

SB 122

SD 1



HAWAII MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

1360 S. Beretania Street, Suite 200, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814
Phone (808) 536-7702 Fax (808) 528-2376 www.hmaonline.net

Friday March 1, 2011; 9:20 a.m. Conference Room 211

To: COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

From: Hawaii Medical Association
Dr. Morris Mitsunaga, MD, President
Linda Rasmussen, MD, Legislative Co-Chair
Dr. Joseph Zobian, MD, Legislative Co-Chair
Dr. Christopher Flanders, DO, Executive Director
Lauren Zirbel, Community and Government Relations

Re: SB 122 RELATING TO NATUROPATHIC PHYSICIANS

In Opposition.

Chairs & Committee Members:

A Primary Care Provider is tasked with the very important duty of being a patient's medical home. **A Primary Care Provider must coordinate care between specialists. If the Primary Care Provider and the Specialists that the patient is receive care from have not been trained in the same line of medicine, this can become very problematic and dangerous.**

To quote an article written by a Naturopath, **"A good portion of my practice involves taking patients OFF of statins (Lipitor), anti-inflammatories (Celebrex) and antidepressants (Prozac, Cymbalta and Zoloft) in order to promote true health and vitality.** In Naturopathic Medicine we call this "removing a barrier to cure." In most cases, prescription medications become the barrier to cure."

I hope the committee can realize that this can have **potentially deadly consequences** and that **Physician Specialists spend 4-8 years of extra training in residency to be able to appropriately care for patients with life threatening conditions.**

Now that it is legal for Naturopaths to call themselves Physicians in Hawaii, and to prescribe almost all drugs in Hawaii, it will be **very confusing for patients to differentiate who to listen to about which drugs and treatments they need.**

This legislation puts inadequately trained individuals in charge of important preventative health monitoring, such as mamograms.

NDs are only required to take 7 credits of 'pharmacology' for graduation. Why should insurance companies be forced to pay for prescriptive consultation from individuals who are not trained in this field? **Most states refuse to even license Naturopaths as medical providers (only 15 States/Territories do) and Hawaii has already given them unrestrained**

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prescriptive authority for all non-controlled substances with no requirement for continuing medical education. This is very dangerous and should be redressed.

Multiple state legislative reports have unearthed specific shortcomings in the education, training and competency testing of naturopaths:

1. The Colorado Office of Examination Services found in 2005 that “[T]here is little generalizable evidence that NPLEX2 Part II clinical licensing examinations actually measure clinical competence.” In comparison: the U.S. Medical Licensing Examination and the Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Licensing Examination each specifically assess whether the examinee can apply medical knowledge and understanding of biomedical and clinical science essential for the unsupervised practice of medicine.

2. A 2004 sunrise report from the State of Florida concluded that there is “potential risk from licensing naturopathic physicians to allow them to provide a broad range of primary care services.” In 2006, a Missouri Senate committee report questioned the education and standardized testing of naturopaths, noting that the main naturopathic accrediting body has fallen “in and out of favor with the U.S. Department of Education.”

There is no consistent application of evidenced-based principles and scientific study for naturopathic treatments:

1. Some naturopathic-recommended treatments, such as using St. John’s wort for HIV-positive individuals, has been found by the National Institutes of Health to interact with protease inhibitors and significantly decrease their concentration in the blood.

2. The claim that a treatment has been used “for hundreds of years,” is not a substitute for randomized clinical trials and other rigorous scientific inquiry.

3. **In several studies funded by the National Center for Complimentary and Alternative Medicine, the efficacy of naturopathic treatments is not supported by clinical evidence. (For example: Ginkgo extract was found to produce no reduction in progression to dementia compared to a placebo; and shark cartilage supplement does not extend lives of lung cancer patients.)**

Naturopathy may have been in existence for more than 100 years, but modern accreditation standards as well as education and training standards show several shortcomings:

1. **No entrance exam**, such as the Medical College Admissions Test is required of applicants to schools of naturopathy. Compared to medical school and residency training, naturopathy has relatively few contact hours of study on pharmacological treatment of disease and little clinical reinforcement of pharmaceutical intervention on patients during clinical rotations or optional post-graduate training.

2. Graduates of four-year naturopathic programs take a standard examination that only measures their competency compared to other naturopathic practitioners – **without regard to any equivalency with medical board licensing.**

3. Clinical education for naturopaths typically begins in the third year of study, and graduates only are required to complete **720 hours of direct patient care over two years. In comparison, that is roughly two months of study of a first-year resident for a graduate of an accredited U.S. medical or osteopathic school of medicine.**

People in Hawaii deserve better protection than this. This bill has major public health and safety implications. Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Send to: WAMTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Carole_Chillingworth_____. I live in __Kamuela, Hi 96743_____.
While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1. Mahalo.

From: LL Howell [llhowell@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 4:47 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Lani Loring Howell. I live in Kamuela, Hawaii. While I use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to continue to use their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.
Thank you!

From: Sharon Davis [sadavis@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 4:46 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 AM IN SUPPORT

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Sharon Davis. I live in Waikoloa Village. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

As of January 1, 2011, HMSA and other insurance companies, stopped paying for compounded formulas trying to force us to use only drugs produced by large pharmaceutical companies. Please address this issue as well.

Mahalo for listening to the people.

From: Michelle Walter [Michelle.Walter@bastyr.edu]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 4:36 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Michelle Walter, I am a ND student; my goal is to practice in the Islands once I graduate in 2012. I live in North Bend, Washington currently. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care in Hawaii, it is my understanding that your healthcare insurance options do not cover naturopathic physicians which makes it inaccessible for most who cannot afford this care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

::Michelle Walter| Seroyal Student Representative::
::michelle.walter@bastyr.edu :: tel 425.223.0458::
:: 1-888- 737-6925 www.seroyal.com ::

When everything seems to be going against you, remember that the airplane takes off against the wind, not with it.
- Henry Ford

C

From: Shanon Sidell [dr.shanon@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 4:08 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the Ways and Means committee:

My name is Shanon Sidell, a naturopathic physician practicing in Kailua-kona and Waikoloa Village.

Many of my patients come to see me as their modest budgets will allow, even though they have insurance coverage that does not cover my services. These patients understand the benefits of preventative medicine and least invasive therapies. They are committed to taking an active role in their health and chose a naturopathic physician for their primary care.

There are many other people in my area who would like to use my services, however, because their healthcare insurance with HMSA, Kaiser, or UHA does not cover naturopathic medicine, they cannot afford to access my care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State.

Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Mahalo nui loa,

Shanon Sidell, ND

From: Mara [mara@marasdive.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 4:10 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

We are Mara Hisiger and John Rees, wife and husband, who have both greatly benefited from naturopathic medicine healthcare over the years.

However, because our healthcare insurance (which we pay for individually, as we are sole proprietors) does not cover naturopathic medicine,

we cannot afford to access naturopathic care here as we would like to. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component

of comprehensive health care, along with allopathic and the many other wonderful alternative medicines we have from around the world.

In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a big role in expanding access and

to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving

choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Mahalo for your attention.

Sincerely,

Mara Hisiger & John Rees

From: Joni [jonilrn@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 3:22 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Joni Lebieczinski. I live in Kailua Kona Hawaii. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Aloha,
Joni

From: Richard Liebmann [richardliebmann@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 3:23 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

I am Richard Liebmann, a naturopathic physician. I practice in Hawi. Many people in my area seek my services, and would greatly benefit from what naturopathic medicine has to offer. However, because their healthcare insurance with HMSA, Kaiser, or UHA does not cover naturopathic medicine, they cannot afford to access my care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Aloha,

Richard Liebmann ND

From: Ronja Giesser [aranyadevi108@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 2:30 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Verena Giesser. I live in Waikoloa Village, Big Island, Hawaii.

While I lived in Washington State several years ago, my health insurance covered naturopathic care which I used often and with excellent success. Since I have moved to Hawaii this is no longer the case and I cannot afford to pay for this care out of my own pocket.

I believe that naturopathic care is an important component of comprehensive healthcare and needs to be fully supported as such. If insurance companies were to be required to cover naturopathic care, it would mean greater access to health care and disease prevention for the people of Hawaii.

Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Sincerely,
Verena Giesser

From: Landon Oponui [landonopunui@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 2:53 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Aloha Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Landon Oponui. I am a 3rd year Naturopathic Medical student who has grown up on the island of Oahu. As a Native Hawaiian, I hope to weave the traditional views of health and nature with the scientific understanding of plants and people by integrating the indigenous plant-based medicine and healing of my people with naturopathic philosophy and therapy. After graduating from Bastyr University in Seattle, WA, I have every intention to return home to the islands to practice medicine. I hope to play a role in filling the void of primary care physicians across our State. The unfortunate truth is that if patients are unable to utilize their insurance to cover the cost of naturopathic care, they simply can not afford to pay on their own. It becomes an issue of access to care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Courage, Compassion, Connection,
Landon Oponui

From: Desiree Watson [desiree@desireewatson.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 2:46 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Desiree Watson. I live in Waikoloa Village. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Warmly,

Desirée

Desirée Watson

808-883-9838

From: Jo Chung [jochung@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 2:31 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Johanna Chung. I live in Kaneohe, Hawaii. While I have used naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care any longer as I am a senior. I truly miss the services provided by my naturopathic physician and feel my health care is lacking without his complementary healthcare.

Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Mahalo!

From: Staci Shupe [moons3@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 2:31 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is _Staci Shupe. I live in Kamuela Hawaii. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Thank you,

Staci Shupe

From: Naya [nayadesign@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 2:14 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Nancy Rice. I live in Honoka'a Hawaii. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

thank you

nancy

From: D.Dubs [d.dubs@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 2:11 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Support of SB122

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

Please help the people who have medical coverage and wish to use that coverage for Naturopathic care the opportunity to make better use of that coverage. Medical coverage is limited due to many doctors not taking new patients. We need all the help we can get! Thank you.

Dan Widdows
HC3 box 4606
Keaau,Hi 96749

From: Nicole Fujiyama [Nicole.Fujiyama@bastyr.edu]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 2:02 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Nicole Fujiyama and I am from Honolulu. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. I am currently a medical student and I cannot afford my own healthcare!

The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State.

Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system.

Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Sincerely,
Nicole Fujiyama
ND/AOM candidate 2012

From: teri jackson [ladyjei@hotmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 1:58 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is __Teri Jackson_____. I live in __Kihei_____. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Sincerely,
Teri Jackson

From: Heather Manley [drheather@drheathernd.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 1:49 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

ear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Heather Manley. I live in Kamuela,, Big Island. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Thanks you.

d

From: Barbara Kahn-Langer [kahnlander@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 1:45 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20a.m. IN SUPPORT

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Barbara Kahn-Langer. I am 72 years old. My husband's name is James W. Brown. He is 67 years old. We live in Hawaiian Paradise Park, in Puna. We use naturopathic care as an important component of our comprehensive health care. Our healthcare does not cover naturopathic physicians. We both wish that it did.

We live in Puna. We both worked with our community to establish the Puna Community Medical Center. We are involved and pro-active in our well-being and the well-being of our community. Hawaii does not have enough physicians. It does not have sufficient *qualified* healthcare providers. We believe that naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State of Hawaii.

We believe that allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of keeping choice in our health care system.

Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Mahalo,
Barbara Kahn-Langer and James W. Brown

From: Eric Wakely [eric4sail@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 1:29 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Eric Wakely. I live in Waikoloa Village on the Big Island. Although I would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Sincerely,

Capt Eric Wakely
(808)990-4557
PO Box 383398
Waikoloa, HI 96738
<http://www.boatmusic.com>

From: Christine Coleman [crystalc7@mac.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 1:26 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT!!!!!!

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Christine Coleman, I live in Hilo. I have suffered from SPASMODIC DYSPHONIA for over 6 years and NO general "mainstream" physician has been able to help me leaving me with only one option to shoot botox into my vocal chords which i will NOT do! I have had to pay my costs for NP care up to over 30k in one year trying to help manage my symptoms. Speech therapy, breathe coach, accupuncture NP's in general is what i need. I had to go to a specialist in LA at over 10k BUT my insurance company would NOT pay for this (I had good success there over two weeks but could not continue due to the costs) since our state does not specialize in this "disease" I am still without a normal voice.

While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system.

Please support the passage of SB122_SD1!!

CHRISTINE COLEMAN

From: Cindy Yamaguchi [cmedean@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 1:22 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Cynthia Yamaguchi and I live in Hilo. Even though my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians, and it's difficult to afford their care, I have chosen to use a naturopathic physician. This decision has turned out to be a good one, both financially and, most importantly, for my quality of life.

As a migraine sufferer for over 30 years that typically involved anywhere from nine to fifteen headaches per month (ranging from two to five per week), I have seen numerous primary care physicians, neurologists, and even a pain management physician to try to get relief. I have also had to go to the emergency room a number of times when a migraine became too severe. Throughout the years I have had multiple blood and allergy tests and CT scans to try to diagnose the cause. Without any definitive results the doctors progressed through the standard treatment protocols of simple and combined analgesics, non-steroidal anti-inflammatories, anti-migraines, antidepressants, calcium channel blockers, beta-blockers, and anticonvulsants. However, none of the medications worked, plus they usually had unpleasant side-effects. Eventually, I was placed on Imitrex 100 mg. to help stop the pain at the onset of a migraine but this was not a preventative and I continued to have migraines on a regular basis. In February 2010 I began going to a naturopathic physician who prescribed a strict vegan diet and a number of home treatments, including herbal preparations and therapeutic activities. Within eight months the migraines have significantly decreased and I continue to see marked improvement, to the point where I haven't had a migraine in one month! Because of the decreased number of migraines I no longer have to take Imitrex on a weekly basis, sometimes in multiple doses which is not good for my health. This means that I don't have to refill my prescription as often (or maybe no longer!), which means not only a savings for me on co-pays but the large amount (approx. \$250.00) that the insurance company has to pay per month for my prescription. Plus, I no longer have to see the doctor as much to receive treatment or to renew my prescription. So, going to see a naturopath has turned out to be a savings.

The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. Plus, in the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please, I strongly ask for you to support the passage of SB122_SD1!

Sincerely,

Cynthia (Cindy) Yamaguchi

From: Trish Ellis [ahhawaii@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 12:57 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Patricia Ellis I live in Kailua Kona, Hawaii. I greatly benefited from naturopathic medicinehealthcare while undergoing chemotherapy in 2009. I was very fortunate to have healthcare insurance at that time that covered a very limited amount of naturopathic medicine. Without this coverate, I cannot afford to access naturopathic care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Patricia Ellis
78-6731 Walua Road
Kailua Kona HI 96740

c

From: Allison Bachlet [drallisonbachlet@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 6:01 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

Thank you for your support and consideration of SB-122, SD1. I am a Naturopathic Physician in Honolulu and am continually frustrated at having to turn patients away because the major insurance companies of Hawaii do not cover my services. I believe that wider access to Naturopathic Medicine will serve to improve the health of the state of Hawaii by offering lower cost natural alternatives to pharmaceuticals and guiding patients through lifestyle changes that will reduce their chance of chronic disease. Thank you very much for supporting this bill and giving the people of Hawaii the choice to access Naturopathic Medicine as part of their health care.

Dr. Allison Bachlet PhD, ND

--

Dr. Allison Bachlet PhD, ND
Clinical Nutrition & Naturopathic Medicine
Manakai O Malama Integrative Health Care
932 Ward Avenue, 6th Floor
Honolulu, HI, 96814
Clinic: 808-535-5555
Cell: 808-779-8928
website: www.drallisonbachlet.com

From: Ben Zale [zalemail@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 6:20 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Support SB122_SD1

Dear Hawaii State Capitol,

My name is Benjamin Zale. I live in downtown Honolulu. I have greatly benefited from naturopathic medicine healthcare. However, because my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic medicine, I cannot afford to access naturopathic care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Thank you,
Ben Zale

From: Amanda Weisberg [weisbergamanda@hotmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 6:28 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: p

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Amanda Weisberg. I live in Washington state. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

From: Jennifer Perry [ciaojperry@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 6:34 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

I am Jennifer Perry. I live in Honolulu, Hawaii. I am currently a licensed massage therapist and a 4th year student of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine. I have greatly benefited from naturopathic medicine healthcare as do many of my clients, colleagues, friends, and family. Like them, I prefer to see my Naturopath first for everything and have paid out of pocket while still paying my health insurance and because my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic medicine, I cannot afford to continue to pay for naturopathic care while paying extremely high health care premiums. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care and treatment and prevention of many things. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Perry

From: David Kern [docdavid1@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 6:45 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

I am Dr. David Kern and I am a naturopathic physician. I have been a naturopathic physician in Hawaii for 26 years on the Island of Maui. For many years, significant numbers of people on Maui have sought my services seeking a health care approach where they can be actively involved and have an option to pharmaceutical medications. However, because their healthcare insurance with HMSA, Kaiser, or UHA does not cover naturopathic medicine, they often cannot afford my care or continuing care if they initially choose to pay out of pocket. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care and naturopathic physicians are a critical component of primary care within our communities. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice and quality care in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Sincerely,

David Kern, N.D.,L.Ac.

From: Shari Tsukayama [stsukayama@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 6:33 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

I am Shari Tsukayama. I live in Mililani and I have greatly benefited from naturopathic medicine healthcare. However, because my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic medicine, I cannot afford to access naturopathic care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

--
Sincerely,
Shari M. Tsukayama
PO Box 893391
Mililani, Hawaii 96789
Ph. 808-497-2468

From: David Binns / Indra McCormick [dbinns@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 7:29 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Support for SB122_SD1

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee

I am Indra McCormick. I live in Honolulu. My family has benefited from naturopathic medicine healthcare. However, because my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic medicine, I cannot afford to access naturopathic care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of holistic health care which works in tandem with traditional medicine so that families stay healthy and are less of a burden on the healthcare system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Sincerely
Indra McCormick

di

From: Barb Garcia, gmail [barbgarcia@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 7:34 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Please support the passage of SB122_SD1

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Barbara G. Garcia. I live in Kailua Kona. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Help us all stay healthy!

Mahalo, Barbara

Barbara Garcia
808-345-2017

c 7

From: indramcc@hotmail.com
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 7:34 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Support for bill SB122_SD1

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

I am Indra McCormick. I live in Honolulu. My family has benefited from naturopathic medicine healthcare. However, because my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic medicine, I cannot afford to access naturopathic care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of holistic health care which works in tandem with traditional medicine so that families stay healthy and are less of a burden on the healthcare system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Sincerely
Indra McCormick

From: YVETTE and ARTHUR CHALLACOMBE [lcruiser@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 7:55 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB 122_SD1

DEAR CHAIRPERSON IGE, VICE CHAIR KIDANI AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE: I AM YVETTE CHALLACOMBE OF KANEOHE HAWAII AND HAVE GREATLY BENEFITED FROM NATUROPATHIC MEDICINE. HOWEVER, DUE TO LACK OF INSURANCE COVERAGE IN HAWAII I WILL NOT BE ABLE TO AFFORD TO CHOOSE NATUROPTIC HEALTH CARE. NATUROPATHIC CARE IS IMPORTANT FOR COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CARE. DUE TO HAWAII'S CHRONIC SHORTAGE OF QUALIFIED HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS, NATUROPATHIC MEDICINE CAN PLAY A ROLE IN EXPANDING ACCESS TO PRIMARY HEALTH CARE IN THE STATE OF HAWAII..PLEASE ALLOW PEOPLE TO ACCESS NATUROPATHIC CARE TO PRESERVE CHOICE IN THE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM AND SUPPORT PASSAGE OF SB122_1. SINCERLY, YVETTE CHALLACOMBE

From: Hank Banquer [hbanquer@earthlink.net]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 8:02 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Henry Yale Banquer. I live in Hilo. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Hank Banquer
Mobile: 1-808-990-5419
Landline: 1-808-985-9266
hbanquer@earthlink.net

From: hope stocker [lalima1@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 7:58 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Hope Stocker. I live in Kailua-Kona, HI. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Mahalo
Sincerely,
Hope Stocker

From: Charyse Harvick [charyseh@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 8:16 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: naturopathic medicine

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

I am _____ (your name). I live in _____ (your city). I have greatly benefited from naturopathic medicine healthcare. However, because my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic medicine, I cannot afford to access naturopathic care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 8:17 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: palmtree7@earthlink.net
Subject: Testimony for SB122 on 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM

Testimony for WAM 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM SB122

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: janice palma-glennie
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: palmtree7@earthlink.net
Submitted on: 2/27/2011

Comments:

From: kelly nedved [nedvoodoo@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 8:20 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Kelly Nedved. I live in Kamuela, Hawaii. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Aloha,
Kelly nedved
nedvoodoo@gmail.com

From: Joyce Marvel-Benoist [marvelbenoist@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 8:31 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: shanonsidell@yahoo.com
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Joyce Marvel-Benoist. I live in Honoka'a on the Big Island. While I use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Please understand that I have many years experience using naturopathic care and in most cases I have found it more effective for long term, preventative health management. Naturopaths are trained to preserve health, to catch health concerns early on before there's major intervention necessary and to empower the patient with tools to make positive choices for his/her health. I can say that I have much better healthy habits as a result of naturopathic consultation.

Thank you for doing what's right, for giving people the choice of health care, and putting an important focus on lifestyle choices and preventative health care by passing SB122 SD1.

In the long run, millions in healthcare dollars will be saved and we'll be healthier for it.

(

From: nikki spencer [nikki_spencer@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 9:03 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: naturopathy

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Nikki spencer I live in captain cook hawaii. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1. Mahalo.

Thanks so much for supporting this. Most of us have experienced the important healing of naturopathy, Michaela Martin and others!

nikki spencer

Please check out my websites:

day spa: <http://www.ahawaiiandayspa.com>

vacation rental: <http://www.vrbo.com/332327>

Breathe!!

From: Cassandra Scott [Cassandra.Scott@bastyr.edu]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 9:08 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Cassandra Marie Scott I live in Shoreline, Wa. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

From: hiroko cloonan [hcloonan@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 9:17 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, IN SUPPORT

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

I am Hiroko Cloonan. I live in Honolulu. I have greatly benefited from naturopathic medicine healthcare. However, because my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic medicine, I cannot afford to access naturopathic care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

From: Patrick Cloonan [patrick.cloonan@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 9:29 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1 in support

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

I am Patirick Cloonan. I live in Honolulu. I have greatly benefited from naturopathic medicine healthcare. However, because my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic medicine, I cannot afford to access naturopathic care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

d'

From: Tracy Robinson [Tracy.Robinson@bastyr.edu]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 9:48 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Tracy Robinson. I live in Washington. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

From: kauakea@gmail.com on behalf of Photo Resource Hawaii [prh@photoresourcehawaii.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 10:20 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Tami Kauakea Winston. I live in Kaneohe. I have greatly benefited from naturopathic medicine healthcare. However, because my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic medicine, I cannot afford to access naturopathic care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Thank you for your time,

Tami Winston

From: Dara Thompson [drdarathompson@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 9:42 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Support SB122_SD1; March 2, 2011 2:00 PM

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-chair Kidani and members of the committee:

I am a naturopathic physician. I have been practicing in Hilo, HI for the past 8 years. Hilo has a critical shortage of primary care providers. Each week a receive calls from desperate people who are unable to find a primary care doctor. The local community health clinics, Bay Clinics, have a 1-2 month waiting period for new patients and even these visits may not be available. People resort to using urgent care and emergency department visits for conditions that could easily be addressed with a standard office visit. Hawaii needs to utilize all of its primary care physicians.

Naturopathic medicine is safe and cost effective. Naturopathic physicians emphasize lifestyle changes over pharmaceutical interventions leading to lower costs and less risk of side effects. With increasing levels of obesity, type II diabetes, and cardiovascular disease, naturopathic services are not a luxury for Hawaii's population; they are a necessity. Many people are unable to afford healthcare without insurance coverage. These people deserve the choice to use Naturopathic services.

Please support SB 122_SD1 and support the health of Hawaiian citizens.

Sincerely,

Dara Thompson N.D.

Hilo, HI

di - -

From: Carole Chillingworth [yoga2feelgood@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 9:52 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Fw: Naturopathic Medicine Bill

--- On Sun, 2/27/11, LL Howell <llhowell@hawaiiintel.net> wrote:

From: LL Howell <llhowell@hawaiiintel.net>
Subject: Naturopathic Medicine Bill
To: "Loring Howell" <llhowell@hawaiiintel.net>
Date: Sunday, February 27, 2011, 4:52 PM

Aloha Friends,

There is currently a bill in the Hawaii legislature that would require ALL insurance companies in Hawaii to cover services by naturopathic doctors.

This would presumably mean greater access for you. The bill passed its first hearing and is on to the second this Tuesday, March 1st. For those of you who heard that it would be pushed off until next year, well, not anymore!

Written testimony can do a lot for passage of bills and I'm asking for your support.

Please insert your name and city into the blank spaces of the paragraph below, cut and paste into an email, and send to the listed email address with the listed subject heading.

These are due tomorrow, Monday, February 28th at 4pm. It will take 30 seconds to do it now and I would not ask if it was not incredibly important for affordable access to naturopathic care. Hopefully this will make it easier for you and your family. Please forward this to anyone who may want to help. Mahalo!

TESTIMONY MUST BE RECEIVED BY 4 PM, MONDAY FEB. 28

From: Kim Longeteig [kim@aliidesign.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 11:01 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT

Importance: High

My name is Kim Longeteig. I live in Waikoloa Village. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Thank you,
Kim Longeteig

From: Aynsley [acmcv@aol.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 11:16 PM
To: WAM Testimony

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:
My name is Aynsley mcvickar. I live on kauai and have greatly benefited from naturopathic medicine healthcare. I have spent my whole adult life searching for help with chronic pain. After years and years of no success with prescription meds, I have had to turn to whatever other alternative that could potentially find me relief. The doctors that are covered by my Heath care have pretty much given up on me and keep referring me out over and over. All I do is spent my hard earned money on medical doctors, meds and travel. Now that my doctors feel like they have helped me all I can, I spend all the rest of my income on natural concepts. Sadly, because my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic medicine, I simply cannot afford to access naturopathic care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. They can fill in for those who feel that theyve "tried it all" with me. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Sent from my iPhone

From: Cindy Melim [c.melim@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 11:15 PM
To: WAM Testimony

For Patients: TESTIMONY MUST BE RECEIVED BY 4 PM, MONDAY FEB. 28

Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Cindy Melim. I have worked extensively in our traditional health care system as a licensed clinical social worker. I live in Kapolei, Hawaii. Since I changed my primary prevention methods to more natural/naturopathic care, my health has improved substantially. The cost however is prohibitive as it is not covered by our health insurance. I believe the passage of SB122_SD1 will greatly improve health care in the islands. It would also be interesting to see if others like myself find that their overall health increases and the overall COST decreases.

Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Aloha,
Cindy Melim, LCSW
230-6173

From: Judy Moa [judy@judymoa.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 11:02 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Judy Moa and I live in Ka'u. While I use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. I have made many sacrifices to use my ND because her services make sense and do not require that I have to buy and use prescription medication. Not only is she competent but she is available. On most instances when visiting an MD the wait is enough to require a full day off work!

In summary, the services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Aloha,
Judy Moa
808.960.5828

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 12:24 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: annadegolier@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB122 on 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM

Testimony for WAM 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM SB122

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Anna DeGolier
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: annadegolier@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/28/2011

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 12:26 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: pohokano@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB122 on 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM

Testimony for WAM 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM SB122

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Conrad Moreno
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: pohokano@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/28/2011

Comments:

From: Lorraine Shin [lorrainehawaii@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 12:39 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB122_SD1

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB122_SD1

Send to: WAMTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Lorraine Shin. I live in Hilo. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1

Mahalo Nui Loa!

Lorraine Shin
184 Puueo Street
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

808-864-3995

From: Anna DeGolier [annadegolier@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 12:24 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Testimony_Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Anna DeGolier. I live in Honolulu and see a naturopathic specialist at Manakai O Malama Integrative Healthcare Center. I have greatly benefited from the services that I received from my provider who was able to address my health concerns that traditional doctors were not able to resolve. Thanks to her, I am now off the long-term medication that I had been taking for over a year. However, because my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic medicine, I cannot afford to continue seeing this doctor. I strongly believe that the services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. They emphasize preventative care and educate patients to be proactive about their health and well-being. In the long run, this approach can reduce healthcare costs by reducing the numbers of people with chronic conditions that could have easily been prevented with diet and lifestyle modifications. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Sincerely,

Anna Degolier

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 4:12 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: heddaj@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB122 on 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM

Testimony for WAM 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM SB122

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Heather Metzler
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: heddaj@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/28/2011

Comments:

From: pat.sauer@gmail.com on behalf of Pat Sauer [pat@sauerfamily.org]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 4:41 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT

RE: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Patricia Sauer. I live in the Hilo area. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

This naturopathic treatment for my daughter's chronic migraines has made the difference between an average of 2 emergency room visits a month for narcotic pain medicines and NO emergency room visits in the last 3 months. Please pass this important bill for the good of all Hawaiians. We have also been trying to find a primary health care provider for the last 3 months without much success in the regular MD field.

Thank you.

Patricia Sauer
15-719 Kahakai Blvd
Pahoa, HI 96778

From: Robin Scanlon [eyeoftheislands@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 5:24 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

I have greatly benefited from naturopathic healthcare. However, because my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic medicine, a major part of the health care I receive is not covered. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care.

In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Thank you!

Warm aloha,

Robin Scanlon
Eye of the Islands Photography, Inc.
scanlon@eyeoftheislands.com
www.eyeoftheislands.com
Blog: <http://eyeoftheislands.wordpress.com>

From: Chandy-Ann Lopes [chandyann@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 6:26 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

I am Chandy-Ann Lopes. I live in Kahului, Maui. I have greatly benefited from naturopathic medicinehealthcare. However, because my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic medicine, I cannot afford to access naturopathic care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Sincerely,
Chandy-Ann Lopes

SB122

From: dave.c.berg@gmail.com
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 6:41 AM
To: WAM Testimony

I'm a Hawaii resident and 13 year HMSA member. Please vote to help make Naturopahitic care part of health care cost to all insurance company. Mahalo , David C. Berg , Big Island Sent via BlackBerry from T-Mobile

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 7:00 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: jeff.gray@netcomenterprises.com
Subject: Testimony for SB122 on 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM

Testimony for WAM 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM SB122

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: jeff gray
Organization: netcom enterprises
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: jeff.gray@netcomenterprises.com
Submitted on: 2/28/2011

Comments:

While I use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. I have made many sacrifices to use my ND because her services make sense and do not require that I have to buy and use prescription medication. Not only is she competent but she is available. On most instances when visiting an MD the wait is enough to require a full day off work!

c

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 7:03 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: jeff.gray@netcomenterprises.com
Subject: Testimony for SB122 on 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM

Testimony for WAM 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM SB122

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: jeff gray
Organization: netcom enterprises
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: jeff.gray@netcomenterprises.com
Submitted on: 2/28/2011

Comments:

While I use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. I have made many sacrifices to use my ND because her services make sense and do not require that I have to buy and use prescription medication. Not only is she competent but she is available. On most instances when visiting an MD the wait is enough to require a full day off work!

c - **

From: Kirsten Snook [kirsten.snook@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 7:47 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Kirsten Snook. I live in Hilo. While I would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Mahalo and aloha,

Kirsten Snook
2916A Ainaola Drive
Hilo, HI 96720

From: Kristin Kern [Kristin.Kern@bastyr.edu]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 8:06 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: IN SUPPORT

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

I am Kristin Kern. I live in Seattle, WA. I have greatly benefited from naturopathic medicinehealthcare. However, because my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic medicine, I cannot afford to access naturopathic care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

From: Melissa Bachman [melissabachman34@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 8:29 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Melissa LeMay Bachman. I live in Washington, but hope to move to Hanalei Bay in the future where my family is. While I use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

--

From: vdavis@tcmch.edu
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 8:42 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: *****SPAM***** SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT

February 28, 2011

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Vicki L. Davis. I live in Hilo. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Mahalo Nui Loa!

