



# Hawai'i State Center for Nursing

Written Testimony Presented Before the

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

March 22, 2013, 9:05 a.m.

By

Deborah B Gardner, PhD, RN, FNAP, FAAN

Executive Director

Hawai'i State Center for Nursing

HB 417, HD2 RELATING TO HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION

Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani and members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony.

The Hawai'i State Center for Nursing (Center for Nursing) is in support of this bill, HB 417, HD2, to appropriate an undisclosed sum of money or as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 and the same sum or as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015 for deposit into the Hawai'i Health Corps Revolving Fund. The sums appropriated shall be expended by the University of Hawai'i John A. Burns School of Medicine and the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Nursing.

The Center for Nursing appreciates your continuing support of nursing and oversight of the overall financing policies of Hawai'i. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [nuyolks@gmail.com](mailto:nuyolks@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB417 on Mar 22, 2013 09:05AM\*  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2013 7:13:55 AM

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**HB417**

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 22, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kathy Yokouchi	Hawaii State Center for Nursing	Support	No

**Comments:**

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# **HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS**

C O R P O R A T I O N

*Quality Healthcare For All*

**Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Vice Chair**

Friday, March 22, 2013  
Conference Room 211  
9:05 a.m.  
Hawaii State Capitol

**Testimony Supporting House Bill 417, HD2, Relating to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation; Addresses primary care physician shortages by appropriating funds for the interdisciplinary Hawaii Health Systems Corporation primary care training program at Hilo Medical Center.**

Bruce S. Anderson, Ph.D.  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
Hawaii Health Systems Corporation

Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) supports HB 417, HD2, to appropriate funds to implement and sustain our primary care training program. This program will be based at the Hilo Medical Center and will support primary care training throughout the State.

The purpose of the program is to recruit, train, and retain family practice physicians and primary care teams to meet the State-wide shortages. Primary care physicians and family practice physicians, advanced practice nurses, pharmacists and others are integral to the delivery of quality care in Hawaii. As they promote healthy lifestyles and identify and treat chronic and acute conditions, like severe flu and pneumonia, they are the front-line in supporting the delivery of quality care in any health care system. They prevent more serious illnesses, which are costly and much more difficult to manage. Primary care is the foundation of any efficient health care system.

The recruitment and retention of physicians, advanced practice nurses and support teams in Hawaii's rural areas is an on-going challenge. An interdisciplinary residency program is not a panacea to our recruitment problem. However, it is an important step toward in alleviating our physician and nursing shortages. We respectfully request funds to support the program.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak in support of this measure.

3675 KILAUEA AVENUE • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96816 • PHONE: (808) 733-4020 • FAX: (808) 733-4028

*"Health care that is safe, health care that works, and health care that leaves no one behind"*

THE SENATE  
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF DECISION MAKING

DATE: Friday, March 22, 2013  
TIME: 9:05 a.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 211  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

**Howard Ainsley**  
**East Hawaii Regional CEO**  
**Hawaii Health Systems Corporation**

**HB 417 HD2** - Addresses primary care physician shortages by appropriating funds for the interdisciplinary Hawaii Health Systems Corporation Primary Care Training Program at Hilo Medical Center.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments relating to the HHSC Primary Care Training Program at Hilo Medical Center. I also want to thank members of this committee for helping to navigate this important legislative measure that will directly impact the need to get more Primary Care Physicians into the most rural areas of our State.

Upon introduction, this measure requested an appropriation of **\$2.8 million** for both 2013-14, and 2014-15. Our neighbor island medical members, county government officials, and local business leaders all agree that the appropriation is a much needed investment. Health manpower shortages, and recruitment and retention of primary care providers were identified as major rural health concerns among state offices of rural health. Access to quality health services was the most often identified rural health priority by state and local rural health leaders across the nation. According to the Community Health Profile - Report 2012, in 2010, 14.7% of adults in Hawaii County were uninsured, compared to 9.2% for the City and County of Honolulu. In addition, Hawaii County has the lowest ratio of licensed physicians per 100,000 population compared to the other counties, it has 14% of the State's Population - but only 10% of the State's Physicians, and more residents of Hawaii County do not have a personal doctor. And lastly, the Hawaii County rate of hospital admissions for uncontrolled diabetes in 2009 was nearly twice the City and County of Honolulu rate per 1,000 population.

The Primary Care Training Program uses a team approach which will train primary healthcare teams and advance the model of Patient Centered Medical Homes, with a focus on pro-active care. Some of the activity will be coordinating patient care with specialists. Within our Family Practice Residency model, the team will be physician-led, but utilizing advanced nurse practitioners, clinical community pharmacists, and behavioral specialists. This model of care and style of case management keeps the patient out of the hospital and more effectively manages the condition. The result is highly efficient, customized care that lowers costs long-term.

Our health care leaders in this State have long been aware of the approaching crisis in primary care. We have an opportunity to invest in and support a model of healthcare that is proven and will address the health needs of our rural and neighbor island communities.

Again, I thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Respectfully submitted by: Howard Ainsley, East Hawaii Regional CEO  
1190 Waiuanue Avenue, Hilo, HI 96720  
(808) 932-3101

*"Health care that is safe, health care that works, and health care that leaves no one behind"*

**THE SENATE  
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS**

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

**NOTICE OF DECISION MAKING**

DATE: Friday, March 22, 2013  
TIME: 9:05 a.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 211  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

**HB 417 HD2**

Addresses primary care physician shortages by appropriating funds for the interdisciplinary Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) Primary Care Training Program at Hilo Medical Center.

**Boyd P. Murayama  
Assistant Hospital Administrator  
Medical Group Practice Director  
Hilo Medical Center**

I thank you for the opportunity to present comments relating to HB 417 HD 2, relating to appropriation of funds to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation Primary Care Training Program at the Hilo Medical Center.

As a member of the Hilo Medical Center's Executive Management Team, I resolve to strengthen the state's provider workforce through the HHSC Primary Care Training Program (HHSCPCTP).

Support of this program and of family medicine graduate education will generate greater numbers of providers practicing throughout the islands. I endorse the HHSCPCTP as a Means of Closing the Provider Gap in Hawaii.

Investing in training family practice residents in the neighbor islands is expected to yield a meaningful return on investment.

- Increasing the number of family practice physicians is expected to decrease the number and rate of "potentially avoidable hospitalizations," which the state now pays for through both its Medicaid program and unreimbursed care by state's public hospital system, Hawaii Health Systems Corporation.
- In rural areas of the state the impact of the Residency Program and greater access to family medicine physicians is projected to have a profound impact on lowering the costs of treating expensive and debilitating conditions. For example, diabetes and coronary heart disease have reached epidemic proportions in Hawaii County compared to Oahu and other areas of the state where there is greater access to primary care.
- The known economic multiplier effect of additional physicians in Hawaii means each additional physician is expected to generate 5 new jobs and new tax revenue. (Source: The Lewin Group).

I recognize that the HHSCPCTP uses an advanced model of care delivery that eliminates the need to train or attract unrealistically high numbers of physicians. The current predominant model of care throughout the country involves one primary care physician caring for 2,000-2,500 individuals with a small staff, usually including a medical assistant and receptionist. The team model of care in which the HHSCPCTP is training Hawaii's future providers allows one physician and their team to care for up to 10,000 patients. Critical team components include a nurse practitioner or physician assistant and specialists in chronic disease management such as pharmacists, certified diabetes educators, behavioral health providers, licensed nurses, and well trained non-licensed staff.

I recognize that it is well documented throughout the nation that physicians attending rural training programs are much more likely to practice in a rural area. More than half of residents trained at rural sites stay and practice in this setting after they completed their residency. The same can be expected for advanced practice nurses, psychologists, and clinical pharmacists.

I recognize that a more robust primary care base will attract physicians in other needed specialties to the islands as they will be guaranteed appropriate referrals. The opportunity to teach residents and other health professions students on the outer islands will also attract physicians who might otherwise not stay or come to Hawaii.

I wholeheartedly support the intent of HB 417 HD 2 and strongly urge your support for this critical legislation.

THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF DECISION MAKING

DATE: Friday, March 22, 2013  
TIME: 9:05 a.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 211  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

**HB 417 HD2** - Addresses primary care physician shortages by appropriating funds for the interdisciplinary Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) Primary Care Training Program at Hilo Medical Center.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments relating to the HHSC Primary Care Training Program at Hilo Medical Center. I am hopeful this measure will receive the State assistance needed which will directly impact the need to get more Primary Care Physicians into the most rural areas of our State.

Upon introduction, this measure requested an appropriation of **\$2.8 million** for both 2013-14, and 2014-15. Our neighbor island medical members, county government officials, and local business leaders all agree that the appropriation is a much needed investment. Health manpower shortages, and recruitment and retention of primary care providers were identified as major rural health concerns among state offices of rural health. Access to quality health services was the most often identified rural health priority by state and local rural health leaders across the nation. According to the Community Health Profile - Report 2012, in 2010, 14.7% of adults in Hawaii County were uninsured, compared to 9.2% for the City and County of Honolulu. In addition, Hawaii County has the lowest ratio of licensed physicians per 100,000 population compared to the other counties, it has 14% of the State's Population - but only 10% of the State's Physicians, and more residents of Hawaii County do not have a personal doctor. And lastly, the Hawaii County rate of hospital admissions for uncontrolled diabetes in 2009 was nearly twice the City and County of Honolulu rate per 1,000 population.

The Primary Care Training Program uses a team approach which will train primary healthcare teams and advance the model of Patient Centered Medical Homes, with a focus on pro-active care. Some of the activity will be coordinating patient care with specialists. Within our Family Practice Residency model, the team will be physician-led, but utilizing advanced nurse practitioners, clinical community pharmacists, and behavioral specialists. This model of care and style of case management keeps the patient out of the hospital and more effectively manages the condition. The result is highly efficient, customized care that lowers costs long-term.

