

The Twenty-Sixth Legislature
Regular Session of 2012

THE SENATE

Committee on Ways and Means
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 211
Friday, February 24, 2012; 9:00 a.m.

**STATEMENT OF THE ILWU LOCAL 142 ON S.B. 2935, SD1
RELATING TO HEALTH CARE COORDINATION**

The ILWU Local 142 supports the intent of S.B. 2935, SD1, which establishes a public-private partnership in a county with a population between 100,000 and 170,000 to develop an integrated system to deliver health care across the spectrum of care and establishes Hale Makua Health Services as a membership corporation with Hawaii Health Systems Corporation as its sole member.

We fully concur with the statement of the problem in Section 1 and the concept of a partnership between Hale Makua and Hawaii Health Systems Corporation to provide for a continuum of care that will be beneficial to both entities as well as patients needing acute and long-term care..

Our concern, however, is with the details, which are not spelled out in the bill, and in particular with Section 3 (3) that exempts from collective bargaining the “sole membership corporation established under this section.” This appears to indicate that workers under this new partnership will no longer be working under a public sector union contract.

Hale Makua, as a private entity, may also have their own employees providing care to patients through this partnership. Currently, Hale Makua employees are unionized and represented by Hawaii Nurses Association, United Public Workers, and the ILWU. We are concerned that the exemption from collective bargaining may also extend to these private sector bargaining units.

The ILWU supports the intent of the bill to establish a partnership between Hale Makua and Hawaii Health Systems Corporation if it will mean that acute care beds at Maui Memorial Medical Center will be used appropriately and that long-term care beds at Hale Makua will be filled. However, we request that the Committee on Ways and Means consider deleting the exemption from collective bargaining, which was not in the bill as originally introduced.

Thank you for considering our views and concerns.