Vicki L. Davis

From: Nathan Ehrlich [nat@maui.net]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 8:35 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Dr. Nathan Ehrlich, N.D. a naturopathic physician. I practice in Kahului and Upcountry Maui. Many people in my area seek my services, and would greatly benefit from what naturopathic medicine has to offer. Especially during this time where people globally are recognizing the importance of lifestyle and prevention in health. However, because their healthcare insurance with HMSA, Kaiser, or UHA does not cover naturopathic medicine, they cannot afford to access my care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Mahalo,

Nathan Ehrlich, N.D.

From: Brookscmc@aol.com
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 9:08 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 20011, IN SUPPORT

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

I am writing to express my strong support for SB122.

In my experience naturopathic medicine is a viable alternative treatment for many serious conditions.

If enacted into law this bill will be of great benefit to the citizens of Hawaii.

Everyone should have the right to chose the treatment that best suits their individual requirements.

I choose naturopathic medicine healthcare but my insurance does not cover it. Sometimes I am not able to afford the health care I need.

Thanks in advance for your consideration of my testimony.

Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Sincerely,

Brooks S. Davino
1350 Parks Drive
Honolulu, HI 96819

From: Tiffany Gomes [tiffany@manakaiomalama.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 9:11 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122-SD1

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Tiffany Gomes. I live in Honolulu. I have greatly benefited from naturopathic medicine healthcare. However, because my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic medicine, I cannot afford to access naturopathic care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Thank you,
Tiffany Gomes

From: Pamela Nichol [pamelanichol@ymail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 9:09 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Pamela Nichol and I live in Honolulu. I have greatly benefited from naturopathic medicine healthcare. However, because my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic medicine, I cannot afford to access naturopathic care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1

Many thanks
Pamela Nichol

From: Renae [renae120@iglide.net]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 3:21 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Renae Stephens. I live in Kailua Kona. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Sincerely,

Renae Stephens



*To Your Health & Success,
Home: 808-325-1532
Cell: 808-345-5434*

"Ability is what you're capable of doing. Motivation determines what you do. Attitude determines how well you do it." Lou Holtz

From: tina townsend [tinagayletownsend@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 8:52 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

I am Tina Townsend, and I live in Kaneohe. I have greatly benefited from naturopathic medicine healthcare, because my healthcare insurance does cover naturopathic medicine. Unfortunately, my husband's insurance does not cover it and so we cannot afford naturopathic care for him. This inequality is a severe limitation on our collective health.

The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system.

Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Tina Townsend AIA, LEED AP

Townsend Poole Design Group | 808.343.1003

www.townsendpoole.com

From: Tina Harshbarger [tharshbarger@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 9:23 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Tina Harshbarger. I live in the Hilo area. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. I've spent the last 3 months trying to find a primary care physician and still have been unable to find one who will see me on a normal on-going basis, while the ND's I've talked to would delight in being my primary care - I can't afford to see a physician which isn't covered by my health insurance!

Please, please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

- Tina

From: Kelley Lau [keleexperts@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 9:30 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Support of SB122_SD1

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

Aloha from the beautiful Hawaii Island. My name is Kelley Lau and I live in Hilo. I would like to use naturopathic care but my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and therefore I cannot afford to access their care. These services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. I humbly ask for your support in passing the of SB122_SD1.

Thank you so much!

Kelley Lau
Hilo Sales Manager
Employment Experts, LLC
145 Keawe St.
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
Ph:(808) 933-8660
Fax:(808) 934-9103

For Employment Enjoyment ... Call the Experts!

From: Keaka Nelson [keaka@pvthawaii.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 10:47 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT

Aloha,

Since youth I have been caught off guard every time I find Hawaii behind the times. I feel like Hawaii should be leading the pack. We are a culturally diverse, and progressive society, and we need to stop falling so far behind when it comes to our doctors. We are struggling to meet the medical needs of Hawaii's people. Currently on the Big Island MD's can only treat 2/3rd's of our residents. Our Emergency rooms are over run with patients. Our doctors are not taking new patients. And people are flying to Oahu to see a doctor that is covered by their insurance. Meanwhile we have Naturopathic physicians here with room to see patients. The state has recognized them as licensed primary care physicians, but insurance companies are not compensating them for patient visits. If accepted by insurance companies, people could be seeing a Naturopath for many ailments and preventative therapies that would open up the schedules of MD's to do what they do best. This is cooperative care, and it is where we need to be as a State. Please move this bill forward as quick as possible. This will be a much larger problem if we wait for the next legislative session.

Keaka Nelson
Installation Manager
ProVision Solar
808.969.3281
keaka@pvthawaii.com

From: Shirley Long [lanaigirl@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 10:54 AM
To: WAM Testimony

Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Shirley Sakoda Long and I live in Hilo, Hawaii.

On October, 2010, I was diagnosed with breast cancer. Fortunately, the lump was detected in its early stages. I opted not to have radiation or chemotherapy after discussions with four doctors and reading the latest research. In stead, besides tamoxifen, I have sought the help from naturopathic medicine health care taking necessary supplements to improve the immune system and general anti-cancer components. However, because my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic medicine, I have had to cut back on these beneficial medical supplements.

The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Mahalo,

Shirley Sakoda Long

Shirley Sakoda Long 272 Luakaha St. Hilo, Hawaii 96720

From: Jessica Schweig [jessica@pvthawaii.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 10:53 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Jessica Schweig. I live in Hilo. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Mahalo!

Jessica Schweig
Office Manager
ProVision Solar, Inc.
Phone: (808) 969-3281
Fax: (808) 934-7462
www.provision-solar.com

From: Doodie Downs [ernelle@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 10:29 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122 SD1, March 1, 2011 9:20 am IN SUPPORT

Send to: WAMTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

Aloha, my name is Ernelle Downs I am a resident of Mountain View on the Big Island. I use naturopathic care when I can afford to in combination with the services and knowledge of my primary care physician. I find this to be the most effective way to treat many of my medical conditions. I find my naturopathic physician to be compassionate, knowledgeable, and willing to work with me and my PCP. I do not like to take many of the drugs promoted by pharmaceutical companies because of the many negative side effects. I prefer natural treatments and approaches as much as possible. I am fortunate, because my current health insurance offers a discount for the first visit to 2 naturopathic physicians on our island, but I must travel to Hilo or Kona for treatment. There are others in town, but are not covered by my plan.

The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. Hawaii Island has a chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, and naturopathic physicians can play an important role in expanding access to primary health care on our island and within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. I humbly ask that you please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Mahalo for your consideration,
Ernelle Downs

From: Jay Coskie [konavistas@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 10:41 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: NATUROPATHIC CARE

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Jay Coskie. I live in Kailua-Kona. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Thank you, aloha, Jay Coskie

Jay T. Coskie, Broker
808/938-6223 (cell)
808/322-8143 (fax)
konavistas@gmail.com

From: paula thomas [paulat1@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 10:01 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Passage of SB122_SD1

Send to:
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Paula Thomas, and I live in Hilo. While I would like to use naturopathic care for certain aspects of my overall health care management, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians.

The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. **Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system.** Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Mahalo Nui Loa!

Paula Thomas
paulat1@hawaii.rr.com
808.443.3032

From: Darlene Ashley [DrAshley@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 10:05 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

I am writing in support of the bill, SB 122-SD1. I am a Hawaii licensed psychologist as well as a patient of a naturopathic physician. I prefer a more holistic approach to healthcare and have received benefits that standard allopathic medicine could not provide. However, because my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic medicine, I cannot access naturopathic care as often as I would like. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. I believe that insurance coverage of naturopathic medicine is long overdue. I would prefer a broader bill that would mandate naturopathic coverage by all insurance carriers providing coverage in Hawaii as I would like to refer more of my patients to naturopaths.

I reside in Kailua Kona where there is a chronic shortage of qualified health care providers. Naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care here and throughout the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Sincerely,

Darlene Ashley Fagan, Ph.D.
Licensed Psychologist

February 27, 2011

To: Senator Ige, Chair
Senator Kidani, Vice-Chair
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

RE: Testimony Supporting State Senate Bill 122 Relating to Naturopathic Physicians

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

I write in strong support of SB122 as it will provide much more comprehensive access to healthcare for the citizens of this state. In the past four years I have had three different primary care providers, none of which share the same holistic or natural healthcare model which I choose to maintain my health. Why so many? The first two, like so many other physicians, left the state. I now find myself paying \$700 per month (30% increase over last year) for bare bones HMO coverage (no dental, vision or drug) for my husband and myself, and still yet have to pay out of pocket for medical care because I choose naturopathic care. I have seen greater improvement in my health status since seeking the care of naturopaths. They regard my health in its entirety, paying particular attention to how all my systems are actually functioning, and do not disregard any aspect of my health which I report. I have sought and actually received care for issues I had been reporting to my allopathic doctors for years, but had either not received any response, or a pharmaceutical prescription which I explained I did not wish to take. Naturopaths prescribe simple and inexpensive changes or additions to help correct whatever imbalance I experience to not only improve my overall health, but keep my systems on track as I age. Individuals like me, who are conscientious about their health, generally gravitate toward more natural methods of healthcare, choosing dietary and herbal therapy as well as changes in physical activity over pharmaceuticals and surgery. We should be allowed to care for our bodies in the manner we see best fits us, and not be penalized financially by our health insurance providers for doing so. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Sincerely,

Melanie Biddle
Kamuela, HI 96743

From: Maureen McLaughlin [maureen11chuen@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 11:28 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20a.m. IN SUPPORT

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Maureen McLaughlin and I am a registered voter living in Waimea on the Big Island. I am also Clinical Dean at the Traditional Chinese Medical College of Hawaii, as well as a practicing acupuncturist. As a licensed healthcare provider and administrator in this state, I frequently consult with and refer patients to Naturopathic physicians. It is an economic hardship for many of our patients that their insurance does not cover naturopathic care. It is a hardship for our patients if the only available physician is a naturopath and their healthcare insurance will only cover an M.D.

Passage of this bill will do much to make quality healthcare truly available to our insured citizens. I ask you to support passage of SB122_SD1.

Mahalo,
Maureen McLaughlin

From: Lesley Kuramoto [lesley.kuramoto@TRCR.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 10:56 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Committee:

Please support the passage of SB122_SD1. I practice part time on the Big Island as a naturopathic physician. Often the treatment I am able to provide will either prevent major health problems in the future or get to the root causes of health problems and correct them less expensively and more effectively than conventional treatment. Unfortunately, when patients do not have insurance coverage for naturopathic medical care, sometimes the only option they can afford is to avoid seeing a physician at all until their medical condition is serious, and then to accept the treatment which their insurance covers, which may be more expensive and less effective in the long run. Equal insurance coverage is fair, patients want it, and it and makes good financial sense.