Our health care leaders in this State have long been aware of the approaching crisis in primary care. We have an opportunity to invest in and support a model of healthcare that is proven and will address the health needs of our rural and neighbor island communities.

Again, I thank you for this opportunity to provide comments.

Respectfully submitted by: Julie-Beth Ako, Hilo Medical Center, Hospital Systems Services Director  
1190 Waianuenue Avenue, Hilo, Hawaii 96720  
Phone (808) 932-3108

*"Health care that is safe, health care that works, and health care that leaves no one behind"*

THE SENATE  
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF DECISION MAKING

DATE: Friday, March 22, 2013  
TIME: 9:05 a.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 211  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

**Kaloa R.N. Robinson**  
**Director of Marketing**  
**Hilo Medical Center**

**HB 417 HD2** - Addresses primary care physician shortages by appropriating funds for the interdisciplinary Hawaii Health Systems Corporation Primary Care Training Program at Hilo Medical Center.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments relating to the HHSC Primary Care Training Program at Hilo Medical Center. The State funds requested will directly impact the need to get more Primary Care Physicians into the most rural areas of our State.

Upon introduction, this measure requested an appropriation of **\$2.8 million** for both 2013-14, and 2014-15. Our neighbor island medical members, county government officials, and local business leaders all agree that the appropriation is a much needed investment. Health manpower shortages, and recruitment and retention of primary care providers were identified as major rural health concerns among state offices of rural health. Access to quality health services was the most often identified rural health priority by state and local rural health leaders across the nation. According to the Community Health Profile - Report 2012, in 2010, 14.7% of adults in Hawaii County were uninsured, compared to 9.2% for the City and County of Honolulu. In addition, Hawaii County has the lowest ratio of licensed physicians per 100,000 population compared to the other counties, it has 14% of the State's Population - but only 10% of the State's Physicians, and more residents of Hawaii County do not have a personal doctor. And lastly, the Hawaii County rate of hospital admissions for uncontrolled diabetes in 2009 was nearly twice the City and County of Honolulu rate per 1,000 population.

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Again, I thank you for this opportunity to provide comments.

Respectfully submitted by: Kaloa R.N. Robinson, Director of Marketing, Hilo Medical Center  
1190 Waianuenue Avenue, Hilo, HI 96720  
(808) 932-3251



**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [ctakahashi@hpsc.org](mailto:ctakahashi@hpsc.org)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB417 on Mar 22, 2013 09:05AM\*  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 19, 2013 5:32:53 PM

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HB417

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 22, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
christine takahashi	Hilo Medical Center Foundation	Support	No

Comments:

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THE SENATE  
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF DECISION MAKING

DATE: Friday, March 22, 2013  
TIME: 9:05 a.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 211  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

**HB 417 HD2** - Addresses primary care physician shortages by appropriating funds for the interdisciplinary Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) Primary Care Training Program at Hilo Medical Center.

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Our health care leaders in this State have long been aware of the approaching crisis in primary care. We have an opportunity to invest in and support a model of healthcare that is proven and will address the health needs of our rural and neighbor island communities.

Again, I thank you for this opportunity to provide comments.

Respectfully submitted by: **Nelson Nako, Pharm.D., Director of Pharmacy**  
**Hilo Medical Center**  
**1190 Waianuenue Ave**  
**808-932-3050 opt. 1**

THE SENATE  
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: March 22, 2013  
TIME: 9:05 a.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 211  
State Capitol  
415 Beretania St.

**Support of HB 417**

Hawaii Health Systems Corporation – Primary Care Training Program  
**Hilo Medical Center Foundation- Julie Tulang, President**

Dear Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani and members of the committee:

The Hilo Medical Foundation Board supports **HB 417** that appropriates funds to the interdisciplinary **HHSC Primary Care Training Program** administered by Hilo Medical Center. The requested appropriation of **\$2.8 million** for both 2013-14, and 2014-15 is necessary to get this program launched and moving forward. This training program will provide “hands on” exposure to providing health care in a rural environment through a team approach. Patient centered care is the way of the future in health care and this program, we believe, provides the training ingredients for success.

Within our Resident Family Practice Residency model, the team will be physician-led, but utilizing advanced nurse practitioners, clinical community pharmacists, and behavioral specialists. This model of care and style of case management keeps the patient out of the hospital and more effectively manages the condition.

We are witness to the need for more primary care physicians in rural communities like Hawai`i Island. It is with the voice of the people from rural communities like ours that we support **HB 417** that authorizes appropriation of funds for the HHSC Primary Care Training Program administered by the Hilo Medical Center in coordination with Hawaii Health Care Systems.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.



# HILO MEDICAL CENTER FOUNDATION

**PRESIDENT**

Julie Tulang

**VICE PRESIDENT**

Marcella Stroh

**SECRETARY**

Phoebe Lambeth

**TREASURER**

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Steve Morrison, M.D.  
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Michael Seu, M.D.  
Peter Tadaki  
Christine Takahashi  
Representative Clifton Tsuji

**EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR**

Lori Rogers

THE SENATE  
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: March 22, 2013  
TIME: 9:05 a.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 211  
State Capitol  
415 Beretania St.

**Support of HB 417, HD 2**

Hawaii Health Systems Corporation – Primary Care Training Program  
**Hilo Medical Center Foundation**

Dear Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani and Members of the Committee:

I am Lori Rogers, Executive Director for the Hilo Medical Center Foundation. I strongly and respectfully support **HB 417, HD 2** that appropriates funds to the interdisciplinary **HHSC Primary Care Training Program** administered by Hilo Medical Center. There is ample evidence that primary care physicians serve as a strong foundation for a more efficient and effective health care system. This measure will help to address the physician shortage in rural communities throughout our state.

The interdisciplinary HHSC Primary Care Training Program, administered by Hilo Medical Center, is a team care approach now recognized as an essential tool for constructing a more patient-centered, coordinated, and effective health care delivery system.

I strongly and respectfully support HB 417, HD 2, which authorizes appropriation of funds for the HHSC Primary Care Training Program administered by the Hilo Medical Center in coordination with Hawaii Health Care Systems. Through my work at the Hilo Medical Center Foundation, thousands of community members have personally expressed their need for more primary care physicians in rural communities like Hawaii Island. Weekly, I still hear the plea, "Do you know where I can find a doctor?"

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lori Rogers

THE SENATE  
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

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DATE: March 22, 2013  
TIME: 9:05 a.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 211  
State Capitol, Honolulu, Hi

**Support of HB 417 HD2**

Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) – Primary Care Training Program

Dear Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani and members of the committee:


As an active community member, I support **HB 417 HD2** that appropriates funds to the interdisciplinary **HHSC Primary Care Training Program** administered by Hilo Medical Center. The requested appropriation of **\$2.8 million** for both 2013-14, and 2014-15 is necessary to get this program launched and moving forward. This training program will provide “hands on” exposure to providing health care in a rural environment through a team approach. Patient centered care is the way of the future in health care and this program, thereby, I believe this provides the training ingredients for success.

Within our Resident Family Practice Residency model, the team will be physician-led, but utilizing advanced nurse practitioners, clinical community pharmacists, and behavioral specialists, all much needed here on this Island.

As a member of a rural community like Hilo, I support **HB 417 HD2** that authorizes appropriation of funds for the HHSC Primary Care Training Program administered by the Hilo Medical Center. The funding of this much needed training program is a vital part of the Big Island’s urgent needs for medical care for our citizens to be productive members of this Community. I urge you to seriously consider the funding of this vital program for Hawaii Island.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Aloha Kakou,



**Marcella Stroh**  
**Executive Secretary, HMCF**

THE SENATE  
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

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415 South Beretania Street

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Our health care leaders in this State have long been aware of the approaching crisis in primary care. We have an opportunity to invest in and support a model of healthcare that is proven and will address the health needs of our rural and neighbor island communities.

Again, I thank you for this opportunity to provide comments.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Marie Ruhland, Director  
Hilo Medical Center Home Care  
45 Mohouli Street, Suite 201  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720  
(808) 932-4210



March 22, 2013

The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
Hawai'i State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street, Room 211  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

RE: House Bill 417 HD2, RELATING TO THE HAWAI'I HEALTH SYSTEMS  
CORPORATION

Aloha, Chair Ige and Committee Members:

The Hawai'i Council of Mayors, which includes the mayors of Hawai'i, Honolulu, Kaua'i and Maui counties, supports House Bill 417 HD2. The bill as originally drafted would appropriate \$2.8 million for each of the next two fiscal years to fund the Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation primary care training program.

This statewide program is administered by Hilo Medical Center, and includes the Hawai'i Island Family Medicine Residency Program as well as students participating in advanced practice nursing training from the School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa and the University of Hawai'i at Hilo. The program also includes clinical pharmacists from the UH-Hilo College of Pharmacy, and post-doctoral fellows from I Ola Lahui, which trains psychologists to meet the needs of rural communities.

Rural areas of Hawai'i continue to face a very serious physician shortage, and many areas simply do not have enough doctors to provide an adequate level of access to health care for our residents. Projections by the John A. Burns School of Medicine show the physician shortage will dramatically worsen in the next five years as many doctors retire.



**Mayor William Kenoi**  
County of Hawaii  
25 Aupuni Street  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720



**Mayor Kirk Caldwell**  
City and County of Honolulu  
530 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813



**Mayor Bernard Carvalho, Jr.**  
County of Kauai  
4444 Rice Street  
Lihue, Hawaii 96766



**Mayor Alan Arakawa**  
County of Maui  
200 South High Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair

Page 2

March 22, 2013

An important piece of the solution for our communities is the rural residency program, which is now undergoing national accreditation and will begin training residents in 2014. National research shows that 80 percent of residents practice near where they train, and we know this program will help ease the physician shortage in our county and in rural areas across the state.

