

### STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

P. O. Box 339 Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

February 2, 2012

TO:

The Honorable John M. Mizuno, Chair

House Committee on Human Services

The Honorable Ryan I. Yamane, Chair

House Committee on Health

FROM:

Patricia McManaman, Director

SUBJECT:

**H.B. 2115 - RELATING TO CANCER** 

Hearing:

Thursday, February 2, 2012; 10:00 a.m. Conference Room 329, State Capitol

<u>PURPOSE</u>: The purpose of this bill is to establish a colorectal cancer screening program to assist individuals with the detection and care of colorectal cancer and appropriates funds for the program.

<u>DEPARTMENT'S POSITION</u>: The Department of Human Services supports the intent and understands the importance of colorectal cancer screening to detect and provide treatment. Given the fragile state of Hawaii's economy, however, we are unable to support the appropriation.

The Department agrees that outreach and education about colorectal cancer and early detection are important factors in treating the disease. Screening and treatment for colorectal

cancer is a covered benefit under both the QUEST and QExA plans if detected. The health plans also emphasize preventive care and encourage screenings as appropriate.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE



LORETTA J. FUDDY, A.C.S.W., M.P.H. DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

In reply, please refer to:

## HOUSE COMMITTEES ON HUMAN SERVICE AND HEALTH

#### **HB 2115, RELATING TO CANCER**

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

#### February 2, 2012 10:00 A.M.

- 1 Department's Position: The Department of Health (DOH) offers comments and appreciates the
- 2 recognition of using the Hawaii Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) as a model for
- 3 the proposed Hawaii Colorectal Cancer Screening Program (HCCSP) within Department of Human
- 4 Services (DHS). DOH respectfully opposes the measure and defers to DHS on the proposed
- 5 appropriation.
- 6 Fiscal Implications: Appropriated out the of the general fund, the sum of \$200,000 or so much thereof
- as may be necessary for fiscal year 2012-2013 for the establishment of the Hawaii colorectal cancer
- 8 screening program to the DHS.
- 9 Purpose and Justification: The Department of Health (DOH) recognizes the importance of screening
- and early detection. Cancer is the second leading cause of death in Hawaii, and colorectal cancer is the
- second (following lung) in the number of total cancer deaths in the state. DOH through the
- 12 Comprehensive Cancer Control Program (CCCP) will continue to work with partners, including DHS,
- on the prevention and early detection of colorectal cancer. However, we defer to DHS for the fiscal
- implications of the bill.
- 15 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



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February 2, 2012

The Honorable John M. Mizuno, Chair The Honorable Ryan I. Yamane, Chair

House Committees on Human Services and Health

Re: HB 2115 - Relating to Cancer

Dear Chair Mizuno, Chair Yamane, and Members of the Committees:

The Hawaii Medical Service Association (HMSA) appreciates the opportunity to testify in support of HB 2115, which establishes the Hawaii colorectal cancer screening program.

Studies have shown that the most efficient way of detecting precancerous growths are through screening tests and that early detection is key. HMSA supports the establishment of a program to facilitate early detection of colorectal cancer and support those uninsured individuals who have been diagnosed. Such detection programs are essential for those individuals who otherwise may not be tested.

We support the objective of HB 2115 and believe that its passage will help to improve survival rates of colorectal cancer. We kindly ask for your consideration in passing HB 2115. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Diesman Vice President

**Government Relations** 



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February 1, 2012

House Committee on Human Services Representative John Mizuno, Chair Representative Jo Jordan, Vice Chair

House Committee on Health Representative Ryan Yamane, Chair Representative Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

#### Hearing:

State Capitol Room 329 February 2, 2012, 10:00 a.m.

#### **HB 2115 – Relating to Cancer**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 2115, which appropriates state funds to establish the colorectal cancer screening program.

The American Cancer Society is the nationwide, community-based, voluntary health organization dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by preventing cancer, saving lives, and diminishing suffering from cancer, through research, education, advocacy, and service.

Prevention and early detection are major factors in lessening the impact of colorectal cancer in our State. Reducing the number of deaths from colorectal cancer depends on detecting and removing precancerous colorectal polyps, as well as detecting and treating the cancer in its early stages. This can be done with comprehensive screening programs designed to address individuals and groups who are high risk or who are likely to miss screenings due to inadequate insurance coverage.

While colorectal cancer has a higher incidence in men, women are still at risk. There are many factors that contribute to the colorectal cancer including heredity and family history, smoking, diet, physical inactivity, and alcohol consumption.

The fight against cancer begins with focus on prevention through education and outreach. This measure also provides for outreach to underserved and high risk populations. We believe that

American Cancer Society Hawai'i Pacific, Inc., 2370 Nu'uanu Avenue, Honolulu, Hawaii 96817-1714

•Phone: (808) 595-7500 •Fax: (808) 595-7502 •24-Hour Cancer Info: (800) 227-2345 •http://www.cancer.org

this comprehensive approach will have a greater impact in reaching those at a higher risk for colorectal cancer. For these reasons, we encourage this committee to move the bill forward.

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to provide this testimony on this measure.

Sincerely,

**Cory Chun** 

**Government Relations Director**