



Hawaii Association of Health Plans

February 13, 2012

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

House Committees on Human Services and Health

**Re: HB 2535 – Relating to Psychotropic Medications in Medicaid**

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

My name is Richard Jackson and I am chair of the Public Policy Committee of the Hawaii Association of Health Plans (“HAHP”). HAHP is a non-profit organization consisting of eight (8) member organizations: AlohaCare, HMAA, HMSA, HWMG, Kaiser Permanente, MDX Hawai‘i, UHA, and UnitedHealthcare. Our mission is to promote initiatives aimed at improving the overall health of Hawaii. HAHP is also active participants in the legislative process. Before providing any testimony, all HAHP member organizations must be in unanimous agreement of the statement or position.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 2535 which would make permanent the changes of Act 205, SLH 2010, which ensures that QUEST members have access to psychotropic medications at a reasonable cost. HAHP supports this measure and its intent.

The result of Act 205 has been beneficial for both patients and health plans – patients receive the medications that they need, but are able to utilize a generic equivalent or comparatively effective generic medication if available. We believe that by passing HB 2535, QUEST plans will be able to offer members who take psychotropic medications a greater quality of service. It will also ensure that patients have access to the medications they need in order to best manage their conditions.

Thank you for allowing us to testify in support of HB 2535.

Sincerely,

Richard Jackson  
Chair, Public Policy Committee

**LATE**  
**Testimony**

Testimony for HUS/HLT 2/13/2012 11:00:00 AM HB2535

Conference room: 329  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Sylvia Ching  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [sching35@gmail.com](mailto:sching35@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments: