



Hawaii Association of Health Plans

February 7, 2011

The Honorable Ryan Yamane, Chair  
The Honorable John Mizuno, Chair  
House Committees on Health and Human Services

**Re: HB 326 – Relating to Health**

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

My name is Howard Lee and I am President of the Hawaii Association of Health Plans (“HAHP”). HAHP is a non-profit organization consisting of eight (8) member organizations:

|                                       |                            |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| AlohaCare                             | Kaiser Permanente          |
| Hawaii Medical Assurance Association  | MDX Hawai'i                |
| HMSA                                  | University Health Alliance |
| Hawaii-Western Management Group, Inc. | UnitedHealthcare           |

Our mission is to promote initiatives aimed at improving the overall health of Hawaii. We are also active participants in the legislative process. Before providing any testimony at a Legislative hearing, all HAHP member organizations must be in unanimous agreement of the statement or position.

HAHP appreciates the opportunity to testify in support of HB 326 which would provide for QUEST members to receive telehealth services through a medical van in Kona.

HAHP membership includes health plans which contract with the state to provide QUEST services. The Big Island of Hawaii's geography and sparsely distributed population may translate into barriers to care for some. Bringing access to medical care to the neediest of populations via a mobile medical van makes sense to assist in improving the overall health of rural underserved populations. We would respectfully request the Committees see fit to pass this measure today. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

Howard Lee  
President