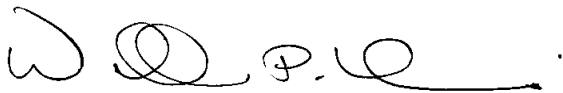
The Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation primary care training program will produce interdisciplinary teams that can care for four times as many patients as independent practitioners, and will expand to serve rural communities on each of the islands. We believe this is an innovative and effective strategy for improving access to primary care services.

The program is designed to allow second- and third-year residents to choose elective studies and work in a variety of communities on different islands, which help provide improved access to care in each of those areas.

Investing in training family practice residents on the neighbor islands is also expected to help decrease the number and rate of potentially avoidable hospitalizations. That will allow the state to save money by reducing unreimbursed care now paid for by Hawai'i's Medicaid program and the state's public hospital system.

We believe this is an important program that will benefit rural residents across the state. Mahalo for your consideration and support for this effort to help keep our families healthy.


Sincerely,



William Kenoi, Mayor  
County of Hawai'i



Kirk Caldwell, Mayor  
City and County of Honolulu



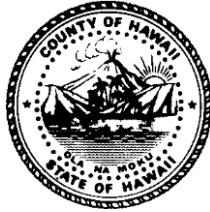
Bernard Carvalho, Jr., Mayor  
County of Kaua'i



Alan Arakawa, Mayor  
County of Maui



**William P. Kenoi**  
*Mayor*



**Walter K.M. Lau**  
*Managing Director*

**Randall M. Kurohara**  
*Deputy Managing Director*

## County of Hawai'i Office of the Mayor

25 Aupuni Street, Suite 2603 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720 • (808) 961-8211 • Fax (808) 961-6553  
KONA: 74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Hwy., Bldg. C • Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740  
(808) 323-4444 • Fax (808) 323-4440

March 22, 2013

The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
Hawai'i State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street, Room 211  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

RE: House Bill 417 HD2, RELATING TO THE HAWAII' I HEALTH SYSTEMS  
CORPORATION

Aloha, Chair Ige and Committee Members:

The County of Hawai'i strongly supports House Bill 417 HD2. The bill as originally drafted would appropriate \$2.8 million for each of the next two fiscal years to fund the Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation primary care training program.

This statewide program is administered by Hilo Medical Center, and includes the Hawai'i Island Family Medicine Residency Program as well as students participating in advanced practice nursing training from the School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa and the University of Hawai'i at Hilo. The program also includes clinical pharmacists from the UH-Hilo College of Pharmacy, and post-doctoral fellows from I Ola Lahui, which trains psychologists to meet the needs of rural communities.

The state and Hawai'i Island continue to face a severe physician shortage, with a recent study estimating that Hawai'i County needs 150 more doctors to provide an adequate level of access to health care for our residents. Projections by the John A. Burns School of Medicine show the physician shortage will dramatically worsen in the next five years as many doctors retire.

An important piece of the solution for our community is the rural residency program, which is now undergoing national accreditation and will begin training residents in 2014. National research shows that 80 percent of residents practice near where they train, and we know this program will help ease the physician shortage in our county and in rural areas across the state.

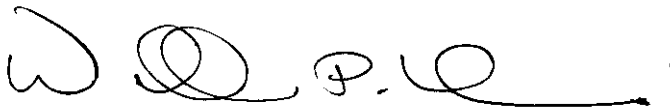
The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair  
Page 2  
March 22, 2013

The Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation primary care training program will produce inter-disciplinary teams that can care for four times as many patients as independent practitioners, and will expand to serve rural communities on each of the islands. We believe this is an innovative and effective strategy for improving access to primary care services.

Investing in training family practice residents on the neighbor islands is also expected to help decrease the number and rate of potentially avoidable hospitalizations. That will allow the state to save money by reducing unreimbursed care now paid for by Hawai'i's Medicaid program and the state's public hospital system.

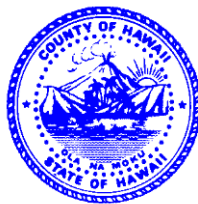
We believe this is an important program that will benefit rural residents across the state. Mahalo for your consideration and support for this effort to help keep our families healthy.

Aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. P. Kenoi', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

William P. Kenoi  
MAYOR

DENNIS “FRESH” ONISHI  
Council Member  
District 3



PHONE: (808) 961-8396  
FAX: (808) 961-8912  
EMAIL: [donishi@co.hawaii.hi.us](mailto:donishi@co.hawaii.hi.us)

## HAWAI‘I COUNTY COUNCIL

25 Aupuni Street, Hilo, Hawai‘i 96720

March 19, 2013

The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Dear Chair Ige and Committee Members,

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important bill.

The Hawai‘i County Council, at its meeting in Hilo on January 23, 2013, unanimously approved Resolution 41-13, Draft 2.

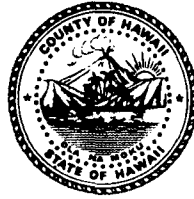
In summary, the Council’s resolution urges the Legislature to approve the \$2.8 million appropriation contained in the original version of House Bill 417 to address critical future shortfalls in the number of primary care physicians in Hawai‘i’s rural and underserved areas.

The Hawai‘i Health Systems Corporation Primary Care Training Program will train four new primary care providers each year, most of whom will likely remain and practice on Hawai‘i Island. By doing so, these new physicians will improve prevention, detection and management of chronic diseases. Your support of this program is essential for accessible, quality health care for Hawai‘i.

On behalf of the Hawai‘i County Council, I ask that you reinstate the \$2.8 million appropriation contained in the original version of this bill and recommend approval.

Sincerely,

Dennis “Fresh” Onishi  
Hawai‘i County Council member



RESOLUTION NO. 41 13  
(DRAFT 2)

**A RESOLUTION URGING THE LEGISLATURE TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE HAWAI‘I HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION PRIMARY CARE TRAINING PROGRAM.**

**WHEREAS**, the State of Hawai‘i is facing a severe shortage of health care providers, especially in primary care; and

**WHEREAS**, Hawai‘i Health Systems Corporation estimates that Hawai‘i Island will have fewer than 300 physicians by 2020, less than half the number needed to fill demand; and

**WHEREAS**, a survey of island physicians released in February 2012 suggests that 32 percent of those surveyed would cease their practice within five years; and

**WHEREAS**, the Hawai‘i Health Systems Corporation Primary Care Training Program is a statewide program administered by Hilo Medical Center; and

**WHEREAS**, the Primary Care Training Program includes the Hawai‘i Island Family Medicine Residency Program and training for advanced practice nurses from the School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa and the School of Nursing at the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo, clinical pharmacists from the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo College of Pharmacy, and post-doctoral fellows from I Ola Lahui, an organization that trains psychologists to meet the needs of those living in rural areas; and

**WHEREAS**, Hawai‘i Health Systems Corporation East Hawai‘i Regional CEO Howard Ainsley has called the residency program “the top priority for us for bringing needed programs to the community”; and

**WHEREAS**, the success of this program’s training model will lead to the creation of interdisciplinary teams capable of caring for many more patients, helping to alleviate the physician shortage; and

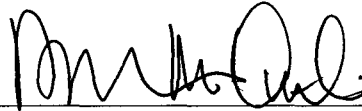
**WHEREAS**, the health care needs of Hawai‘i County will suffer without assistance from the State Legislature; now, therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF HAWAI‘I** that the Hawai‘i State Legislature is urged to appropriate \$2,800,000 for the Hawai‘i Health Systems Corporation Primary Care Training Program for fiscal year 2013-2014, and the same sum for the fiscal year 2014-2015.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the County Clerk shall transmit a copy of this resolution to the Honorable Governor Neil Abercrombie, the Honorable Senate President Donna Mercado Kim, the Honorable Speaker of the House of Representatives Joe Souki, the Honorable Senator Gilbert Kahele, the Honorable Senator Russell Ruderman, the Honorable Senator Josh Green, the Honorable Senator Mālama Solomon, the Honorable Representative Mark Nakashima, the Honorable Representative Clift Tsuji, the Honorable Representative Richard Onishi, the Honorable Representative Faye Hanohano, the Honorable Representative Denny Coffman, the Honorable Representative Nicole Lowen, the Honorable Representative Cindy Evans and the Honorable Mayor William P. Kenoi.

Dated at Kona, Hawai'i, this 23rd day of January, 2013.

INTRODUCED BY:



COUNCIL MEMBER, COUNTY OF HAWAI'I

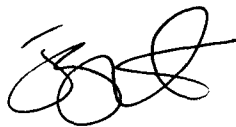
COUNTY COUNCIL  
County of Hawai'i  
Hilo, Hawai'i

I hereby certify that the foregoing RESOLUTION was by the vote indicated to the right hereof adopted by the COUNCIL of the County of Hawai'i on January 23, 2013.

ATTEST:



COUNTY CLERK



CHAIRPERSON & PRESIDING OFFICER

ROLL CALL VOTE

	AYES	NOES	ABS	EX
EOFF	X			
FORD	X			
ILAGAN	X			
KANUHA	X			
KERN	X			
ONISHI	X			
POINDEXTER			X	
WILLE	X			
YOSHIMOTO	X			
	8	0	1	0

Reference: C-83.2/Council

RESOLUTION NO. 41 13

(DRAFT 2)



To: Committee on Ways and Means  
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair

Date: March 22, 2013, Conference Room 211, 9:05 a.m.

Re: **HB 417, HD2 – RELATING TO THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION**

Chair Ige and Committee Members:

My name is Barbara Kim Stanton, State Director for AARP Hawaii. AARP is a membership organization of people 50 and older with nearly 150,000 members in Hawaii. AARP fights on issues that matter to Hawaii families, including the high cost of long-term care; access to affordable, quality health care for all generations; providing the tools needed to save for retirement; and serving as a reliable information source on issues critical to Americans age 50+.

