

# LATE TESTIMONY

January 30, 2012

Representative Angus McKelvey, Chair  
Committee on Economic Revitalization & Business

Representative Ryan I. Yamane, Chair  
Committee on Health

**Re: HB 1896 – Relating to Health Insurance; Medical Loss Ratio; Rate Regulation**

Dear Chairs McKelvey and Yamane:

My name is Howard Lee and I am the President and CEO of UHA (University Health Alliance), a Mutual Benefit Society licensed to business in the State of Hawaii. The majority of our policies represent small business owners who depend on us for affordable premiums and a competitive product. Our mission and vision is to protect our members from financial harm and to improve the quality of healthcare delivered in Hawaii.

UHA appreciates the opportunity testify in **opposition** to HB 1896 which would make it difficult for small carriers like us to compete against the largest carrier in the State. This bill not only encourages less competition and jeopardizes our financial stability, but it also discourages plans from trying to reduce medical cost and therefore control the increasing rate of health insurance premiums. We also oppose a requirement that differs from the Federal requirement that took place in 2011, one which was well debated to ensure a competitive market.

We would respectfully request the Committee see fit to not pass this measure. Thank you for the opportunity to testify today.

Sincerely,

Howard Lee  
President & CEO