Thank you so much for your work on this issue and for considering my thoughts.

Dr. Lesley Morical Kuramoto
Licensed naturopathic physician (Hawaii)

NOTICE: Do not send private information, such as protected health information over unencrypted e-mail. This message is confidential, intended for the named recipient(s), and may contain information that is (i) proprietary to the sender, and/or, (ii) privileged, confidential and/or otherwise exempt from disclosure under applicable state and federal law, including, but not limited to, privacy standards imposed pursuant to the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 ("HIPAA"). Receipt by anyone other than the named recipient(s) is not a waiver of any applicable privilege. Thank you in advance for your compliance with this notice.

From: Cara Hollenbeck [caraviana@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 12:09 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Support for bill SB122_SD1

Aloha,

My name is Cara Hollenbeck, I live in Kailua Kona. I have used Naturopathic doctors for 2 years. Two years ago I had a very scary health problem. No doctor I saw could diagnose it or help me. I wound up in the emergency room several times and had countless blood tests, CAT scans, untrasounds, etc.

No one could help me, until I finally saw a naturopathic doctor who took the time to listen to me and look at what possible factors in my life could be contributing, such as my jobs and stress level.

Today I am healthy and very thankful for my naturopathic doctor. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Thank you,
Cara Hollenbeck

From: Hunt, Gayle H. [GHunt@westhawaiiichc.org]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 12:07 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Testimony for naturopathic insurance coverage

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Gayle Haunani Hunt. I live in Kailua Kona , HI. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. **Please support the passage of SB122_SD1!!**

Gayle

From: Anne Klimke [aklimke@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 12:02 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1 March 1, 2011 IN SUPPORT

I support affordable access to naturopathic care and support this bill that would require all insurance companies in Hawaii to cover services by naturopathic doctors. Allowing patients to access naturopathic doctors is an important component of health care and preserves choice in the health care system.

Anne Klimke
77-141 Kalani'uka St. #2
Holualoa, HI 96725
322-4175

From: Archer [volcanogr1@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 11:45 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Please support the passage of SB122_SD1

My name is Audrey Kelly. I live in Hilo. While I would like to use naturopathic care, my health care insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

From: brandon flewelling [mr_smeee@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 11:31 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

I, Brandon Flewelling, am writing to you to urge you to pass bill SB122 in favor of having insurance companies cover naturopathic medical visits. I know several people who have benefited from naturopathic medicine. Having naturopathic medicine covered by insurance would benefit everyone, but most of all the sick and ill who need to have the options to maintain good health in a way that benefits them most. Since we are all different, our needs may also be different and must be met in terms of our health. Naturopathic medicine is an excellent supplemental and even primary health care option for the people of Hawaii. If you want to see Hawaii in better health, this is just one way you can influence the people here. Please take a close look at the real reasons people wouldn't support this bill, and the real reasons why people would want to support it, and make the decision that puts Hawaii's peoples' health first.

Sincerely,

Brandon Flewelling

From: Lena Suhaila [lena.suhaila.nd@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 11:54 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

I am Lena Suhaila, a naturopathic physician. I practice in Kailua-Kona. Many people in my area seek my services, and would greatly benefit from what naturopathic medicine has to offer. However, because their healthcare insurance with HMSA, Kaiser, or UHA does not cover naturopathic medicine, they cannot afford to access my care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Aloha,

Lena Suhaila, ND

From: cat@hilonaturalhealth.com
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 11:53 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Cathrine Wingate. I live in East Hawaii, on the Big Island, and work in Hilo as a licensed Acupuncturist.

I have first hand knowledge and personal experience concerning the health care crisis we in this state find ourselves in. More importantly, in regards to this bill, my experience with naturopathic care is even more critical.

I not only use naturopathic care, but I work with a Naturopathic Physician. I see the impact of not having insurance companies recognize our dedicated natural physicians on both a personal and a professional level every day.

My husband works off island to provide for his family. We pay dearly for insurance coverage that does not recognize naturopathic care. Therefore, we have one more burden placed on our lives - that of paying for healthcare out of our pocket.

We turn potential patients away everyday that seek the care of our Naturopathic Physician here at our office, because she is not allowed to accept the major carriers. Of the two that she is recognized, the reimbursement is deplorable. What MD would accept \$30 reimbursement for \$140 worth of services? NONE! Yet this doctor has no choice.

You have it within your power to help the people of Hawaii. You have it within your power to force the insurance companies to recognize what the state of Hawaii already has - these hardworking doctors are primary care physicians!!! It is time to step up and allow them to do the jobs they were trained to do.

Please do what is right and support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Most Sincerely,

Cathrine Wingate, L.Ac.

Hilo Natural Health Clinic
152 Puueo Street
Hilo, HI 96720

808.933.HEAL (4325)

www.hilonaturalhealth.com

From: Aloha Toshie [alohapapaya@hotmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 12:44 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122 SD1

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Toshie Takahashi-Ruiz. I live in Holualoa, Hawaii. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to Primary Health Care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122 SD1.

Thank you.

Toshie Takahashi-Ruiz

808.987.4449

From: Paul Cooper [paulcooper007@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 12:24 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122 SD1

Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Paul Cooper. I live in Kailua Kona. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of an naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

From: flora schupp [fschupp@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 12:15 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT. PLEASE PASS SB122_SD1!

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Flora Schupp. I live in Kailua. While I use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care as much as I would like. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

From: hilo@poppasorchids.com
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 11:21 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Emi Poppas. I live in Hilo. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

From: Rosemary Strong [rstrong@westliberty.edu]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 10:16 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Rosemary Strong. I live in Hilo. While I would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Mahalo!

From: Casey Kochmer [personaltao@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 10:06 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

I am a Taoist teacher living in Hilo. While I use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. I work with many people who are down to their last penny, people trying to improve their health and many times simpler and more holistic naturopathic care is the best answer for the average person trying to live a healthy lifestyle.

Additionally since Hawaii does have a shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State.

Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system.

Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

I work with people around the world, I have students and clients coming in from 13 different countries because Hawaii has a reputation of being a spiritual healing location to find rest within. Help continue Hawaii grow, help Hawaii improve and expand it's health system and continue our world wide reputation as a place to come for good health.

Sincerely
Casey Kochmer
808-035-6346

From: Jennifer Ching [hoomau@kailuabay.net]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 7:03 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

I am Jennifer Ching and I live in Holualoa, Hawaii. I have greatly benefited from naturopathic medicine healthcare. However, because my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic medicine, I have to pay for my naturopathic care completely out of pocket even though I pay a huge monthly premium to HMSA.

The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system.

Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Mahalo,

Jennifer Ching

From: Barbara Moore [dfly@dragonflyranch.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 26, 2011 10:33 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: In support of SB122_SD1
Attachments: image.jpg

Aloha Government Officials,

I am writing to let you know that I support the passage of SB122_SD1. I believe the state will save money in the long run by having insurance companies provide naturopathic sage advice from practical, proven methods that have worked in many countries for many years.

As a person who wishes to have assistance in taking care of my body pro-actively with preventative methods that are wholistic, I seek naturopathic advice. As a result, I have avoided having to take medications, or have medical intervention that would have cost the state money thru the Medicare system.

As president of the Big Island Health and Wellness Alliance, I wish to let you know that we all wish to support your decision to pass SB122_SD1.

I sincerely hope that you will vote to pass this bill.

Mahalo,

Barbara Moore

--

*"In the Sweetness of Friendship,
let there be Laughter
and the Sharing of Pleasures "*

Khalil Gibran

Barbara Ann Kenonilani Moore

President of Big Island Health and Wellness Alliance

soul proprietor of Dragonfly Ranch: HEALING ARTS CENTER

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From: Michael Traub [mtraubnd@me.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 26, 2011 9:26 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

I am Michael Traub, ND. As Chair of the Legislative Committee, I am representing the Hawaii Society of Naturopathic Physicians and we are seeking your support of SB122_SD1

The purposes of this legislation are to:

End many years of discrimination on the part of insurance plans that have not included benefits for naturopathic medicine;

2. Help solve the critical shortage of primary care providers by providing insurance coverage for patients to see naturopathic physicians.

Background:

Although considered primary care physicians, naturopathic medicine has been excluded for many years in the health care insurance plans in Hawaii. Currently, only HMAA offers such a benefit, and it is limited to \$500 of services annually with that benefit shared with chiropractic and acupuncture. Workers compensation and motor vehicle personal injury cases allow for naturopathic care. However, despite many years of repeated efforts to interest the other insurers in Hawaii, namely HMSA, Kaiser, and UHA, to provide coverage for naturopathic medicine, they have failed to do so. This is unfair to the members of these health plans, and does not make sense. The time has come to rectify this inequity through legislation.

Facts:

- In the past forty years, the stature of naturopathic medical education has evolved to be comparable in breadth and scope of medical doctors and osteopaths, and exceeds that of nurse practitioners, physician's assistants, chiropractic, acupuncturists and massage therapists.
- Naturopathic medicine is not an add-on service to insurance plans. It is a cost-effective type of health care that can replace more expensive care and provide for cost savings in both the short term and long term through its focus on wellness, prevention, and the limited use of expensive medications and procedures.
- Access to primary care providers is critically limited in Hawaii, particularly on the neighbor islands.
- We believe that a Legislative Auditor's Report is not necessary for this bill, since naturopathic physicians are already licensed, since this would have a minimal cost impact, since more and more people are asking for ND services, and since a rider is not a mandate.
- In 2010, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) was signed into federal law.

It contains a provision to prohibit non-discrimination in health care insurance that becomes effective in 2014 (Section 2706):

- (a) Providers- A group health plan and a health insurance issuer offering group or individual health insurance coverage **shall not discriminate with respect to participation under the plan or coverage against any health care provider who is acting within the scope of that provider's license or certification under applicable State law.** This section shall not require that a group health plan or health insurance issuer contract with any health care provider willing to abide by the terms and conditions for participation established by the plan or issuer. Nothing in this section shall be construed as preventing a group health plan, a health insurance issuer, or the Secretary from establishing varying reimbursement rates based on

quality or performance measures.

(b) Individuals- The provisions of section 1558 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (relating to non-discrimination) shall apply with respect to a group health plan or health insurance issuer offering group or individual health insurance coverage.

In 2007, the state of Vermont enacted a law that mandated coverage for naturopathic physicians. (Title 8, Banking and Insurance, Chapter 107: HEALTH INSURANCE § 4088d. Coverage for covered services provided by naturopathic physicians). As a result of this law, all insurance companies that are regulated by the state of Vermont are required to reimburse for the services of a naturopathic physician in the same way and to the same extent that they reimburse for the services of any physician. This includes Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Vermont, CIGNA, Medicaid, and others. This law does not apply to Medicare, out-of-state plans, and certain self-insured employers.