**AARP supports HB 417, HD2 - Relating to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation.** This bill appropriates funds for the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) Primary Care Training Program at the Hilo Medical Center. This measure will help address the shortage of primary care providers in rural communities through the implementation of a primary care training program. The HHSC Primary Care Training Program utilizes a team care approach that helps provide a more patient-centered, coordinated, and effective health care delivery system.

Our members are concerned about the shortage of primary care physicians in rural communities and this bill helps address their concerns.

We urge you to support HB 417, HD2.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [nishieast888@gmail.com](mailto:nishieast888@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB417 on Mar 22, 2013 09:05AM  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 19, 2013 5:57:07 PM

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HB417

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 22, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
DELBERT NISHIMOTO	East Hawaii Hiroshima Kenjin Kai	Support	No

Comments: Our membership of 525 members are in support of this HB 417, providing primary healthcare providers and in turn improve access to healthcare throughout the State of Hawaii and especially the rural communities on the Island of Hawaii, Maui, Kauai, and Molokai. We are citizens of our great State of Hawaii. Mahalo Nui Loa.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)



# Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce

117 Keawe Street, Suite 205  
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720-2851  
Phone: (808) 935-7178  
Fax: (808) 961-4435  
E-mail: [admin@hicc.biz](mailto:admin@hicc.biz)  
[www.hicc.biz](http://www.hicc.biz)

February 20, 2013

Submitted On-Line at

<http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/submittestimony.aspx>

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Vaughn Cook

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## COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Honorable, Senator David Y. Ige, Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

### RE: Testimony in Support of HB 417, HD2 Hawaii Health Systems Corporation – Primary Care Training Program

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, Vice Chair Johanson, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

As President-Elect of the Hawaii Island Chamber of Commerce, I support **HB417, HD 2** which will appropriate funds to the interdisciplinary **HHSC Primary Care Training Program** administered by Hilo Medical Center. The requested appropriation of **\$2.8 million** for both 2013-14, and 2014-15 is necessary to get this program launched and moving forward.

I have witnessed the need for more primary care physicians in rural communities like Hawai'i Island. As a member of a rural community like Hilo, I support **HB 417 HD2** that authorizes appropriation of funds for the HHSC Primary Care Training Program administered by the Hilo Medical Center in coordination with Hawaii Health Care Systems.

Primary care physicians are **critical** to the health and well-being of our community, Island and State! This measure will help to address the physician shortage in rural communities throughout our state. The care-coordination approach to health care will expand our resources and improve the quality of health care throughout the State.

The Hawaii Island Chamber of Commerce, which includes more than 230 member businesses and over 500 member representatives, serves as an important voice of business in Hawaii. The Chamber has consistently supported the Residency Program which will provide funds for the HHSC Primary Care Training Program administered by Hilo Medical Center. The program will provide "hands on" exposure to providing health care in a rural environment through a team approach.





# Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce

117 Keawe Street, Suite 205  
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720-2851  
Phone: (808) 935-7178  
Fax: (808) 961-4435  
E-mail: [admin@hicc.biz](mailto:admin@hicc.biz)  
[www.hicc.biz](http://www.hicc.biz)

Patient centered care is the way of the future in health care and this program, I believe, provides the training ingredients for success.

Within our Resident Family Practice Residency model, the team will be physician-led, but utilizing advanced nurse practitioners, clinical community pharmacists, and behavioral specialists. This model of care and style of case management keeps the patient out of the hospital and more effectively manages the condition.

Access to medical care is a **critical need** for ALL RESIDENTS of the State of Hawaii. Without sufficient health care resources, we are putting our entire state at risk! We need to be pro-active! The voice of the business community is very clear! The time for rhetoric must come to an end and the time for ACTION must be now! The Primary Care Training Program seeks to encourage medical residents to consider the benefits of practicing medicine on the Island of Hawaii. This program is aligned with the Chamber's positions on Health Care as follows:

#### Health Care:

1. The Chamber supports Health Care initiatives that assist Hawaii Island Communities:
2. Recruit, retain, and train health care professionals and para-professionals
3. Improve health care infrastructure and health care systems
4. Provide access to quality health care for all community members.
5. Provide preventative and general health care education to consumers

Nothing is more important to maintaining health, safety and welfare than having access to doctors in your own community. We urge you to support **HB 417 HD2** allowing funding for this program to continue. The funds will be well spent and will encourage more doctors to live and practice in our community.

The paradigm must shift towards improved health care and more medical resources in the state. Please stand behind the health and well-being of our citizenry. We need your support. We must pass **HB417, HD 2** in order to move our community and state towards health care sufficiency.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Respectfully Submitted,  
**Error! Objects cannot be created from editing field codes.**

Judith Fox-Goldstein,  
President-Elect, Hawaii Island Chamber of Commerce



# **Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce**

117 Keawe Street, Suite 205  
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720-2851  
Phone: (808) 935-7178  
Fax: (808) 961-4435  
E-mail: [admin@hicc.biz](mailto:admin@hicc.biz)  
[www.hicc.biz](http://www.hicc.biz)

THE SENATE  
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF DECISION MAKING  
DATE: Friday, March 22, 2013  
TIME: 9:05 a.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 211  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

**Support of HB 417, HD 2**  
Hawaii Health Systems Corporation – Primary Care Training Program

Dear Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Committee:

As Director of the Hawaii Island Family Medicine Residency and Team Leader of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation Primary Care Training Program I submit the following comments on the legislation to support this program, coming before you today as HB 417, HD2 which mirrors the language of SB 1383 which you have already evaluated and passed through this committee. Medicine is changing rapidly. No longer can providers sit in their office and wait for patients to come to them with a concern. Instead, they must reach out to their patients, providing guidance and encouraging healthy practices, even if the patient never calls for an appointment. Neither can the state of Hawaii continue to sit back and wait for mainland trained professionals to come and assume the care of its population. Like the sugar plantations that recruited many of those doctors and nurses, those days are gone. Instead a proactive approach is needed in 2013.

Thus, my initial comment to you is regarding the timeliness of this piece of legislation. Timeliness is exemplified in three ways. First, the HHSC Primary Care Training Program is largely up and running, but cannot add the essential component of physician training without state support. Just last week we underwent our accreditation site visit for the Family Medicine Residency and we are poised to start recruiting medical students for matriculation next year. Second, the need for additional providers is now. In the last several weeks I have been approached by three organizations asking me if I have doctors for them. One was a native Hawaiian health organization, another a community health center, and the third a hospital. Less than two week ago, I spoke with a physician in his 70's who said he would hang on and keep practicing until we could train physicians to take over his practice. Third, the opportunity to attract capable trainees is on the rise. This week, the American Association of Medical Colleges reported an uptick in interest in primary care among medical students, and many medical schools are increasing their class size to accomodate a larger

number of students with a declared intention of practicing primary care. Without new training sites, however, there will be nowhere for these medical students to go.

My second comment is that the state of Hawaii is already spending the money requested to support this program. However, instead of spending it to keep people healthy, we are spending it to mop up after they become ill. Ten percent of Hawaii residents surveyed by this Legislature's own Hawaii Physician Workforce Assessment Project stated that they were unable to access a physician when needed during the past year. Even worse twenty three percent of respondents said that a family member went to the emergency room because they could not access a primary care provider. An emergency room visit costs on average \$900. If an ambulance is called, add another \$400. If the patient is admitted, the average daily cost is over \$900 per day in Hawaii. Hawaii spends nearly \$500 million of its own dollars on the Medicaid/Quest programs. To insure its over 53,000 employees, the state spends a nearly equal amount. Much of this nearly \$1 billion in costs is due to lack of primary care or poorly organized "old fashioned" primary care. Robust team-based care can really change this picture, as proven in studies that look at US counties with good primary care versus those without. To pay for this program each year we need to prevent only 151 cases of out of control infections, known as septicemia, at \$18,500 per hospitalization. I submit that this is easily done.

Hawaii trained family physicians and their primary care teams are needed now and will be even more sorely needed in four years when the first group has completed training.

Over those intervening four years, I expect that both federal funding streams for primary care physician training and physician payment for primary care services will undergo something of a revolution. At that time, we can reassess the need for ongoing support of this program by the state of Hawaii. However, at this time, the answer is clear. Hawaii has lagged behind other states in both numbers of training slots per population and support of those training slots, and as such we are at a great disadvantage in assuring access to primary care by our citizens. 2013 is the year to change this by fully funding the bill as initially written for the next two years with an appropriation of **\$2.8 million** for both 2013-14, and 2014-15.

Respectfully, I hope that these comments will guide your actions today and your support of this bill in during the conference committee process.

Sincerely,

Kristine I McCoy, MD, MPH  
Residency Director  
Hawaii Island Family Medicine Residency/  
Hawaii Island Family Health Center  
45 Mohouli Street, Suite 101

Hilo, HI 96720  
kmccoy@hpsc.org



## HAWAII MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

1360 S. Beretania Street, Suite 200, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814  
Phone (808) 536-7702 Fax (808) 528-2376 www.hmaonline.net

DATE: Friday, March 22, 2013  
TIME: 9:05 a.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 211

TO:  
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

From: Hawaii Medical Association  
Dr. Steven Kemble, MD, President  
Dr. Linda Rasmussen, MD, Legislative Co-Chair  
Dr. Joseph Zobian, MD, Legislative Co-Chair  
Dr. Christopher Flanders, DO, Executive Director  
Lauren Zirbel, Community and Government Relations

Re: HB 417 RELATING TO THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION

In Support.

The HMA appreciates the effort to enable health care providers to service rural and underserved areas.

Hawaii is currently experiencing a patient access to medical care crisis due to an inadequate supply of health care providers statewide.

**Hawaii health systems corporation primary care training program is an effective way to reduce the impact of the shortage of primary care providers and improve access to healthcare throughout the State.**

Economic incentives that reduce the financial burden of a medical practice can serve as meaningful incentive to practice in rural areas.

