

SCR 8

SD1

From: David Kern [docdavid1@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Monday, April 11, 2011 10:52 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SCR 8, SD1, Wednesday, April 13, 2011, 9:30 a.m. IN SUPPORT

Dear Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and committee members:

I urge you to support this resolution requesting the Legislative Auditor to assess the social and financial effects of requiring health insurers to provide coverage for naturopathic medicine.

Passage of this resolution would address the inequity of many years of discrimination on the part of insurance plans that have not included benefits for naturopathic medicine. It would also help solve the critical shortage of primary care providers by providing insurance coverage for patients to see family practice naturopathic physicians.

Mahalo for your support!

David Kern, ND
Medical Director, Grace Health Clinics, Maui, HI President, Hawaii Society of Naturopathic Physicians

From: Michael Traub [mtraubnd@me.com]
Sent: Sunday, April 10, 2011 4:53 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SCR 8, SD1, Tuesday, April 13, 2011, 9:30 a.m. IN SUPPORT

Dear Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and committee members:

I am Michael Traub, ND, Legislative Committee Chairperson for the Hawaii Society of Naturopathic Physicians (HSNP). On behalf of the HSNP, I urge you to support this resolution requesting the Legislative Auditor to assess the social and financial effects of requiring health insurers to provide coverage for naturopathic medicine.

You have previously heard and approved SB122, which, in its original form, attempted to mandate such coverage. SB122_SD1 crossed over to the House, in an amended form, and the HSNP asked that the House Committee on Health not hear the bill when we learned that there was a risk it could be used as a vehicle by opponents to amend it and repeal sections of HRS 455 pertaining to the naturopathic formulary.

Consequently, this resolution is necessary to bring the matter of insurance coverage for naturopathic medicine back to the legislature next year. Once the federal Affordable Care Act is fully implemented in 2014, insurers will be required to cover naturopathic medical services. It is in the best interest of the State to begin the process now by investigating the impact of mandating insurance coverage for naturopathic care instead of waiting for a federal mandate to impose coverage later.

Passage of this resolution would also address the inequity of many years of discrimination on the part of insurance plans that have not included benefits for naturopathic medicine. It would also help solve the critical shortage of primary care providers by providing insurance coverage for patients to see naturopathic physicians.

Mahalo.

Michael Traub ND
Medical Director

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From: Allison Bachlet [drallisonbachlet@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, April 11, 2011 12:48 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: please support Naturopathic Medicine

Dear Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and committee members:

Hello there. I am writing to ask you to support the resolution that requests the Legislative Auditor to assess the social and financial effects of requiring health insurers to provide coverage for Naturopathic Medicine.

I am a Naturopathic Physician in the state of Hawaii and believe that requiring health insurance companies to recognize NDs as providers would greatly serve to benefit the population of Hawaii. I am continually frustrated and saddened at having to turn away patients who wish to utilize my services but whose insurance will not cover them. Naturopathic Medicine offers alternatives to high cost pharmaceuticals and a preventative approach to many of the chronic diseases Americans face today. I truly believe that the health of the state will greatly improve when the unique skills of Naturopathic Physicians are recognized and used to the greatest advantage.

Thank you,
Dr. Allison Bachlet

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Dr. Allison Bachlet PhD, ND
Clinical Nutrition & Naturopathic Medicine
Manakai O Malama Integrative Health Care
932 Ward Avenue, 6th Floor
Honolulu, HI, 96814
Clinic: 808-535-5555
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website: www.drallisonbachlet.com

Committee on Ways and Means
April 13, 2011 at 9:30 am - Room 211
Re: SCR-8, Support

Dear Sen. Ige, Chair, Sen. Kidani, Vice Chair and Committee members:

I am a naturopathic physician. Please request the auditor assess the social and financial effects of requiring health insurers to provide coverage for naturopathic medicine.

I believe an audit will find that requiring health insurers to provide coverage for naturopathic medicine will have social and financial benefits to the people who live in the State of Hawai'i. Naturopathic medicine is helpful and cost effective for a wide range of health conditions.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Darrow Hand, ND
Honolulu, HI

Dr. Ian Cholewa, ND
Natural Health Clinic

Comments by Senator Roz Baker, Chair of the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
Measure-SCR 8, SD 1

Date-Wednesday April 13, 2011

Time-2:30 pm

Place: Conference room 211

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

Notice on Decision Making

Committee on Ways and Means

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair

Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

Testimony in support of Measure-SCR 8, SD 1

My name is Dr. Ian Cholewa. I have been in active practice in south Maui since 2002. I am writing in support of Measure-SCR 8, SD 1. Lack of insurance coverage for naturopathic medical care prevents many people from getting the help they seek and desperately need. Naturopathic medicine provides effective solutions to many health problems that are not available through other medical professionals. Comprehensive insurance coverage for naturopathic medical care would alleviate suffering and contribute to better health and well being of the Maui community. Because naturopathic physicians emphasize prevention and the importance of personal responsibility in health and healing, easier access to naturopathic medical care will help to cut health care costs.

In Good Health,

Ian Cholewa, ND

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2011 3:13 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: doctor.katalina@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SCR8 on 4/13/2011 9:30:00 AM

Testimony for WAM 4/13/2011 9:30:00 AM SCR8

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: k McGlone
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: doctor.katalina@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/12/2011

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2011 3:48 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: littlelongon@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SCR8 on 4/13/2011 9:30:00 AM

Testimony for WAM 4/13/2011 9:30:00 AM SCR8

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Miles Greenberg
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: littlelongon@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 4/12/2011

Comments:

Please support this vital issue. Demand for professional natural medicine is growing exponentially. We are overdue in integrating naturopathic medicine into our health care system. The Prepaid Healthcare Act requires insurers to cover licensed physician yet naturopathic physicians are not included.