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TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2014

Wednesday, January 29, 2014
8:45 a.m.

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2269 – RELATING TO HEALTH INSURANCE.

TO THE HONORABLE DELLA AU BELATTI, CHAIR, AND MEMBERS OF THE
COMMITTEE:

My name is Gordon Ito, State Insurance Commissioner, testifying on behalf of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (“Department”). The Department strongly supports this Administration bill, and submits the following comments.

The bill allows the Insurance Division to gather health insurance premium information, and to prepare and disseminate premium comparison sheets to the public. It now collects and creates motor vehicle and home insurance premium comparison sheets that help individuals and businesses to meaningfully shop and compare.

The ACA requires individuals to acquire health care coverage or face a penalty, and, under the Prepaid Health Care Act, many employers must provide prepaid health care plans to employees. Health insurance premium comparison sheets will allow individuals and small businesses to review and compare health premiums from all health insurers, which will help them make informed decisions when purchasing health insurance.

We thank the Committee for the opportunity to present testimony on this matter.

HMSA



An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

January 29, 2014

The Honorable Della Au Belatti, Chair
The Honorable Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair
House Committee on Health

Re: HB 2269 – Relating to Health Insurance

Dear Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Morikawa and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Medical Service Association (HMSA) appreciates the opportunity to testify on HB 2269, which authorizes the Insurance Commissioner to publish annually a list of all managed care plans with representative annual premiums for health insurance. HMSA supports this Bill.

HMSA believes this measure complements one of the underlying tenets of the Affordable Care Act – transparency. Health plans already are providing information to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services on premiums for the federal website. It only makes sense that similar information be provided by the State to the public.

We understand that it is the intent of the State Insurance Division to publish the health insurance premiums of all plans, including plans sold, both through and outside of the Hawaii Health Connector. And, that information will be available to the public at the same time. We believe this process will be beneficial to the community as a whole.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 2269.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JD", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jennifer Diesman
Vice President
Government Relations



HPCA

HAWAII PRIMARY CARE ASSOCIATION

LATE

House Committee on Health

The Hon. Della Au Belatti, Chair

The Hon. Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

Testimony on House Bill 2269

Relating to Health Insurance

Submitted by Robert Hirokawa, Chief Executive Officer

January, 29, 2014, 8:45 am, Room 329

The Hawaii Primary Care Association (HPCA), which represents the federally qualified community health centers in Hawaii, supports House Bill 2269, authorizing the Insurance Commissioner to collect and publish health premium information.

As a representative of health providers and their consumers, many of which are underinsured or uninsured, it is imperative that those purchasing insurance in the state be made fully aware of insurance rates and options.

For these reasons, we strongly support this measure and thank you for the opportunity to testify.

HB2269

Submitted on: 1/29/2014

Testimony for HLT on Jan 29, 2014 08:45AM in Conference Room 329



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Scott Wall	Community Alliance for Mental Health	Support	No

Comments: to: House Health Aloha Chair Belatti and the members of the committee, On behalf of the Community Alliance for Mental Health along with United Self Help we offer our support for HB2269. We believe that the passage of this measure is essential in the State's health care transformation. Scott Wall VP/Legislative Advocate Community Alliance for Mental Health

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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morikawa2-Joanna

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2014 2:34 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: teresa.parsons@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2269 on Jan 29, 2014 08:45AM

HB2269

Submitted on: 1/28/2014

Testimony for HLT on Jan 29, 2014 08:45AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Teresa Parsons	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill as a measure to inform the public of various premiums charged by insurance providers to better determine the correct choice of health care plan. Mahalo for allowing me to submit testimony in support of this measure.

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