The Vermont law does not add any services, expand the scope of practice of naturopathic physicians, nor mandate the coverage of non-prescription natural medicines such as herbal or nutritional supplements.

Similar laws prohibiting discrimination against naturopathic medicine exist in Alaska (Statute 21.26.090 Item D), Connecticut (Statute 38A 551G, 38A 816, item 10), Montana (MAC 33-22-111) and Washington (RCW 48.43.045).

These laws have not increased the cost of health care nor led to insurance rate hikes in any of these states. Washington State's Commissioner of Health testified on this issue, where there are over 1000 practicing naturopathic physicians (Hawaii has less than 100).

Studies done in Washington State

In 1995, the state of Washington passed a law which requires insurance reimbursement for naturopathic services. The actual claims data is now available. A group at the University of Washington has analyzed the claims data from Blue Cross and Blue Shield of WA, the state's two largest insurers. They have published two studies assessing the cost impact.

Study #1: Financial impact of the law on cost of pediatric care.

- 1% of the pediatric population saw an N.D.
- Of the \$185,368,687 spent on pediatric health care, only \$394,059 –or 2.1 tenths of one percent (0.21%) were spent on naturopathic services. Average # of visits for the year to different professionals among users:
 - Conventional provider: 3
 - Naturopathic physician 2
- Reasons for seeing an N.D.—same spectrum of diagnoses as conventional providers (ie. respiratory infections, allergies). Because of this pattern, visits to N.D. likely replaced that of a visit to a conventional provider. Therefore, it cannot be assumed that there was an overall increase in cost, even by the 0.2%, but more likely, close to a net zero effect
- (Bellas A, Lafferty WE, Lind B, Tyree PT. Frequency, predictors, and expenditures for pediatric insurance claims for complementary and alternative medical professionals in Washington State. Arch Pediatr Adolesc Med. 2005 Apr;159(4):367-72)

Study #2: Study of Insured Patients with Cancer in Washington State

General Statistics

-441,841 all insured (not just cancer) ages 18-64

-of the 346,428 that had health claims, 2.1% of the general population with health claims sought care from an N.D.

Patients with Cancer (this study represents the extreme of patients who use both conventional and naturopathic care for the same condition)

-7915 patients with cancer had claims

-4% of patients with cancer saw an N.D. (total of 318 cancer patients)

-average billed amount per year per patient for naturopathic care: \$413, representing 1.0% of those patient's mean total billed amount for health care year 2000.

Discussion: In these two studies, we are presented with a lot of information about the usage and costs of naturopathic medicine. 1% of children use it, accounting for 0% (0.213% to be exact) of their health costs. 2% of adults in general use it. Of adults with a cancer diagnosis, 4% use naturopathic medicine, resulting in 1% of the health care costs of that population. These populations represent perhaps the two extremes of use pattern: children requiring the least amount, and cancer patients the most. It is reasonable to assume that the non-cancer adult claims fall between these two groups: or somewhere between 0.2% and 1% of total health costs.

Neither of these studies looked at the costs offset by the use of naturopathic physicians. If they had, we might very well be looking at a net zero effect, or even an immediate cost savings. In the instance of the pediatric patients, the documented use patterns suggest that the parents took their child to the ND instead of the MD for their sore throats, allergies etc. In the instance of the patients with cancer, patients almost certainly used both: they saw their oncologist, and an N.D. too. Patients of naturopathic physicians routinely report a decreased need for prescription drugs to counteract side effects of conventional treatments. One example of cost savings is the ability of cancer patients to complete chemotherapy with fewer or no injections to boost white blood cell counts when they are receiving naturopathic adjunctive treatment. Each pegfilgrastim (Neulasta) shot costs \$3,200. That represents a savings of \$12,800 for four shots, which are commonly required for patients to complete a chemotherapy regimen.

The lead researcher in both of these studies is William Lafferty, M.D. of the University of Washington. Dr. Lafferty is probably the current world's top expert in the cost impact of insuring naturopathic physicians. In his words, costs associated with coverage of naturopathic physicians by the top two insurance carriers in Washington State were "miniscule", "the proverbial drop in the bucket" and "not a threat to insurers." (Lafferty WE, Tyree PT, Devlin SM, Andersen MR, Diehr PK. Complementary and alternative medicine provider use and expenditures by cancer treatment phase. *Am J Manag Care.* 2008 May;14(5):326-34)

Study #3: Lafferty and his group evaluated how insured people used Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) providers and what role this played in healthcare utilization and expenditures in Western Washington in 2002. They analyzed insurance demographic data, claims files, benefit information, diagnoses, CAM and conventional provider utilization, and healthcare expenditures for 3 large health insurance companies. The results were as follows: Among more than 600,000 enrollees, 13.7% made CAM claims. This included 1.3% of enrollees with claims for acupuncture, 1.6% for naturopathic medicine, 2.4% for massage, and 10.9% for chiropractic. Patients enrolled in preferred provider organizations and point-of-service products were notably more likely to use CAM than those with health maintenance organization coverage. The CAM provider visits usually focused on musculoskeletal complaints except for naturopathic physicians, who treated a broader array of problems. The median per-visit expenditures were 39.00 dollars for CAM care and 74.40 dollars for conventional outpatient care. The total expenditures per enrollee were 2589 dollars, of which 75 dollars (2.9%) was spent on CAM. The authors concluded: "The number of people using

CAM insurance benefits was substantial; the effect on insurance expenditures was modest.” (Lafferty WE, Tyree PT, Bellas AS, Watts CA, Lind BK, Sherman KJ, Cherkin DC, Grembowski DE. Insurance coverage and subsequent utilization of complementary and alternative medicine providers. Am J Manag Care. 2006 Jul;12(7):397-404.)

Study #4: Internal report, produced by Blue Shield of WA in response to the law passed in 1995. (“King County Medical Blue Shield Phase I Final Report, Alternative Healthcare Project Steering Committee”)

The company wanted to know how best to implement the legislation: how to credential NDs, and how to best use them in order to have the best effects on costs. Blue Shield voluntarily chose to credential NDs as primary care providers in their HMO product. Blue Shield of Washington knew that using NDs as PCPs would save money, and were implementing these findings at the same time that the company tried to overturn the law, claiming it would increase costs. This document was subpoenaed from the company during their appeals, which failed in the U.S. Supreme 10th Circuit Court, and this document was part of the reason. It showed that what the insurance industry said about cost increases, it didn’t even believe itself.

Finally, testimony on the Vermont legislation was received from Dr. Laura Patton, Director of Alternative Services at Group Health, the third largest insurance carrier in Washington State, in which she reported the results of a survey to their customers who specifically use naturopathic physicians: “59% of them reported decreased visits to (conventional) primary care physicians, and about 48% reported decreased visits to specialists. And then another major driver of health care costs, over 50% reported decreased use of prescription medications.” These figures support the cost savings that Blue Shield projected in its 1995 internal report, which stated “An effective ND PCP centered managed care program could cut the costs of chronic and stress related illness by up to 40% and lower the costs of specialist utilization by 30%.”

You may receive testimony in opposition to this bill from parties claiming that naturopathic physicians are not sufficiently trained as primary care providers, do not collaborate with conventional medical professionals, and a lack of evidence for naturopathic treatments. I suggest that you carefully consider the accuracy of these allegations. You will find that they do not stand up to close inspection.

In conclusion, the facts speak for themselves:

Insurance plans should not discriminate against naturopathic physicians.

Including benefits for naturopathic care will help to solve the critical shortage of primary care providers, at a miniscule cost to insurers, and could actually cut the costs of healthcare significantly.

Mahalo for your support of SB122_SD1.

Michael Traub ND
Chair, Legislative Committee
Hawaii Society of Naturopathic Physicians

75-169 Hualalai Rd, Suite 301
Kailua Kona, HI 96740
Phone 808.329.2114
Fax 808.326.2871
mtraubnd@me.com
michaeltraubnd.com

From: Gladi Hoagland [gladi_h@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 1:12 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Gladios Hoagland. I live in Ocean View , HI. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Aloha, Gladi Hoagland

From: amber berg [ambermarieberg@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 1:14 PM
To: WAM Testimony

TESTIMONY MUST BE RECEIVED BY 4 PM, MONDAY FEB. 28

Send to: WAMTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is ___Amber Berg___. I live in ___Kapaau and Tx___. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

From: Steven Epstein [steven@hotsolutions.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 1:07 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My Name is Steven Epstein and I live in Kamuela. I have a limited naturopathic inclusion on our insurance (HMAA) - I have asked them several times over the years why natural medicine is not covered the same as "normal" medicine, when naturopathic medicine is often more effective and far better at prevention. I did not receive any real response, other than "we review our policies each year".

Is it simply because there is pressure from the established medical community to ensure that as much money as possible is kept in their hands, without regard for patient well-being?

I strongly support the passage of SB122_SD1 to correct the inequity that currently exists in regards to insurance coverage for naturopathic medicine.

Steven Epstein
808 938 7972

From: Cristy Athan [crisathan@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 12:53 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Cristy Athan. I live in Kamuela, HI. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care as much as I would like to. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system.

Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Thank you,

Cristy Athan

From: jivan collins [swjivan@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 1:18 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB 122

TESTIMONY MUST BE RECEIVED BY 4 PM, MONDAY FEB. 28

Send to: WAMTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is _Jivan Collins_____. I live in Kealakekua_____. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

From: Renee Mentzer [rjmentzer@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 12:50 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_Sd1, March 1, 2011, 12:44pm IN SUPPORT

Dear Chariperson Ige, Vice-CHair Kidani, and members of th ecommittee:

My name is Renee Mentzer. I live in Kailua-Kona, HI. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the state. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Thank you.

Renee Mentzer

From: Michelle Conrey [michelle.conrey@altres.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 12:58 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Support Testimony SB122_SD1
Attachments: image001.gif

Importance: High

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is _____Michelle Conrey_____. I live in Kailua Kona , HI. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Michelle Conrey | Big Island Regional Manager



ALTRES Staffing

74-5565 Luhia Street C-5, Kailua-Kona, HI, 96740

Phone: (808) 329-1341 | Fax: (808) 329-7429

michelle.conrey@altres.com | ALTRES Staffing: altres.com | simplicityHR: simplicityHR.com

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From: chpennell@hawaii.rr.com
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 1:03 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: URGENT! Testimony for naturopathic insurance coverage by 4pm Monday Feb28th
Attachments: FW: URGENT! Testimony for naturopathic insurance coverage by 4pm Monday Feb28th

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Cheryl Pennell. I live in Kailua Kona , HI. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

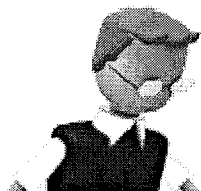
From: pauline dumas [beabea_66@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 12:39 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.
Attachments: --static--liam_fetch_bl.gif; --static--liam_fetch_lb.gif

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Pauline Dumas. I am a registered nurse and I live in Hilo. I have greatly benefited from naturopathic medicine healthcare in the past. However, because I am now retired on a fixed income and my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic medicine, I cannot afford to access naturopathic care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system.

Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Sincerely,



Pauline Dumas

From: Beth Coppola [ebcoppola@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 1:04 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122 SD1, IN SUPPORT

Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is MARYELIZABETH COPPOLA. I live in Kailua Kona , HI. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Thank You.

Sincerely,

Mary Elizabeth Coppola (Voter)

J

From: Andrea Ferrance [ferrance@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 12:34 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Andrea Ferrance. I am a registered nurse and I live in Hilo. I have greatly benefited from naturopathic medicine healthcare in the past. However, because my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic medicine, I cannot afford to access naturopathic care for myself and my family. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system.

Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Sincerely,

Andrea Ferrance

From: Jeff Lee [jefflee67@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 12:33 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: URGENT! Testimony for naturopathic insurance coverage

My name is Arthur Jeff Lee. I live in Kailua Kona , HI. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee,

Please support SB122!!!

My name is Dr Sarah Strong and I am a naturopathic physician in Hilo. Over the recent years the scope of practice for naturopathic physicians in Hawaii has been updated to allow them to practice as trained. However, while licensed and practicing as primary care physicians, there is still very limited insurance coverage. This means that access to these physicians is greatly limited, which is especially critical on the outer islands where primary care physicians are in great shortage.

The insurance companies that do cover naturopathic visits (such as HMAA) only offer \$500 a year for visits, which must be shared between naturopathic care, acupuncture, and chiropractic. Insurance companies, such as HMSA, Kaiser, and UHA have failed to offer coverage for naturopathic primary care physicians. This is at a point where legislative action needs to be taken.

As a naturopathic physician practicing in the Big Island, it is with great frustration that my office has to turn away clients on a daily basis that have insurance but cannot afford to pay out-of-pocket for their primary care needs. Often they are not able to even find a physician in the area that is taking new patients. On Hawaii Public Radio just this morning they stated that there are only enough primary care physicians on the Big Island to cover 2/3 of the population. Coverage of NDs would certainly help fill this need.

Naturopathic training has evolved over the years to be comparable to other primary care physicians, such as MDs and DOs, greatly exceeding that of other practitioners (such as NPs) that are covered by insurance plans. While our opposition may testify to our lack of training, I urge you to please look into the details of this and to not take their figures at face value. I would be happy to provide you with extensive cited literature attesting to our training, even comparing it to MDs and DOs. However, as this is not the nature of this bill I am omitting it from testimony at this time. This bill is about naturopathic care being reimbursed at a reasonable rate that would allow us to continue serving the community of Hawaii. Recent studies done in Washington state show that coverage of NDs does not have any negative impact on health insurance rates. Please help the residents of Hawaii gain access to better primary care and naturopathic options and pass SB122!

J

From: Dara Thompson [drdarathompson@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 12:30 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is John A. Thompson. I have lived in Hilo for seven years. I have greatly benefited from naturopathic medicine healthcare in the past. When I was ill with Lyme disease it greatly reduced the length of my illness and allowed me to fully recover. However, because I am retired on a fixed income and my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic medicine, I cannot afford to access naturopathic care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system.

Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Sincerely John Thompson

From: Jan Abundo [jan@hrahawaii.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 1:06 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Jan Abundo. I live in Hilo. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Mahalo,
Jan Abundo

--
Jan Haraguchi-Abundo, Regional Sales Director- Hilo and Oahu
Human Resources Administration of Hawaii
808-430-3859 cell
email: jan@hrahawaii.com
website: www.hrahawaii.com

From: Franz Weber [FWeber@unfi.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 1:44 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Franz Weber. I live in Kailua-Kona , HI. While I use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot always afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Franz Weber
Operations and Sales
UNFI Hawaii
Tel 808-322-6633
fax 866-782-5293

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Committee on Ways and Means
Hearing scheduled for Tuesday, March 1, 2011 at 9:20 am in Room 211.
SB 122 SD1 - Strong Support

Aloha Chair Senator Ige, Vice Chair Senator Kidani and other Committee Members:

I am Dr. Darrow Hand, a licensed naturopathic physician, practicing in the State of Hawai'i. I am writing to strongly urge your support of SB 122 SD1 relating to insurance.

I have had the privilege to help patients recover from injuries suffered in car accidents in which their insurance reimbursed for my services. My patients were glad to have the choice to see me, knowing that naturopathic treatment is covered by Hawai'i auto policies.

Some patients may want to choose a naturopathic physician as their primary care physician, but cannot because their insurance carrier doesn't cover our services in Hawai'i. HMSA, Kaiser and UHA do not reimburse for naturopathic care. HMAA does reimburse, but limits the type of services and coverage amounts. For example their maximum reimbursement is less than the auto policies would reimburse a naturopath for even a short "typical 10 minute" visit (CPT Code 99212 - \$50.31), and they do not cover for manual therapy (CPT Code 97140) which the auto policies do.

When patients need lab tests, I will often recommend they see their medical doctors if they have one so that the tests will be covered by insurance. This seems like an unnecessary delay for patients in getting quality care.

Washington State mandates coverage for all licensed health care providers. A study published in the journal Cancer (2004) found out of 7,915 Washington claimants diagnosed with cancer, 318 (4%) made a claim for naturopathic treatment. The study concluded that the cost was modest compared to conventional care charges. In 2007, Vermont enacted a law to mandate coverage for naturopathic physicians. Similar laws prohibiting discrimination exist in Alaska and Connecticut. These laws have not increased the cost of health care nor led to insurance hikes in any of these states.

If naturopathic care is covered by insurance carriers, then it likely will not significantly effect premium costs in Hawai'i, and may decrease billed amounts. In 1989, the Legislative Auditor of the State of Hawai'i contracted the Wyatt Company for actuarial services, which surveyed 24 underwriters of indemnity medical plans. Wyatt found that eight carriers added no premium costs to individual or group plans, two carriers added \$0.01 for individuals, \$0.03 for families and added nothing for group coverage. Wyatt reported: "some carriers feel plans that include naturopathic services will save money." (Report #89-25, Dec.'89.) These findings are consistent with more recent studies done in Washington and Vermont.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify

Sincerely,
Darrow M. Hand, ND
Honolulu, HI

From: Suzanne Schiller [generatelove@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 1:50 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Dr. Suzanne Schiller, DC. I live in Ocean View, Kahuku, Ka'u, Hawaii. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of an naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

I am in support of easy access for all to chiropractic, acupuncture and naturopathy for our health care choices. Mahalo.

Thank you kindly,

Dr. Suzanne Schiller, DC

Ocean View Chiropractic & Wellness Center

PO Box 7035,

Ocean View, HI 96737-7035

(808) 929-9229

From: Bonnie Cherni [bonnie@hotsolutions.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 1:18 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Bonnie Cherni. I live in Kamuela, HI. I have benefited significantly from Naturpathy. In 1993, I was told by my oncologist that I only had 48 hrs to live and my only option was chemotherapy to reverse my dropping platelets.

Happily, I was able to turn to Naturpathy and accupuncture. In 2011, almost twenty years of naturpathic care, I am healthy. I enjoy a fulfilling lifestyle creating and many activities. I take tango, ballet, horses, trapeze, and violin each week.

I really want other people to discover the benefits of natural medicine.

My insurance (HMAA) covers limited naturopathic and accupuncture. I get monthly appointments with Dr. Traub because he is kind enough to accept my insurance. I would also get accupuncture more often if my insurance covered it. This would help me in my future. Small imbalances happen that can be corrected by accupuncture before symptoms occur.

I strongly encourage all committee members to support SB122 to correct the inequity that currently exists in regards to insurance coverage for naturopathic medicine.

The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.
Mahalo,

Bonnie Cherni

Bonnie Cherni -Creative Director- bonnie@hotsolutions.com - Hot Solutions, LLC Tel:(808)885-9764 Fax:(801)858-6828

From: bolton malia [maliabolton@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 2:13 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

I am Malia Bolton. I was born and raised in kailua-kona and am currently running my ohana's coffee business. I have greatly benefited from naturopathic medicine healthcare. However, because my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic medicine, I cannot afford to access naturopathic care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Thank you for supporting Hawaii people and our future.

--
Malia Bolton
Director of Operations
The Kona Coffee and Tea Company

From: Caryl and Matt Brown [fishkidz@att.net]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 2:36 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Caryl Brown, and although I do not live in Hawaii, I fully support SB122, and encourage you to do so as well.

While I use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system.

Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

From: subhana Begum [subhanabegum@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 2:36 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1 March 1, 2011

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

I am Subhana Begum, I live in Mililani. I have greatly benefited from naturopathic medicine healthcare. However, because my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic medicine, I cannot afford to access naturopathic care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

**Sincerely,
Subhana Begum**

From: Tap Titherington [tap@tappant.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 2:04 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Tappan Titherington. I live in Kea'au, HI near Hilo. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. In at least two situations, an ND solved my health issue whereas more than one MD was unable to do so, and told me it was not solve-able. Yet, my insurance forces me to use MD's. Comprehensive Healthcare needs to include NDs as well as MDs, ODs, DCs, etc. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. **Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.**

Tappan Titherington
Certified QuickBooks ProAdvisor

Tappan T Consulting
PO Box 1803, Pahoa, Hawaii 96778
www.TappanT.com 808.982.9870

From: Logan Schupp [lschupp@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 2:52 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Logan Schupp. I live in Kailua. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

.

From: Scott Voorhies [scottvoorhies@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 2:14 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Kelly Frith. I live in Waimea, HI. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

From: Weddings A La Heart [weddingsalaheart@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 2:37 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

I am very grateful for this legislation to finally be put before the members of the committee for consideration and for passing into law. I have waited many, many years for this.

My name is Libby Kelson-Fulcher and I live in Kailua-Kona Hawaii. Since the 1960's I have used naturopathic medicine and other wholistic healthcare which has kept me pretty healthy with no major diseases, as I enter my 70th year and an economical client as far as the traditional health insurance companies are concerned.

