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February 24, 2012

Senate Committee Commerce and Consumer Protection Senator Roz Baker, Chair Senator Brian Taniguchi, Vice Chair

Hearing: State Capitol Room 229 February 24, 2012, 9:00 a.m.

## HB 2084, SD1 - Relating to Health Insurance

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 2084, SD1, which prohibits health insurers from requiring a referral from a primary care provider for a mammogram if the person is over the age of forty. The American Cancer Society is the nationwide, community-based, voluntary health organization dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by preventing cancer, saving lives, and diminishing suffering from cancer, through research, education, advocacy, and service.

Prevention and early detection are major factors in lessening the impact of cancer in our State. Breast cancer claims the lives of over one thousand women in Hawaii each year.<sup>1</sup> Early detection of breast cancer will save more lives. The earlier breast cancer can be treated, the higher likelihood that a patient will have a positive outcome. For these reasons, we support this measure.

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

Sincerely,

Cory Chun Government Relations Director

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See American Cancer Society, *Cancer Facts and Figures 2011*, at page 5. <a href="http://www.cancer.org/acs/groups/content/@epidemiologysurveilance/documents/document/acspc-029771.pdf">http://www.cancer.org/acs/groups/content/@epidemiologysurveilance/documents/document/acspc-029771.pdf</a>

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