Financial burdens include:

- Overhead that can be as high as 75% of gross income;
  - Overhead includes, high medical malpractice insurance premiums (premiums vary by medical specialty);

### OFFICERS

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- Overhead includes increasing manpower, office rent and other business expenses;
- Income is based on inadequate payment for services from private and public health plans; and
- For new physicians, typical student loan debt of \$150,000.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.



55 Merchant Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813-4333

## HAWAI'I PACIFIC HEALTH

Kapi'olani • Pali Momi • Straub • Wilcox

808-535-7401  
www.hawaiipacifichealth.org

**Friday, March 22, 2013 – 9:05 am**  
**Conference Room 211**

### **The Senate Committee on Ways and Means**

To: Senator David Ige, Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

From: Virginia Pressler, MD, MBA

**Re: HB 417, HD2 RELATING TO THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS  
CORPORATION  
Comments in Support**

---

My name is Virginia Pressler, MD, MBA, Executive Vice President and Chief Strategic Officer for Hawai'i Pacific Health (HPH). HPH is a nonprofit health care system and the state's largest health care provider anchored by its four nonprofit hospitals: Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children, Pali Momi Medical Center, Straub Clinic & Hospital and Wilcox Memorial Hospital on Kauai. HPH is committed to providing the highest quality medical care and service to the people of Hawai'i and the Pacific Region through its four affiliated hospitals, 49 outpatient clinics and service sites, more than 5,400 employees and 1,300 physicians on staff.

We are writing in **support** of HB 417, HD2 which appropriates funds to address the shortage of primary care physicians in the State by making an appropriation for the interdisciplinary Hawaii health systems corporation primary care training program at Hilo Medical Center.

The physician workforce has been carefully studied, resulting in the documented finding that we now face a significant shortfall of practicing physicians. The study found a current shortage of 600 physicians (more than 20% of our total supply) and an impending shortage of 1,600 physicians by 2020. Hawai'i needs over 200 additional adult primary care providers, notably in rural areas where access to health care is limited. This bill is a positive step toward easing the shortage of primary care physicians in Hawaii.

Thank you for considering our comments.



Affiliates of Hawai'i Pacific Health





*Uplifting the Nation*

*Hui Mālama Ola Nā 'Ōiwi*  
*Native Hawaiian Health Care System*

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THE SENATE  
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF DECISION MAKING

DATE: Friday, March 22, 2013  
TIME: 9:05 a.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 211  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

**HB 417 HD2** - Addresses primary care physician shortages by appropriating funds for the interdisciplinary Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) Primary Care Training Program at Hilo Medical Center.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments relating to the HHSC Primary Care Training Program at Hilo Medical Center. I am hopeful this measure will receive the State assistance needed which will directly impact the need to get more Primary Care Physicians into the most rural areas of our State.

Upon introduction, this measure requested an appropriation of **\$2.8 million** for both 2013-14, and 2014-15. Our neighbor island medical members, county government officials, and local business leaders all agree that the appropriation is a much needed investment. Health manpower shortages, and recruitment and retention of primary care providers were identified as major rural health concerns among state offices of rural health. Access to quality health services was the most often identified rural health priority by state and local rural health leaders across the nation. According to the Community Health Profile - Report 2012, in 2010, 14.7% of adults in Hawaii County were uninsured, compared to 9.2% for the City and County of Honolulu. In addition, Hawaii County has the lowest ratio of licensed physicians per 100,000 population compared to the other counties, it has 14% of the State's Population - but only 10% of the State's Physicians, and more residents of Hawaii County do not have a personal doctor. And lastly, the Hawaii County rate of hospital admissions for uncontrolled diabetes in 2009 was nearly twice the City and County of Honolulu rate per 1,000 population.

The Primary Care Training Program uses a team approach which will train primary healthcare teams and advance the model of Patient Centered Medical Homes, with a focus on pro-active care. Some of the activity will be coordinating patient care with specialists. Within our Family Practice Residency model, the team will be physician-led, but utilizing advanced nurse practitioners, clinical community pharmacists, and behavioral specialists. This model of care and style of case management keeps the patient out of the hospital and more effectively manages the condition. The result is highly efficient, customized care that lowers costs long-term.

Our health care leaders in this State have long been aware of the approaching crisis in primary care. We have an opportunity to invest in and support a model of healthcare that is proven and will address the health needs of our rural and neighbor island communities.

Again, I thank you for this opportunity to provide comments.

Respectfully submitted by: Michelle M. Hiraishi, Hui Mālama Ola Nā 'Ōiwi, Executive Director  
69 Railroad Avenue, Suite A-3 Hilo, HI 96720  
(808) 969-9220

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**Cc:** [cvancamp3@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:cvancamp3@hawaii.rr.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB417 on Mar 22, 2013 09:05AM  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 19, 2013 3:15:37 PM

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HB417

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 22, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carol VanCamp	Japanese Chamber of Commerce & Industry of Hawaii	Support	No

Comments: This statewide program is critical to help reduce our doctor shortage. The lack of primary care physicians will prompt people to leave our state and/or not relocate here in the first place. This is a small investment to make for the future healthcare of our state.

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75-5737 Kuakini Hwy. Suite 208  
Kailua-Kona, HI 96740  
Phone: 329-1758 Fax: 329-8564  
www.Kona-Kohala.com info@kona-kohala.com

Testimony to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
Friday, March 22, 2013  
9:05 a.m..  
Conference Room 211, State Capitol

Re: HB 417 HD2 Relating to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation

Aloha Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani and Members of this Committee:

My name is Vivian Landrum, and I am the President/CEO of the Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce (KKCC). KKCC represents over 530 business members and is the leading business advocacy organization on the west side of Hawai'i Island. KKCC also actively works to enhance the environment, unique lifestyle and quality of life in West Hawai'i for both residents and visitors alike.

The Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce strongly supports HB 417 HD2.

The shortage of physicians on Hawaii Island has been documented and discussed for the past ten years. As noted in several reports from the North Hawaii Outcomes Project as well as the Hawaii County Community Health Profile, the health of the people of Hawaii County is consistently worse than the state average. Factors attributing to this include genetics, social and economic conditions, health related behaviors and **access to healthcare**. Increasing the healthcare workforce was cited as one requirement to improve the health of Hawaii Island's people.

The HHSC Primary Care Training Program could help stem the current and projected shortage by increasing the chances for additional physicians on Hawaii Island as it is documented that many residents choose to remain where they are trained. This could have a positive domino effect as new physicians will require staff, thus supporting job growth as well.

The physician shortage also impacts hiring challenges for employers. Members of this Chamber have reported even though they have health care plans for their employees; new employees are struggling to find physicians who will take on new patients. Current practicing physicians are already overburdened and reluctant to bring on new clients. Qualified workforce candidates are therefore reluctant to upgrade to a new job if the change means a change in health care provider.

The Primary Care Training Program has the potential to impact Hawai'i Island via a multitude of positive outcomes. More primary care providers will decrease unnecessary hospital visits, increase ability to treat debilitating diseases and lower costs, are just a few to add to the list.

Hawaii Island is experiencing a gradual recovery from the past few years of economic turmoil. The appropriation of funding for a Primary Care Training Program is an action that is greatly needed for this Island now and for the future. I urge you to support HB 417 HD2.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Vivian Landrum".

Vivian Landrum  
President/CEO

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [maraiahn@punahealth.org](mailto:maraiahn@punahealth.org)  
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**Date:** Tuesday, March 19, 2013 2:52:37 PM

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HB417

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 22, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Maraiah Yamamoto	PCMC	Support	No

Comments:

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**Testimony of  
Gary M. Slovin / Mihoko E. Ito  
on behalf of  
Wyndham Vacation Ownership**

DATE: March 19, 2013

TO: Senator David Ige  
Chair, Committee on Ways and Means  
*Submitted Via WAMTestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov*

RE: **H.B. 424 H.D.1, S.D. 1 – Relating to Timeshare Conveyances**  
**Hearing Date: Friday, March 22, 2013 at 9:00 a.m.**  
**Conference Room: 211**

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Dear Chair Ige and Members of the Committee on Ways:

We submit these comments behalf of Wyndham Vacation Ownership. Wyndham Vacation Ownership offers individual consumers and business-to-business customers a broad suite of hospitality products and services through its portfolio of world-renowned brands. Wyndham has a substantial presence in Hawaii through its Wyndham Vacation Resorts and WorldMark by Wyndham brands.

Wyndham **supports** H.B. 424 H.D.1, S.D.1, which authorizes the Governor to appoint commissioners of deeds to assist with executing time share conveyance documents outside of the Untied States for time share properties located within the State.

This bill would help streamline the process for consumers who are located abroad and wish to purchase a timeshare property in Hawaii. The Commissioner of Deeds could then take acknowledgements and proofs of execution of the consumer's signature on all necessary paperwork and enable the document to be properly recorded in accordance with Hawaii law.

The current S.D. 1 reflects several changes that have been made bill to strengthen the consumer protection elements of the measure. Wyndham is in full support of these amendments, and urges the Committee to pass the bill in its current form, which is effective upon approval.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written comments on this measure.

---

Gary M. Slovin  
Mihoko E. Ito  
Tiffany N. Yajima  
Nicole A. Velasco

1099 Alakea Street, Suite 1400  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
(808) 539-0840

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
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**Cc:** [ahamane@hawaiiintel.net](mailto:ahamane@hawaiiintel.net)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB417 on Mar 22, 2013 09:05AM  
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HB417

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 22, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Amy Hamane	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The Family Practice Residency program is so important to the health and well-being of Hawaii residents, especially those that live in rural areas where physician access is scarce. We cannot compete with bigger cities in attracting physicians so we must "grow" our own. Please pass this bill. Thank you-

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**Barry K. Taniguchi**  
50 E. Puainako Street, Hilo Hawai'i 96720  
Phone (808) 959-2817, Fax (808) 959-8050  
E-mail: [barry\\_taniguchi@ktasuperstores.com](mailto:barry_taniguchi@ktasuperstores.com)

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: March 22, 2013  
TIME: 9:05 a.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 211  
State Capitol

**Support of HB 417 HD2**

Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) – Primary Care Training Program

Dear Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani and members of the committee:

As a member of the Hawaii Island community, I support **HB 417 HD2** that appropriates funds to the interdisciplinary **HHSC Primary Care Training Program** to be administered by Hilo Medical Center. The requested appropriation of **\$2.8 million** for both 2013-14, and 2014-15 is necessary to get this program launched and moving forward. This training program will provide “hands on” exposure to providing health care in a rural environment through a team approach. Patient centered care is the way of the future in health care on Hawaii Island and this program, I believe, provides the necessary ingredients for success.

Within our Resident Family Practice Residency model, the team will be physician-led, but utilizing advanced nurse practitioners, clinical community pharmacists, and behavioral specialists. This model of care and style of case management keeps the patient out of the hospital and more effectively manages the condition.

I have witnessed the need for more primary care physicians in rural communities like Hawai'i Island. As a member of a rural community like Hilo, I support **HB 417 HD2** that authorizes appropriation of funds for the HHSC Primary Care Training Program administered by the Hilo Medical Center in coordination with Hawaii Health Care Systems.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Barry K. Taniguchi".

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**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
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HB417

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 22, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bill Quinlan	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani and members of the committee: As a community member, I support HB 417 HD2 that appropriates funds to the interdisciplinary HHSC Primary Care Training Program administered by Hilo Medical Center. The requested appropriation of \$2.8 million for both 2013-14, and 2014-15 is necessary to get this program launched and moving forward. This training program will provide "hands on" exposure to providing health care in a rural environment through a team approach. Patient centered care is the way of the future in health care and this program, I believe, provides the training ingredients for success. Within our Resident Family Practice Residency model, the team will be physician-led, but utilizing advanced nurse practitioners, clinical community pharmacists, and behavioral specialists. This model of care and style of case management keeps the patient out of the hospital and more effectively manages the condition. I have witnessed the need for more primary care physicians in rural communities like Hawai'i Island. As a member of a rural community like Hilo, I support HB 417 HD2 that authorizes appropriation of funds for the HHSC Primary Care Training Program administered by the Hilo Medical Center in coordination with Hawaii Health Care Systems. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

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HB417

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 22, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brad Kinoshita	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Support of HB 417 HD2 Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) – Primary Care Training Program Dear Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani and members of the committee: As a community member, I support HB 417 HD2 that appropriates funds to the interdisciplinary HHSC Primary Care Training Program administered by Hilo Medical Center. The requested appropriation of \$2.8 million for both 2013-14, and 2014-15 is necessary to get this program launched and moving forward. This training program will provide “hands on” exposure to providing health care in a rural environment through a team approach. Patient centered care is the way of the future in health care and this program, I believe, provides the training ingredients for success. Within our Resident Family Practice Residency model, the team will be physician-led, but utilizing advanced nurse practitioners, clinical community pharmacists, and behavioral specialists. This model of care and style of case management keeps the patient out of the hospital and more effectively manages the condition. I have witnessed the need for more primary care physicians in rural communities like Hawai`i Island. As a member of a rural community like Hilo, I support HB 417 HD2 that authorizes appropriation of funds for the HHSC Primary Care Training Program administered by the Hilo Medical Center in coordination with Hawaii Health Care Systems. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

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THE SENATE  
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: March 22, 2013  
TIME: 9:05 a.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 211  
State Capitol  
415 Beretania St.

**Support of HB 417, HD 2**

Hawaii Health Systems Corporation – Primary Care Training Program

Dear Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani and members of the committee:

As a community member, I support **HB 417** that appropriates funds to the interdisciplinary **HHSC Primary Care Training Program** administered by Hilo Medical Center. The requested appropriation of **\$2.8 million** for both 2013-14, and 2014-15 is necessary to get this program launched and moving forward. This training program will provide “hands on” exposure to providing health care in a rural environment through a team approach. Patient centered care is the way of the future in health care and this program, I believe, provides the training ingredients for success.

Within our Resident Family Practice Residency model, the team will be physician-led, but utilizing advanced nurse practitioners, clinical community pharmacists, and behavioral specialists. This model of care and style of case management keeps the patient out of the hospital and more effectively manages the condition.

I have witnessed the need for more primary care physicians in rural communities like Hawai`i Island. As a member of a rural community like Hilo, I support **HB 417, HD 2** that authorizes appropriation of funds for the HHSC Primary Care Training Program administered by the Hilo Medical Center in coordination with Hawaii Health Care Systems.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Breanne Miller

THE SENATE  
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF DECISION MAKING

DATE: Friday, March 22, 2013  
TIME: 9:05 a.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 211  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

**HB 417 HD2** - Addresses primary care physician shortages by appropriating funds for the interdisciplinary Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) Primary Care Training Program at Hilo Medical Center.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments relating to the HHSC Primary Care Training Program at Hilo Medical Center. I am hopeful this measure will receive the State assistance needed which will directly impact the need to get more Primary Care Physicians into the most rural areas of our State.

Upon introduction, this measure requested an appropriation of **\$2.8 million** for both 2013-14, and 2014-15. Our neighbor island medical members, county government officials, and local business leaders all agree that the appropriation is a much needed investment. Health manpower shortages, and recruitment and retention of primary care providers were identified as major rural health concerns among state offices of rural health. Access to quality health services was the most often identified rural health priority by state and local rural health leaders across the nation. According to the Community Health Profile - Report 2012, in 2010, 14.7% of adults in Hawaii County were uninsured, compared to 9.2% for the City and County of Honolulu. In addition, Hawaii County has the lowest ratio of licensed physicians per 100,000 population compared to the other counties, it has 14% of the State's Population - but only 10% of the State's Physicians, and more residents of Hawaii County do not have a personal doctor. And lastly, the Hawaii County rate of hospital admissions for uncontrolled diabetes in 2009 was nearly twice the City and County of Honolulu rate per 1,000 population.

The Primary Care Training Program uses a team approach which will train primary healthcare teams and advance the model of Patient Centered Medical Homes, with a focus on pro-active care. Some of the activity will be coordinating patient care with specialists. Within our Family Practice Residency model, the team will be physician-led, but utilizing advanced nurse practitioners, clinical community pharmacists, and behavioral specialists. This model of care and style of case management keeps the patient out of the hospital and more effectively manages the condition. The result is highly efficient, customized care that lowers costs long-term.

Our health care leaders in this State have long been aware of the approaching crisis in primary care. We have an opportunity to invest in and support a model of healthcare that is proven and will address the health needs of our rural and neighbor island communities.

Again, I thank you for this opportunity to provide comments.

Respectfully submitted by: **Cathy Meyer-Uyehara, FACHE, NHA**  
**Hale Ho'ola Hamakua, Hospital Administrator**  
**45-547 Plumeria Street Honokaa, HI**  
**808 932-4100**

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HB417

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 22, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carol A. VanCamp	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We must take steps to attract more primary care physicials to your state. Without enough doctors, people are using our emergency rooms for basic treatment, which leads to significantly more costs that our taxpayers end up paying for.

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**Brian M. Iwata**  
101 Aupuni St., #139  
Hilo, HI 96720

March 20, 2013

The Honorable Senator Ige, Chair  
The Honorable Senator Kidani, Vice Chair  
Committee on Ways and Means  
Hawaii State Capitol Rm #211  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: **Support for HB 417 HD2**  
Relating to Hawaii Health Systems Corp. (HHSC)

Chair Ige and Vice-Chair Kidani and committee members:

I support the funding of the HHSC – Primary Care Training Program as it will help alleviate a critical shortage of health care providers by using an interdisciplinary training of doctors, nurses, pharmacists and other health care students.

Respectfully submitted,

*Brian M. Iwata*

Brian M. Iwata

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**Cc:** [Cmauro4@yahoo.com](mailto:Cmauro4@yahoo.com)  
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HB417

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 22, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Charles Mauro	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this measure and will educate the residents in dermatology.

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Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
March 22, 2013 at 9:05 a.m.

by  
Donald O. Straney, Ph.D.  
Chancellor, University of Hawai'i at Hilo

HB417 HD2 RELATING TO HAWAI'I HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION

Chair Green, Vice Chair Baker, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Donald Straney, Chancellor of the University of Hawai'i at Hilo. I am testifying as a member of the Hawai'i Island community and I support the intent of HB417 HD2 to fund an interdisciplinary Hawai'i health systems corporation primary care training program administered by the Hilo Medical Center.

Supporting rural health care programs is important to the mission of UH Hilo. Funding the primary care training program will greatly increase and improve the quality of health care for people on the Island of Hawai'i. This program is a solution to attract and train doctors, nurses, dental hygienist, clinical pharmacist and psychologist to be comfortable living in a rural setting, be more cognizant as well as understand the challenges that our island faces in terms of accessing and delivering quality health care.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB417 HD2. Aloha.