To say I have greatly benefited from naturopathic medicine healthcare is an understatement. However, because my healthcare insurance does *not* cover naturopathic medicine, I have been unable to access naturopathic care for the past few years as I have been unable to afford it. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. Considering Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a very effective role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. In addition this type of healthcare educates people in how to help themselves to good health. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. **Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.**

Mahalo

With Warmest Aloha
Rev Libby Tao Kelson-Fulcher, D.D.
Weddings A La Heart
<http://www.weddingsalaheart.com>
weddingsalaheart@hawaii.rr.com

P.O. Box 4965
Kailua-Kona Hawaii USA 96745
(808) 322-3322 Tel
(866) 321-3321 Toll-Free USA ONLY
(808) 938-8565 Cell
(808) 327-3445 Fax

From: Lynn [lynnvanleeuwen@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 2:41 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT

Send to: WAMTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

I am Lynn VanLeeuwen. I live in Ocean View, on the Big Island. I have greatly benefited from naturopathic medicine healthcare. However, because my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic medicine, I suffer excessive financial stress to access naturopathic care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play an important role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is a necessary component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

From: Melanie Eccard [melani@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 2:53 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Naturopathic dr

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

I am Melanie Eccard. I live in Kailua Kona. I have greatly benefited from naturopathic medicinehealthcare. However, because my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic medicine, I cannot afford to accessnaturopathic care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

From: Jennifer Benner [jennifer@bennermedia.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 1:55 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

I am Jennifer Benner, local business owner, professional health care provider, and mom. I live in Kailua-Kona, HI. I have greatly benefited from naturopathic medicine healthcare. However, because my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic medicine, I cannot afford to access naturopathic care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Benner, L.Ac.
PO Box 859
Holualoa, HI 96725
808.345.2599
jbennerlac@gmail.com

From: janie damon [janie.damon@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 2:57 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:
I am Janie Damon. I live in Kaliua Kona. I have greatly benefited from naturopathic medicine healthcare. However, because my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic medicine, I cannot afford to access naturopathic care. I had Naturopathic coverage in my previous job but my current company is insured with HMSA and I feel restricted in my health care choices. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Respectfully,
Janie Damon

--

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From: Marianne George [george.mimi@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 3:01 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: testimony SB122_SD1 IN SUPPORT

Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

I am ___Marianne George_____ (your name). I live in ___Captain Cook, Hawaii_____ (your city). I have greatly benefited from naturopathic medicinehealthcare. I am alive because in 1997 - 2001 naturopathic physicians could help me recover from environmental illness when medical physicians could not.

However, because my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic medicine, I cannot afford to access naturopathic care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Marianne George
808 9368462

From: Dr. Ian Cholewa [drcholewa@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 3:00 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Dr. Ian Cholewa. I am a naturopathic physician practicing in Kihei, south Maui. Many people in my area seek my services, and would greatly benefit from what naturopathic medicine has to offer. However, because their healthcare insurance with HMSA, Kaiser, or UHA does not cover naturopathic medicine, they cannot afford to access my care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Regards,
Dr. Ian Cholewa

From: Christy Schumann [christy@sunbean.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 3:02 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1 In Support

Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011

There is currently a bill in the Hawaii legislature that would require ALL insurance companies in Hawaii to cover services by naturopathic doctors.

TESTIMONY MUST BE RECEIVED BY 4PM, MONDAY FEB. 28

Send to: WAMTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Christy Schumann. I live in Kailua Kona , HI. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Christy Schumann

From: Mahealani Isbell-Holzman [maheaholzman@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 3:06 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1

Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

I am Mahealani Isbell Holzman. I live in Kailua Oahu. I have greatly benefited from naturopathic medicinehealthcare. However, because my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic medicine, I cannot afford to access naturopathic care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

From: goodfineart@gmail.com on behalf of Anna Good [annagood@mac.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 3:02 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

I am Anna Good. I live in Kihei. I have greatly benefited from naturopathic medicine healthcare. However, because my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic medicine, I cannot afford to access naturopathic care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

**Regards,
Anna Good**

--
Anna Good
555A Pawali Street
Kihei, HI 96753
808-249-2676
www.annagood.com

From: Heather Sandison [hmalia@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 3:03 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

I am Heather Sandison. I live on the North Shore of Oahu. I have greatly benefited from naturopathic medicine and healthcare. However, because my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic medicine, I cannot afford to access naturopathic care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1. Incorporating Naturopathic medicine into comprehensive medical care has been shown repeatedly to reduce the overall and long term costs of care for many reasons, one of which is the focus on prevention.

Mahalo for your consideration of SB122_SD1.

Aloha,
Heather

From: Julianna FreeHand [j.freehand@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 3:19 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, Related to Insurance

Subject: SB122_SD1, Relating to Insurance
Date: March 1, 2011, Rm 211 at 9:20 a.m.
IN SUPPORT.

Ways and Means Committee

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

I am writing in support of SB122_SD1. I have greatly benefited from naturopathic medicine healthcare. Although I have sought naturopathic care when I suffered greatly from whiplash, I am not able to afford at all times because my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic medicine, I cannot afford to access naturopathic care.

The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Mahalo for this chance to testify,

Julianna Freehand

Honolulu, HI

From: rebecca smith [rebecca@macnats.net]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 3:11 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Subject SB122-SD1 March 1 2011 @ 9:20 am In support

I am Rebecca Smith. I live in Kailua-Kona. I have greatly benefited from naturopathic medicine healthcare.

However, because my healthcare insurance does not cover Naturopathic medicine, I cannot afford access naturopathic care.

The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State.

Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system.

Please support the passage of SB122-SD1

From: getaway@pixi.com
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 3:49 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Naturopathic Medicine passage of SB122_SD1

Dear Sirs;

I am very passionate about my access to naturopathic medical help and integrative medicine. I have been greatly helped by the advice, care and wisdom of these practitioners. I have gone through stage 1 melanoma and a lumpectomy for breast cancer. Integrative medicine has been fantastic for me. I take supplements under the care of my naturopath and use acupuncture, massage, chiropractic and Chinese medicine. I am a very healthy active, soon to be 70 year old in incredible health for my age and having gone through the two challenges mentioned successfully. My oncologist is awesome and works alongside of a excellent naturopath. I feel totally confident in their care together.

Frustratingly, I have had to pay for all of my non alopathic care out of pocket and that has been very difficult for me. We will have a healthier, wiser population if we have access to the best of all medical care. Please pass this bill so I can stay healthy and have peace of mind. I wish all patients could have access to such care and knowledge of all the excellent healing arts, in conjunction with alopathic medicine. There is an incredible amount of living proof! My life is a testimony. I am also learning to deal with stress thanks to my Christian Faith and ancient Chinese Qi Gong practices. There must be a balance we can achieve in our choices of medical treatment by qualified professionals. We need our insurance which we have paid for all of our lives to help pay for this. I ask for this for the future of our children. I am mother of 9 (six adopted) so I am experienced at care giving and have paid lots of medical bills!

Thank you,
Barbara Bobi Moreno
PO Box 703
Kapaau, Hi. 96755
808 889 5663

Send to: WAMTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

I am Hana Hill. I live in Kailua Kona, HI. I have greatly benefited from naturopathic medicine healthcare. However, because my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic medicine, I cannot afford to access naturopathic care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Hana Hill
PO Box 3559
Kailua Kona, HI 96745

TESTIMONY MUST BE RECEIVED BY 4 PM, MONDAY FEB. 28

Send to: WAMTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is __Karoline Karg_____. I live in Kailua Kona , HI. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

_____ Information from ESET NOD32 Antivirus, version of virus signature database 5912
(20110227) _____

The message was checked by ESET NOD32 Antivirus.

<http://www.eset.com>

From: Dona Sellon [alohafridayelectric@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 4:03 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122-SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT

Our names are Dona J. Sellon and Barry N. Friday. We live in Kailua Kona, HI. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care (preventative medicine for me). In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the state. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support passage of SB122-SD1 !!

Mahalo, Dona J. Sellon and Barry N. Friday

From: Michael Simms [msimms6091@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 3:37 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Brett Stone. I live in Kailua Kona , HI. While I use or would like to use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

From: Ricci Racela [Ricci@kohalacc.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 3:41 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

I am Lourdes Racela. I live in Kamuela, HI. I have greatly benefited from naturopathic medicinehealthcare. However, because my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic medicine, I cannot afford to access naturopathic care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

SB 122

From: Julia [passion2travel@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 3:45 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: naturalpathic bill

PLEASE pass this.

This Natralpahic bill save saves us all money, including you.
Preventative as opposed to big business pharmacy inclined MD bills, and drug bills.
Mahalo from our childrens children.

P. S. We need to know....gmo labeling please!
All other countries, including Mexico, Europe have outlawed it.

Sent with Aloha

From: Magicis [magicis@magicisle.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 3:34 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

My name is Rev. Lisa French. I live in Kealahou, HI. I would like to be using naturopathic medical care, because it really works for me. But... My healthcare insurance only covers a very minimal amount for only a few of the visits to naturopathic physicians and I can not afford to have their care as much as I need it. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Thanks so much!

Rev. Lisa French

P.O. BOX 961,

Captain Cook, HI. 96704

808 896-1689

808 323-9699

From: Ross Iwamoto [iwamotoelectric@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 11:29 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Re: Support Needed!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Ross Iwamoto
iwamotoelectric@hawaii.rr.com
808.987.2233

----- Original Message -----

From: drstrong@hilonaturalhealth.com
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 9:14 AM
Subject: Support Needed!

Aloha!

As you may know, NDs are currently trying to pass a bill that would require ALL insurance companies in Hawaii to cover our services. This would presumably mean greater access for you. We passed our first hearing and are on to the second this Tuesday. Written testimony can do a lot for passage of bills and I am once again asking for your support. Please insert your name into the blank space of the paragraph below, cut and paste into an email, and send to the listed email address with the listed subject heading. (If you are a patient of mine or just have something positive to say, adding a sentence or two about your experience makes all the difference in testimonials) These are due tomorrow (Monday) at 4pm. Sorry for the short timing, but we just found out yesterday. It will take you 30 seconds to do it now and I would not ask if it was not incredibly important to my business. Mahalo for all of your support over the years- hopefully this will make it easier for you and your family to have access to my services. Please forward this to anyone who may want to help.

TESTIMONY MUST BE RECEIVED BY 4 PM, MONDAY FEB. 28

Send to: WAMTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov
Subject: SB122_SD1, March 1, 2011, 9:20 a.m. IN SUPPORT.

Dear Chairperson Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:
My name is ___Ross Iwamoto___. I live in Hilo. While I use naturopathic care, my healthcare insurance does not cover naturopathic physicians and I cannot afford to access their care. The services provided by naturopathic physicians are an important component of comprehensive health care. In the context of Hawaii's chronic shortage of qualified health care providers, naturopathic physicians can play a role in expanding access to primary health care within the State. Allowing people to select the services of a naturopathic physician is an important component of preserving choice in the health care system. Please support the passage of SB122_SD1.

Mahalo Nui Loa!

Ross Iwamoto

Dr Sarah Strong, ND
Hilo Natural Health Clinic
152 Puueo St Hilo, HI 96720
808-933-HEAL (4325)
fax: 808-969-9350
www.HiloNaturalHealth.com