
From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, April 01, 2011 9:24 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: smokefreeatpath@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HB129 on 4/1/2011 9:00:00 AM

L A T E

Testimony for WAM 4/1/2011 9:00:00 AM HB129

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Helen P Bressler
Organization: Path Clinic
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: smokefreeatpath@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/1/2011

Comments:

I have been involved with the Path Clinic for almost 18 months; initially as a relapse prevention group faciliator and then as the dedicated smoking cessation counselor. The feedback I have received from Path's clients are that Path has provided health and social support which they feel they would not be able to get anywhere else. Moreover, many women have stated that if it weren't for Path it would be doubtful if they would be receiving perinatal care. Also, many have stated that because of Path they feel better able to cope with the challenges of pregnancy and parenting. Ultimately, many women at Path have either stopped using substances or have greatly reduced. The costs of providing health care to pregnant and postpartum women who use, and their infant has not been estimated; yet with the majority of the women seen at Path being on subsidized health care it is logical to assume the cost of maintaining Path outweighs the economic burden of substance use related health and social care.

With the greatest of respect, Helen P Bressler RN.