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**Cc:** [aliapoint@gmail.com](mailto:aliapoint@gmail.com)  
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HB417

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 22, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Edward Johnston	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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## HB417

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 22, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
edward(ted) peskin,md	Individual	Support	No

Comments: HB 417 HD2 - Addresses primary care physician shortages by appropriating funds for the interdisciplinary Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) Primary Care Training Program at Hilo Medical Center. Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments relating to the HHSC Primary Care Training Program at Hilo Medical Center. I am hopeful this measure will receive the State assistance needed which will directly impact the need to get more Primary Care Physicians into the most rural areas of our State. Upon introduction, this measure requested an appropriation of \$2.8 million for both 2013-14, and 2014-15. Our neighbor island medical members, county government officials, and local business leaders all agree that the appropriation is a much needed investment. Health manpower shortages, and recruitment and retention of primary care providers were identified as major rural health concerns among state offices of rural health. Access to quality health services was the most often identified rural health priority by state and local rural health leaders across the nation. According to the Community Health Profile - Report 2012, in 2010, 14.7% of adults in Hawaii County were uninsured, compared to 9.2% for the City and County of Honolulu. In addition, Hawaii County has the lowest ratio of licensed physicians per 100,000 population compared to the other counties, it has 14% of the State's Population - but only 10% of the State's Physicians, and more residents of Hawaii County do not have a personal doctor. And lastly, the Hawaii County rate of hospital admissions for uncontrolled diabetes in 2009 was nearly twice the City and County of Honolulu rate per 1,000 population. The Primary Care Training Program uses a team approach which will train primary healthcare teams and advance the model of Patient Centered Medical Homes, with a focus on pro-active care. Some of the activity will be coordinating patient care with specialists. Within our Family Practice Residency model, the team will be physician-led, but utilizing advanced nurse practitioners, clinical community pharmacists, and behavioral specialists. This model of care and style of case management keeps the patient out of the hospital and more effectively manages the condition. The result is highly efficient, customized care that lowers costs long-term. Our health care leaders in this State have long been aware of the approaching crisis in primary care. We have an opportunity to invest in and support a model of healthcare that is proven and will address the health needs of our rural and neighbor island communities. Again, I

thank you for this opportunity to provide comments. Respectfully submitted by:  
Edward(Ted) Peskin,MD Medical Director for Acute Care and Practicing  
Obstetrician/Gynecologist Hilo Medical Center 1190 Waianuenue Ave Hilo, HI 96720  
808-9323170

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THE SENATE  
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: March 22, 2013  
TIME: 9:05 a.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 211  
State Capitol  
415 Beretania St.

**Support of HB 417 HD2**

Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) – Primary Care Training Program

Dear Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani and members of the committee:

As the Community Relations Manager for the East Hawaii Region of Hawaii Health Systems Corporation, I support **HB 417 HD2** that appropriates funds to the interdisciplinary **HHSC Primary Care Training Program** administered by Hilo Medical Center. The requested appropriation of **\$2.8 million** for both 2013-14, and 2014-15 is necessary to get this program launched and moving forward. This training program will provide “hands on” exposure to providing health care in a rural environment through a team approach. Patient centered care is the way of the future in health care and this program, I believe, provides the training ingredients for success.

Within our Family Practice Residency model, the team will be physician-led, but utilizing advanced nurse practitioners, clinical community pharmacists, and behavioral specialists. This model of care and style of case management keeps the patient out of the hospital and more effectively manages the condition.

I have witnessed the need for more primary care physicians in rural communities like Hawai`i Island first-hand. I have received numerous phone calls from people who hadn't had any luck finding a primary care physician. They were frustrated beyond belief. As a member of a rural community like Hilo, I support **HB 417 HD2** that authorizes appropriation of funds for the HHSC Primary Care Training Program administered by the Hilo Medical Center in coordination with Hawaii Health Care Systems. I know this training program would make a difference in the lives of many!

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

THE SENATE  
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF DECISION MAKING

DATE: Friday, March 22, 2013  
TIME: 9:05 a.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 211  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

**HB 417 HD2** - Addresses primary care physician shortages by appropriating funds for the interdisciplinary Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) Primary Care Training Program at Hilo Medical Center.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments relating to the HHSC Primary Care Training Program at Hilo Medical Center. I am hopeful this measure will receive the State assistance needed which will directly impact the need to get more Primary Care Physicians into the most rural areas of our State.

I am a Hospice and Palliative care physician on the island of Hawaii. We are in the process of developing health care systems to address the needs of patients with serious illness and their families utilizing Palliative Care and Hospice services. We are severely hampered by the lack of primary care physicians and medical specialists on the island with whom we can work together to provide needed patient care.

Studies have shown that physicians are highly likely to remain in practice in the community in which they train, and those that trained in a rural area are much more likely to continue their career serving rural populations.

Currently federal funding is lacking for new residency programs, and our state is faced with the issue of funding. However we cannot afford to wait for the federal government to change its policies, we need new primary care doctors to start practicing in our community

Respectfully submitted by: **Frances E. Spector, MD**  
**Hospice of Hilo**  
**1011 Waianuenue Ave**  
**590 Kapiolani**  
**Hilo, Hawaii 96720**  
**808 969 1733, 934 2910**

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [fjk96720@yahoo.com](mailto:fjk96720@yahoo.com)  
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HB417

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 22, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Fred J. Koehnen	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I normally do not take the time to testify on pending legislation, relying on our elected lawmakers to do what is right and prudent. I know there are many computing requests for funding support. Some are worthwhile, some are hogwash. In the long run, nothing is more important than healthcare. Support for the Residency Program is designed to assist that. I think it worthy of support.

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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB417 on Mar 22, 2013 09:05AM  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 19, 2013 3:27:39 PM

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HB417

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 22, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gay Leah Barfield, Ph.D.,Lic.MFT	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, Once again I am continuing to support the passage of this important health bill in order to better serve the rural population in particular and in the Hilo area of the Big Island. We so much need continuity of service, extended services, and committed health providers to realize that. Please support such possibilities for us all. Mahalo Gay Barfield

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## HB417

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 22, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Irene A. Nagao	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Dear Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani and members of the committee: As a community member of a rural community, Hilo, Hawaii, I support HB 417 HD2 that appropriates funds to the interdisciplinary HHSC Primary Care Training Program administered by Hilo Medical Center. The requested appropriation of \$2.8 million for both 2013-14 and 2014-15 is necessary to get this program launched and moving forward. This training program will provide "hands on" exposure to providing health care in a rural environment through a team approach. Patient centered care is the way of the future in health care and this program provides the training necessary for success. Within the Resident Family Practice Residency model, the team will be physician-led, but utilizing advanced nurse practitioners, clinical community pharmacists, and behavioral specialists. As a 40 year plus resident of Hilo, I have many friends who cannot find a primary physician here and find that many physicians will not take new patients, because they are so overwhelmed. I support HB 417 HD2 that authorizes appropriation of funds for the HHSC Primary Care Training Program administered by the Hilo Medical Center in coordination with Hawaii Health Care Systems and ask that you support the passing of this appropriation. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. Irene A. Nagao Community Member

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HB417

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 22, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Glen Shigehara	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**Council Services Division**  
4396 Rice Street, Suite 209  
Lihu'e, Kaua'i, Hawai'i 96766

March 20, 2013

**TESTIMONY OF JAY FURFARO  
COUNCIL CHAIR, KAUA'I COUNTY COUNCIL  
ON  
H.B. 417, H.D. 2, RELATING TO  
THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION  
Committee on Ways and Means  
Friday, March 22, 2013  
9:05 a.m.  
Conference Room 211**

Dear Chair Luke and Committee Members:

**RE: H.B. No. 417, H.D. 2, Appropriates funds for the Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) Primary Care Training Program at the Hilo Medical Center**

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments relating to the HHSC Primary Care Training Program at Hilo Medical Center. The Primary Care Training Program is an effective means of increasing the number of primary care physicians and clinicians practicing in Hawai'i. Studies have shown that in five (5) years, 1-in-3 physicians currently practicing on Hawai'i island will not be doing so. It is well known that due to the shortage of providers on the island, many Primary Care Physicians are not taking new patients, and when a new Physician establishes a practice on the island, that practice is soon filled to capacity within 2-3 weeks.

The Family Practice Residents will train primary healthcare teams and advance the model of Patient Centered Medical Homes, with a focus on pro-active care. With this new model of care, the program will be able to service ten thousand (10,000) patients compared to two thousand five hundred (2,500) with the new traditional model of a single Provider and his office staff. This paradigm of care includes advanced practice nurses, pharmacist clinicians, and psychologists, as well as family physicians. Being able to provide preventative care will also help lower costs to families. The focus is on training for practices in smaller communities – where skills are different.

Committee on Ways and Means  
RE: H.B. No. 417, H.D. 2  
March 20, 2013  
Page 2

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the Residency program, Residents will be able to work in other neighbor island (Hawai'i, Maui, Kaua'i) facilities, in close consultation with their Resident Professors.

The appropriation being requested is an investment in a model of healthcare that will best serve our rural and neighborhood island communities. Again, I thank you for this opportunity to provide comments.

Sincerely,



JAY FURFARO  
Council Chair, Kaua'i County Council

AB:cy

THE SENATE  
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF DECISION MAKING

DATE: Friday, March 22, 2013  
TIME: 9:05 a.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 211  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

**HB 417 HD2** - Addresses primary care physician shortages by appropriating funds for the interdisciplinary Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) Primary Care Training Program at Hilo Medical Center.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments relating to the HHSC Primary Care Training Program at Hilo Medical Center. I am hopeful this measure will receive the State assistance needed which will directly impact the need to get more Primary Care Physicians into the most rural areas of our State.

Upon introduction, this measure requested an appropriation of **\$2.8 million** for both 2013-14, and 2014-15. Our neighbor island medical members, county government officials, and local business leaders all agree that the appropriation is a much needed investment. Health manpower shortages, and recruitment and retention of primary care providers were identified as major rural health concerns among state offices of rural health. Access to quality health services was the most often identified rural health priority by state and local rural health leaders across the nation. According to the Community Health Profile - Report 2012, in 2010, 14.7% of adults in Hawaii County were uninsured, compared to 9.2% for the City and County of Honolulu. In addition, Hawaii County has the lowest ratio of licensed physicians per 100,000 population compared to the other counties, it has 14% of the State's Population - but only 10% of the State's Physicians, and more residents of Hawaii County do not have a personal doctor. And lastly, the Hawaii County rate of hospital admissions for uncontrolled diabetes in 2009 was nearly twice the City and County of Honolulu rate per 1,000 population.

