the reporting of healthcare associated infections via the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) as specified in the rules of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

APIC-Hawaii is in support of SB 793. It will provide the Hawaii State Department of Health with authorization to use data that is submitted by individual healthcare facilities to NHSN to issue reports on healthcare associated infections to the public in Hawaii. In addition the bill includes safeguards needed to safeguard patient confidentiality by stipulating that no "patient level data" will be disclosed to the public. By using the established NHSN reporting process this bill eliminates duplication of work already done by healthcare facilities and saves the cost associated with designing and implementing a new system of reporting.

Thank you for your consideration.

Susan M. Slavish, BSN, MPH, CIC
Infection Preventionist
APIC-Hawaii Legislative Liaison

green1 - Karen

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
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Testimony for HTH 2/16/2011 2:45:00 PM SB792

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Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Speedy Bailey
Organization:
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Submitted on: 2/14/2011

Comments: