



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P.O. Box 3378
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:
File:

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

HCR0016, REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO ESTABLISH A STATE HEALTH PLAN INITIATIVE TO REDUCE THE OCCURRENCES OF CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE IN HAWAII

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

February 24, 2012
9:15AM, Room 329

1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health (DOH) supports the intent as we feel this measure
2 is unnecessary.

3 **Fiscal Implications:** None.

4 **Purpose and Justification:** The Department of Health acknowledges the importance of Chronic
5 Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) as a serious progressive lung disease that makes breathing
6 difficult. COPD has become the third leading cause of death, illness, and disability in the United States.
7 Tobacco use is a key factor in the development and progression of COPD, but asthma, exposure to air
8 pollutants in the home and workplace, genetic factors, and respiratory infections also play contributing
9 roles. In the US, more than 12 million adults have been diagnosed with the disease. However, data
10 from national health surveys suggest that many more Americans are affected.

11 DOH has actively pursued supportive measures to include COPD in its chronic disease initiatives
12 through the purchase and addition of surveillance measures in the Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance
13 System, creating a COPD Burden Report, and supporting the COPD Coalition's community efforts
14 through the Tobacco Prevention and Education and Asthma Control Programs. Further, the COPD

1 Coalition participated and provided input to both the statewide tobacco control and asthma strategic
2 plans.

3 The programs in DOH's Chronic Disease Control and Management Branch are funded by the
4 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) through federal grants. COPD has yet to be
5 designated as a categorical federally funded program. Without additional resources it would be difficult
6 to establish a COPD program.

7 At this time, DOH will continue to support the efforts of the COPD Coalition through
8 surveillance, policy, training and technical assistance.

9 Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Oahu
650 Iwilei Road, Suite 208
Honolulu, HI 96817
Tel: (808) 537-5966
Fax: (808) 537-5971
www.lung@ala-hawaii.org

Maui
95 Mahalani Street
Wailuku, HI 96793
Tel: (808) 244-5110
Fax: (808) 242-9041

Hawaii
39 Ululani Street
Hilo, HI 96720
Tel: (808) 935-1206
Fax: (808) 935-7474

Hawaii Director
Lorraine Leslie

**Breathe Concert
Honorary Chair**
Michael J. Chun, Ph. D.

Chair:
Douglas Q.L. Yee

Leadership Council
Diane Ako
Mary Browne
Steven Businger, Ph.D.
Sherri Bulkley
Kenny Choi
Cathy Foy-Mahi
Dr. Reid K. Ikeda, MD
Malcolm T. Koga
Aaron Mahi
Gina Mangieri
Ron Sanderson, DrPH,
Lisa Soong
Steve Wilson
James Wong
Sterling Q.L. Yee

Lung HelpLine
1-800- LUNG-USA
(586-4872)

**Improving Life
One Breath at a Time**
Founded in 1904, the
American Lung Association
includes affiliated associations
throughout the U.S.



February 23, 2012

To: Representative Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
Members, House Committee on Health
Re: **HR 10** - Requesting the Department of Health to establish a Sate Health Plan initiative to reduce the occurrence of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease in Hawaii.

I am the Hawaii Director for American Lung Association in Hawaii; our mission is to saves lives by improving lung health and preventing lung disease which includes protecting the air we all breathe.

The American Lung Association in Hawaii is working hard to reduce the number individuals who develop the diseases (emphysema and chronic bronchitis) that make up Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD). We know that higher cigarette taxes, comprehensive smoke free indoor air laws and fully funded tobacco prevention and cessation programs will reduce the number of cigarette smokers and will help decrease the number of people diagnosed with COPD each year.

The American Lung Association also advocates for state and local policies that support individuals with COPD. We are working at the national and state level to increase knowledge and awareness of these diseases. Although it is the third leading cause of death in the United States, COPD continues to be unknown to most Americans. For this reason, we recommend to the committee that additional resources are made available to prepare a statewide action plan to address COPD. The economic impact, both direct and indirect, of COPD on individuals and the community they live in is staggering. The annual cost to the nation for COPD in 2010 is estimated to be \$49.9 billion. The health status of individuals with COPD declines as this progressive disease limits air flow and increasingly prevents individuals from completing daily living activities. Early diagnosis of COPD will lead to assertive treatment options such as medications or pulmonary rehabilitation – allowing individuals to stay active and continue to independently complete day-to-day tasks. Although COPD is a progressive disease, early diagnosis and comprehensive treatment will help maintain quality of life for the estimated 24 million Americans who are currently diagnosed or living undiagnosed.

The American Lung Association in Hawaii is a proud member of the Hawaii COPD Coalition, an multi-organizational partnership working to establish a state health initiative to reduce the occurrences of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease in Hawaii.

Please support HB 10 to help reduce the burden of COPD on our citizens and community.

