

Testimony of
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L A T E

Before:
House Committee on Health
The Honorable Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
The Honorable Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

March 13, 2012
9:00am
Conference Room 229

SB 3036 SD1 RELATING TO INSURANCE

Chair Yamane and committee members, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on SB3036 SD1 which amends the law concerning the coverage of adopted children.

Kaiser Permanente Hawaii has comments on this bill.

The bill amends HRS 431L which is titled Medicaid-Related Mandates however this law actually effects group health plans and most of the chapter is about how children are to be treated. In particular it is specific and clear about adopted children.

This bill is unnecessary because under current law any child adopted by anyone or placed for adoption with anyone becomes a dependent eligible for health insurance coverage. The act of adoption or placement for adoption makes the child a dependent. The relationship between the child and the person who adopts them is irrelevant.

The bill specifically calls out grandparents adopting their natural grandchildren. This makes the law more confusing. If grandparents need to be noted specially do other relationships also need to be listed?

Thank you for your consideration.