

**LATE**



94-450 Mokuola Street, Suite 106, Waipahu, HI 96767  
808.675.7300 | www.ohanahealthplan.com

Wednesday, February 15, 2012

To: The Honorable Joshua B. Green, M.D.  
Chair, Senate Committee on Health

From: 'Ohana Health Plan

Re: Senate Bill 2935-Relating to Health Care Coordination

Hearing: Wednesday, February 15, 2012, 3:30 p.m.  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 229

---

'Ohana Health Plan is managed by a local team of experienced health care professionals who embrace cultural diversity, advocate preventative care and facilitate communications between members and providers. Our philosophy is to place members and their families at the center of the health care continuum.

'Ohana Health Plan is offered by WellCare Health Insurance of Arizona, Inc. WellCare provides managed care services exclusively for government-sponsored health care programs serving approximately 2.4 million Medicaid and Medicare members nationwide. 'Ohana has been able to take WellCare's national experience and that of our local team to develop an 'Ohana care model that addresses local members' health care, long-term care and care coordination needs.

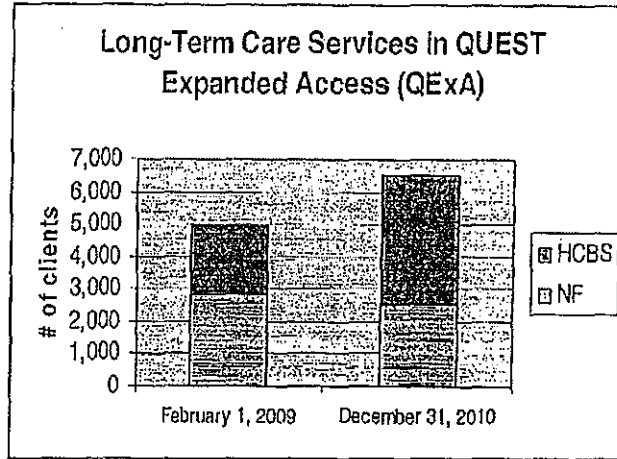
We appreciate this opportunity to respectfully submit these comments on Senate Bill 2935-Relating to Health Care Coordination. This purpose of this bill is to establish a public-private partnership in a county with a population between 100,000 and 170,000 to develop an integrated system to deliver health care across the spectrum of care, and to work at addressing the current crisis in acute care.

While we appreciate and understand the intent of this measure, as we fully support the need to ensure that all areas of our State receive adequate levels of health care delivery and coordination, we have concerns that this measure may undermine the intent and ability of the contracted QUEST Expanded Access (QExA) health plans to efficiently execute their contracts with the Department of Human Services (DHS).

Additionally, we believe that we have been successful in our efforts to reduce hospital waitlists by moving formerly Nursing Facility Level of Care (NF LOC) patients from acute care hospitals into a home and community-based services (HCBS) setting. Since the inception of QExA in 2009, the number of long-term care service eligible patients in a HCBS setting has gone from 42.6% to 61.1%, an 87.8% increase while the number of long-term care service eligible patients in a nursing facility has gone from 57.4% to 38.9%, or an 11.0% decrease.

Change in receipt of long term care services since start of QExA program

	# Clients 2/1/09	# Clients 4 <sup>th</sup> Qtr 2010, av.	% change since baseline (2/09)
HCBS	2,110 (42.6%)	3,963 (61.1%)	87.8%↑
-Own Home	894 (18%)	2,517 (38.8%)	181.5%↑
-CCFFIV E-ARCH	1,216 (24.6%)	1,446 (22.2%)	18.9%↑
NF	2,840 (57.4%)	2,527 (38.9%)	11.0%↓
Total	4,950 (100%)	6,490 (100%)	31.1%↑



Source: Department of Human Services Report

'Ohana Health Plan is committed to our continued efforts to provide quality services for our members on all islands. We are open to dialoguing with the necessary partners to ensure that the needs of our members are met and to work through any issues that might create barriers to achieving those goals.

We would instead recommend that the money proposed to be spent in this measure be re-invested into the State's Medicaid program by restoring benefits and rate reimbursements for Medicaid providers.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide these comments.

# LATE

The continued operation of Hale Makua Health Services is absolutely essential to Maui's community.

My mother was severely injured in a car accident that killed her husband. She was suffering from Alzheimer's disease, and my stepfather was her caregiver. Hale Makua was full at that time but the Wailuku branch had one bed available, and we were fortunate enough to place Mom at that facility.

The care was exceptional, caring and personal. Mom passed away in April, 2008. I continued to go to Hale Makua, Wailuku, as a volunteer, and continue to volunteer to this day. Additionally, I serve on their Special Events Fundraising Committee, and am a member of their Board of Trustees.

I have seen more and more beds become empty due to cuts in Medicaid and Medicare. The very existence of the Wailuku branch is in jeopardy, and any income to help offset the federal and state cuts in the aforementioned benefits will help our community.

SB2935 will certainly go a long way in helping Hale Makua Health Services remain a viable community option for long-term health care for our Kupuna and those with disabilities.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Testifier position: Support  
Submitted by: John Harman  
Email: jharman@aol.com

**LATE**

**Testimony in Support of SB2935 - Relating to Health Care Coordination**

My name is Marci Sato. I am a member of the Health Makua Health Services organization which supports this bill. This bill creates opportunity to develop innovative partnerships which will enable Hale Makua Health Services (HMHS) and Maui Memorial Medical Center (MMMC) to better serve the people of Maui and expand healthcare options for residents. Both organizations have provided the community with healthcare for over 60 years. Hale Makua is currently challenged with an unprecedented number of empty beds, and MMMC is challenged with a wait list of individuals who have no point of discharge, including Hale Makua, for a variety of reasons. The two organizations are looking for ways to create operational synergies, and cost efficiencies, which will ultimately benefit Maui County residents. This collaboration is an important and effective way to address challenges arising from changes in the healthcare industry.

Testifier position: support  
Submitted by: Marci Sato  
Email: marcis@halemakua.org