With Highest Regards,

Lorraine Leslie
Hawaii Dirirector



Testimony in support of HR10, HCR 16, SR 5 and SCR 4

House Committee on Health

Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 24 @ 9:15am, room 329

February 22, 2012

To: House Committee on Health
Rep. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
Rep. Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

By: Valerie Chang, JD, Executive Director
Hawaii COPD Coalition, www.hawaiicopd.org, copd.hawaii@yahoo.com
733 Bishop Street, Suite 1550, Honolulu, HI 96813; (808)699-9839

Re: HR 10, HCR 16, SR 5 and SCR 4

Dear Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Nishimoto and Members of the Committee:

My name is Valerie Chang. I am Executive Director of the Hawaii COPD Coalition. Our organization provides services and support to Hawaii's people affected by Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), more commonly known as emphysema, chronic bronchitis and similar conditions. COPD has risen to the third leading cause of death in the US and is also the second leading cause of disability in the US. The Burden of COPD in Hawaii 2010 report by the Hawaii Department of health estimates that over 30,800 Hawaii adults have been diagnosed with COPD; likely an equal or greater number remain undiagnosed. The report also estimates over \$55 million each year in Hawaii hospitalizations due to COPD. It is estimated that 24 million people in the United States suffer from COPD, with at least half of them not yet diagnosed.

In 2011 alone, our organization conducted over 1300 lung function tests at 40 different clinics, including 6 on the Big Island, 3 on Molokai, 3 on Maui and 2 on Kauai, and many in other medically underserved communities. In those clinics, a significant number of patients had low lung function and one-third of those had never smoked or been exposed to lung irritants; many had no idea that their lung function was lower than normal. The Hawaii COPD Coalition has been conducting free lung testing at many locations throughout Hawaii since 2008. Our organization has also held annual COPD Education Days from 2007, with 160 to 300+ attendees attending each year, as well as exhibitors, healthcare students and professionals.

I strongly SUPPORT the intent HR 10, HCR 16, SR 5 and SCR 4, "Resolutions for State Health Plan Initiative to Reduce Occurrences of COPD in Hawaii." In its November 13, 2008 CDC report, an article about COPD was released in its Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) with key findings: CDC estimates that additional health care costs total \$6000 each year for every COPD patient in the US. More than 126,000 Americans die of COPD each year, one every four minutes. More women than men are dying each year from COPD. Attached is a proposed modified resolution (proposed HD1), to address the "burden" of COPD, recognizing that currently COPD is a chronic, debilitating condition that has no cure.

Currently there is NO plan in place at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to address COPD. In 2009, the Hawaii legislature was the FIRST legislature in the nation that sent a joint concurrent resolution to Congress, urging the CDC to develop a national COPD Plan. We urge that a joint, concurrent resolution be passed so Hawaii can join other states in having a state COPD plan, to implement in a holistic, manner, as resources become available. Hawaii has submitted an abstract to present at the American Public Health Association meeting in San Francisco about COPD in a session panel with CDC members, the COPD Foundation and colleagues from South Carolina, to encourage further discussion about this important condition.

House Resolution 10

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO ESTABLISH A STATE HEALTH PLAN INITIATIVE TO REDUCE THE BURDEN OF CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE IN HAWAI'I.

WHEREAS, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease is a serious lung disease that makes it difficult for a person to breathe; the disease includes emphysema and chronic bronchitis; and

WHEREAS, although chronic obstructive pulmonary disease is progressive, it is very preventable and treatable, and hopefully it will be curable in the future; and

WHEREAS, twenty-four million persons - have chronic obstructive pulmonary disease in the United States and as many as half are currently undiagnosed; and

WHEREAS, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease is the third leading cause of death in the United States, and kills more than one hundred twenty thousand persons in a year, or one person every four minutes; in 2010, the disease cost the United States government an estimated fifty billion (\$50,000, 000,000) in direct and indirect expenses; and

WHEREAS, early screening and detection are critical because most persons with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease are not diagnosed until they have already lost half of their lung function; and

WHEREAS, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease kills more women than men each year, and in 2006, the disease killed more women than breast cancer, Alzheimer's, and diabetes combined; and

WHEREAS, there is no cure for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, but proper management of the disease can lead to improved quality of life and self-sufficiency for affected patients; and

WHEREAS, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease is a serious health issue in Hawai'i for which the prevalence rate is over 30,000 diagnosed and hospitalizations for the disease cost over \$55,000,000 per year; and

WHEREAS the Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS) measure of new chronic obstructive pulmonary disease diagnoses confirmed by spirometry lung testing for insurers is 41% nationally and in Hawai'i it is only 25%; and

WHEREAS, Hawai'i should encourage efforts to prevent and manage chronic diseases to prevent future medical costs, and should authorize a needs assessment to develop an appropriate action plan for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease education, early diagnosis (through lung function testing), and management; and

WHEREAS, to further reduce the state and federal costs of Medicare and Medicaid and lost time, the Department of Health should include chronic obstructive pulmonary disease in its chronic disease initiatives, advocacy efforts, and burden reporting]; and

WHEREAS, coordinated community efforts such as the Hawai'i Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease Coalition have been formed to promote public-private partnerships to bring together resources to serve Hawai'i's people affected by the disease, to improve the quality of life of those living with the disease, and to reduce the burden that results from chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-Sixth Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2012, that the Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2012, that the Department of Health is requested to create a state health initiative to reduce the burden of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease in Hawai'i and encourage the healthcare system to work together to improve the Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set measures; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health and Chair of the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease Coalition.

OFFERED BY: _____



COALITION FOR A
TOBACCO-FREE HAWAII

To: Representative, Ryan Yamane, Chair, Committee on Health
Representative Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair, Committee on Health
Members, House Committee on Health
From: Jessica Yamauchi, Policy and Advocacy Director
Hrg: House Committee on Health; February 24 at 9:15 am in room 329
Re: **Support for HCR 16/HR 10**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HCR 16/HR 10.

The Coalition for a Tobacco Free Hawai'i (Coalition) is the only independent organization in Hawai'i whose sole mission is to reduce tobacco use through education, policy and advocacy. Our organization is a small nonprofit organization of over 100 member organizations and 2,000 advocates that works to create a healthy Hawai'i through comprehensive tobacco prevention and control efforts.

Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) is the third leading cause of death in the US and the second leading cause of disability in the United States. It is estimated that 24 million people in the United States suffer from COPD, with at least half of them not yet diagnosed. The Hawaii Department of Health, Burden of COPD in Hawaii 2010 report, estimates that over 30,800 Hawaii adults have been diagnosed with COPD.

The Coalition supports HCR 16/HR 10, Resolutions for State Health Plan Initiative to Reduce Occurrences of COPD in Hawaii. Currently there is no plan in place at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to address COPD. In 2009, the Hawaii legislature was the first in the nation to send a joint concurrent resolution to Congress, urging the CDC to develop a national COPD plan. We urge that a joint, concurrent resolution be passed so Hawaii can join other states in having a state COPD plan, to implement in a holistic manner, as resources become available.

BOILER PLATE TESTIMONY RE COPD STATE PLAN (letterhead or logo, if applicable)

Testimony in support of **HR10, HCR 16, SR 5 and SCR 4**

House Committee on Health

Hearing scheduled for Friday, February 24 @ 9:15am, room 329

February 22, 2012

To: House Committee on Health
Rep. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
Rep. Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

By: Your Name & ANY CONTACT INFO YOU WANT TO BE PUBLIC

Re: **HR 10, HCR 16, SR 5 and SCR 4**

Dear Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Morikawa and Members of the Committee:

My name is Dr. Christine Fukui and my position is Pulmonary Physician and I support HR10, HCR16, SR5 and SCR4. I am also on the Board of Directors of the Hawaii COPD Coalition.

I have personally cared for hundreds of patients with COPD for over 30 years here in Hawaii. Often these patients are diagnosed very late. Prevention of COPD should be the goal, as the vast majority of patients have COPD due to a preventable cause. There is still no national plan for COPD. We should join the states that do have a state COPD plan.

COPD has risen to the third leading cause of death in the US and is also the second leading cause of disability in the US. The Burden of COPD in Hawaii 2010 report by the Hawaii Department of health estimates that over 30,800 Hawaii adults have been diagnosed with COPD; likely an equal or greater number remain undiagnosed. The report also estimates over \$55 million each year in Hawaii hospitalizations due to COPD. It is estimated that 24 million people in the United States suffer from COPD, with at least half of them not yet diagnosed.

I strongly SUPPORT the intent HR 10, HCR 16, SR 5 and SCR 4, "Resolutions for State Health Plan Initiative to Reduce Occurrences of COPD in Hawaii." In its November 13, 2008 CDC report, an article about COPD was released in its Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) with key findings: CDC estimates that additional health care costs total \$6000 each year for every COPD patient in the US. More than 126,000 Americans die of COPD each year, one every four minutes. More women than men are dying each year from COPD.

Currently there is NO plan in place at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to address COPD. In 2009, the Hawaii legislature was the FIRST legislature in the nation that sent a joint concurrent resolution to Congress, urging the CDC to develop a national COPD Plan. We urge that a joint, concurrent resolution be passed so Hawaii can join other states in having a state COPD plan, to implement in a holistic, manner, as resources become available. Hawaii has submitted an abstract to present at the American Public Health Association meeting in San Francisco about COPD in a session panel with CDC members, the COPD Foundation and colleagues from South Carolina, to encourage further discussion about this important condition.