

SB 2094

Measure Title: RELATING TO HEALTH CARE.

Report Title: QUEST Expanded Access; Evaluation; Executive Office on Aging; Appropriation

Description: Appropriates funds to the department of health's executive office on aging to conduct an evaluation of the QUEST expanded access program.

Companion:

Package: None

Current Referral: HMS, WAM

Introducer(s): GREEN

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



WESLEY LUM, PhD, MPH
DIRECTOR

LORETTA FUDDY, ACSW, MPH
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII
EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON AGING
NO. 1 CAPITOL DISTRICT
250 SOUTH HOTEL STREET, SUITE 406
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-2831

Telephone
(808) 586-0100

Fax
(808) 586-0185

Committee on Human Services

SB2094, RELATING TO HEALTH CARE

**Testimony of Wes Lum
Director, Executive Office on Aging
Attached Agency to Department of Health**

Thursday, February 2, 2012; Conference Room 016

1:15 p.m.

- 1 **EOA's Position:** The Executive Office on Aging (EOA) opposes this measure.
- 2 **Fiscal Implications:** \$200,000 will be appropriated to EOA conduct an evaluation of the QUEST
- 3 Expanded Access Program.
- 4 **Purpose and Justification:** EOA supports the concept of ongoing program evaluations by
- 5 external evaluators, such as the University of Hawaii, to measure our publicly funded program's
- 6 costs, efficiency, and impact, and to determine ways to improve these programs. However, we
- 7 defer to the Department of Human Services on the need for an evaluation of the QUEST Expanded
- 8 Access Program. We also note that EOA is not an appropriate evaluator to measure the effects of
- 9 the QUEST Expanded Access Program, and therefore, EOA opposes this measure. Thank you for
- 10 the opportunity to testify.



841 Bishop Street, Suite 725, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
www.uhcommunityplan.com

Date: February 1, 2012

To: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Human Services

Fr: Dave Heywood, VP UnitedHealthcare Hawaii

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Dave Heywood'.

Re: SB 2094 – Relating to Healthcare
Hearing February 2, 2012, 1:15pm, CR 016, State Capitol

My name is Dave Heywood and I am the Vice President for UnitedHealthcare in Hawaii. United's offers Medicaid, Medicare and employer group health plans in Hawaii, including 21,000 aged, blind and disabled members in our QExA Plan and 20,000 members in our Medicare Advantage Plans. Our local team includes 156 employees across the four major islands including local care coordination, member and provider service.

We appreciate the opportunity to testify today. We have concerns with SB 2094 and believe that this bill is unnecessary as there already is significant oversight and evaluation of the QExA program by the State of Hawaii as well as oversight and evaluation by CMS.

We acknowledge that there were start-up issues with the QExA program in 2009, but we have worked hard to correct and stabilize the program as well as being responsive to any new issues and concerns from members, providers, Med-QUEST, the Administration, the Legislature and the community.

The QExA program is evaluated and monitored continuously through both formal and informal process. This includes, for example, periodic regulatory reporting to Med-QUEST, annual External Quality Review Organization evaluation, and HEDIS reports. We also meet periodically with Med-QUEST, provider associations (e.g. HAH and HLTCA), and Legislative Informational Hearings on QExA/Medicaid.

We appreciate this opportunity to testify today and ask that this Committee seriously consider the real need for this measure and associated expenditure of scarce funds given the current and extensive oversight, evaluation and on-going monitoring of the QExA health plans.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2012 7:54 PM
To: HMS Testimony
Cc: Brenda.Kosky@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2094 on 2/2/2012 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for HMS 2/2/2012 1:15:00 PM SB2094

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Brenda Kosky
Organization: Consumer Family & Youth Alliance
E-mail: Brenda.Kosky@gmail.com
Submitted on: 1/29/2012

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2012 12:21 PM
To: HMS Testimony
Cc: robertscottwall@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2094 on 2/2/2012 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for HMS 2/2/2012 1:15:00 PM SB2094

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Scott Wall
Organization: Individual
E-mail: robertscottwall@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 1/29/2012

Comments: