



# THE QUEEN'S MEDICAL CENTER

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Senator David Y. Ige, Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair  
**COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS**

L A T E

March 30, 2011 – 9:30 a.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

**RE: HB 1330 HD1 SD1, Relating to the Hawaii Tobacco Settlement Special Fund – Support, Request Amendment**

Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani and Members of the Committee:

My name is Sharlene Tsuda, Vice President, Community Development of The Queen's Health Systems. We support this measure; however, we would like to request that this bill be amended to the original language of HB 1330, which maintains the current funding level and extends the sunset date in Act 264, relating to tobacco fund settlement, for continued use by the John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM). Decreased funding to JABSOM may result in program cuts.

Queen's is the largest private tertiary care hospital in the State of Hawaii offering specialized care in the areas of cardiology, neuroscience, orthopedics, behavioral health, oncology, women's health, emergency services and trauma. Queen's has the largest number of physicians, nurses, and other professional and technical staff in the state supporting the people of Hawaii.

We recognize that education and research are key ingredients in providing excellent patient care. Queen's has a longstanding history of supporting healthcare education and training in Hawaii and is home to a number of residency programs offered in conjunction with JABSOM. Many of the physicians practicing at Queen's today received their education at JABSOM. As medical knowledge, innovation and technology continue to expand, the capability to prepare future physicians for practice here in Hawaii will become increasingly important.

The Queen's Health Systems and The Queen's Medical Center are committed to our partnership with the John A. Burns School of Medicine and look forward to continued collaboration to meet the patient care, education, and research needs of our community.

While Queen's appreciates the Legislature's budgetary challenges, we urge you to amend this measure and respectfully ask the Legislature's consideration of the positive community benefit that a fully-operational John A. Burns School of Medicine brings to Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written comments.