The Primary Care Training Program uses a team approach which will train primary healthcare teams and advance the model of Patient Centered Medical Homes, with a focus on pro-active care. Some of the activity will be coordinating patient care with specialists. Within our Family Practice Residency model, the team will be physician-led, but utilizing advanced nurse practitioners, clinical community pharmacists, and behavioral specialists. This model of care and style of case management keeps the patient out of the hospital and more effectively manages the condition. The result is highly efficient, customized care that lowers costs long-term.

Our health care leaders in this State have long been aware of the approaching crisis in primary care. We have an opportunity to invest in and support a model of healthcare that is proven and will address the health needs of our rural and neighbor island communities.

Again, I thank you for this opportunity to provide comments.

Respectfully submitted by:

Jennifer Maninga, BSN, MBA  
(And hopeful Nurse Practitioner/Doctorate of Nursing Practice Student, UH Hilo)  
Director, Patient Services  
Hilo Medical Center  
1190 Waianuenue Avenue, Hilo 96720  
(808)932-3137

THE SENATE  
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF DECISION MAKING

DATE: Friday, March 22, 2013  
TIME: 9:05 a.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 211  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

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The Primary Care Training Program uses a team approach which will train primary healthcare teams and advance the model of Patient Centered Medical Homes, with a focus on pro-active care. Some of the activity will be coordinating patient care with specialists. Within our Family Practice Residency model, the team will be physician-led, but utilizing advanced nurse practitioners, clinical community pharmacists, and behavioral specialists. This model of care and style of case management keeps the patient out of the hospital and more effectively manages the condition. The result is highly efficient, customized care that lowers costs long-term.

Our health care leaders in Hawaii have long been aware of the approaching crisis in primary care. We have an opportunity to invest in and support a model of healthcare that is proven and will address the health needs of our rural and neighbor island communities.

Again, thank you for this opportunity to provide comments.

Respectfully submitted by: Juvir Martin  
Human Resources Clerk  
HHSC-Hilo Medical Center  
1190 Waianuenue Ave.  
Hilo, HI 96720  
808-280-5957 (C)  
808-932-3167 (W)  
[martinj@hhsc.org](mailto:martinj@hhsc.org)

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
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HB417

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 22, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John and Liz Field	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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THE SENATE  
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Senator David Y. Ige, Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF DECISION MAKING

DATE: Friday, March 22, 2013  
TIME: 9:05 a.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 211  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

**HB 417 HD2** - Addresses primary care physician shortages by appropriating funds for the interdisciplinary Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) Primary Care Training Program at Hilo Medical Center.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments relating to the HHSC Primary Care Training Program at Hilo Medical Center. I am hopeful this measure will receive the State assistance needed which will directly impact the need to get more Primary Care Physicians into the most rural areas of our State.

Upon introduction, this measure requested an appropriation of **\$2.8 million** for both 2013-14, and 2014-15. Our neighbor island medical members, county government officials, and local business leaders all agree that the appropriation is a much needed investment. Health manpower shortages, and recruitment and retention of primary care providers were identified as major rural health concerns among state offices of rural health. Access to quality health services was the most often identified rural health priority by state and local rural health leaders across the nation. According to the Community Health Profile - Report 2012, in 2010, 14.7% of adults in Hawaii County were uninsured, compared to 9.2% for the City and County of Honolulu. In addition, Hawaii County has the lowest ratio of licensed physicians per 100,000 population compared to the other counties, it has 14% of the State's Population - but only 10% of the State's Physicians, and more residents of Hawaii County do not have a personal doctor. And lastly, the Hawaii County rate of hospital admissions for uncontrolled diabetes in 2009 was nearly twice the City and County of Honolulu rate per 1,000 population. It is far too often we receive calls from the public asking for help in locating a physician in the community that will take new patients. This program has helped many and has the opportunity to help many more.

The Primary Care Training Program uses a team approach which will train primary healthcare teams and advance the model of Patient Centered Medical Homes, with a focus on pro-active care. Some of the activity will be coordinating patient care with specialists. Within our Family Practice Residency model, the team will be physician-led, but utilizing advanced nurse practitioners, clinical community pharmacists, and behavioral specialists. This model of care and style of case management keeps the patient out of the hospital and more effectively manages the condition. The result is highly efficient, customized care that lowers costs long-term.

Our health care leaders in this State have long been aware of the approaching crisis in primary care. We have an opportunity to invest in and support a model of healthcare that is proven and will address the health needs of our rural and neighbor island communities.

Again, I thank you for this opportunity to provide comments.

Respectfully submitted by:      Joni Waltjen, Management Analyst  
Hilo Medical Center  
1190 Waianuenue Avenue  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

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HB417

Submitted on: 3/21/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 22, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lillian N. Takemura	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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HB417

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 22, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lynda Dolan MD	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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HB417

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 22, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marjory Kinoshita	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Support of HB 417 HD2 Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) – Primary Care Training Program Dear Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani and members of the committee: As a community member, I support HB 417 HD2 that appropriates funds to the interdisciplinary HHSC Primary Care Training Program administered by Hilo Medical Center. The requested appropriation of \$2.8 million for both 2013-14, and 2014-15 is necessary to get this program launched and moving forward. This training program will provide “hands on” exposure to providing health care in a rural environment through a team approach. Patient centered care is the way of the future in health care and this program, I believe, provides the training ingredients for success. Within our Resident Family Practice Residency model, the team will be physician-led, but utilizing advanced nurse practitioners, clinical community pharmacists, and behavioral specialists. This model of care and style of case management keeps the patient out of the hospital and more effectively manages the condition. I have witnessed the need for more primary care physicians in rural communities like Hawai`i Island. As a member of a rural community like Hilo, I support HB 417 HD2 that authorizes appropriation of funds for the HHSC Primary Care Training Program administered by the Hilo Medical Center in coordination with Hawaii Health Care Systems. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

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HB417

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 22, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melissa Gariando	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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HB417

Submitted on: 3/20/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 22, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michele R. Robinson	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: It is imperative that Hilo Medical Center receive new physicians practicing in the field of Internal Medicine to the Big Island. With these new doctors on the East side of the island, then perhaps the West side of the island will have a chance in having Internal Medicine Physicians willing to practice. We are in great need of physicians of this practice as well as East Hawaii, but do not have a place for the new graduates to practice their field at this time. With these physicians practicing in Hilo there might be a chance that some of them maybe willing to relocate on this side of the island as well. Please reconsider the importance of this matter and vote the correct way on this bill. Mahalo and Aloha always, Michele R. Robinson, Kailua-Kona, HI

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THE SENATE  
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF DECISION MAKING

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TIME: 9:05 a.m.  
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415 South Beretania Street

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Our health care leaders in this State have long been aware of the approaching crisis in primary care. We have an opportunity to invest in and support a model of healthcare that is proven and will address the health needs of our rural and neighbor island communities.

Again, I thank you for this opportunity to provide comments.

Respectfully submitted by:

**Ming Peng, MD**

688 Kinoole Street, Suite 103

Hilo, HI 96720

808-935-1825

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HB417

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 22, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy Knight	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Passage of this bill is critical to health care on Big Island. The desperate need of our elderly and keiki for health care access is paramount and can be addressed with provisions in this bill which can only happen with passage.

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HB417

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 22, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Niki Kinoshita	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Support of HB 417 HD2 Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) – Primary Care Training Program Dear Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani and members of the committee: As a community member, I support HB 417 HD2 that appropriates funds to the interdisciplinary HHSC Primary Care Training Program administered by Hilo Medical Center. The requested appropriation of \$2.8 million for both 2013-14, and 2014-15 is necessary to get this program launched and moving forward. This training program will provide “hands on” exposure to providing health care in a rural environment through a team approach. Patient centered care is the way of the future in health care and this program, I believe, provides the training ingredients for success. Within our Resident Family Practice Residency model, the team will be physician-led, but utilizing advanced nurse practitioners, clinical community pharmacists, and behavioral specialists. This model of care and style of case management keeps the patient out of the hospital and more effectively manages the condition. I have witnessed the need for more primary care physicians in rural communities like Hawai`i Island. As a member of a rural community like Hilo, I support HB 417 HD2 that authorizes appropriation of funds for the HHSC Primary Care Training Program administered by the Hilo Medical Center in coordination with Hawaii Health Care Systems. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

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HB417

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 22, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Hanley	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Our island has a severe shortage of doctors right now. The current state of our physician shortage is creating a situation where we not only having difficulty getting new doctors to practice here, but we are going to start losing doctors we already have due to burnout and frustration with an overwhelmed system. If allowed to continue on this path, the physician shortage will ultimately contribute to many deaths. Something needs to be done NOW! This Primary Physician Training Program is the best chance I see to turn things in the right direction. To get physicians that will actually STAY. It's important that medical students train in our community so they can understand the needs and challenges that face our island. The time they spend training here will also allow them the opportunity to experience the aloha of our community and the beauty of our island and thus want to live here and be part of community. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to give my opinion. Aloha!

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**Date:** Tuesday, March 19, 2013 5:36:20 PM

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HB417

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 22, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Irvine	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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HB417

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 22, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Surber	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Honorable Committee Members, I am participating in what has become an annual ritual over the past five years of requesting the State of Hawaii to provide financial support for the Rural Family Practice Residency Program in Hilo. This year, as a member of the Hawaii Island Healthcare Alliance I urge you to enact HB 417. There is no question that the residents of Hawaii Island have the worst access to healthcare and, as a result, the worst health outcomes in the State. There is no question that there is a severe shortage of healthcare providers, and especially physicians on the island. There is no question that this shortage of providers and poor health outcomes will worsen without effective action. There is no question that the Rural Residency Program is an effective strategy to bring physicians to Hawaii Island for years to come. There is no question that the program, in collaboration with many local and statewide partners, has been developing an excellent interdisciplinary training program that is set for accreditation with the capacity to train residents in the near future. However, there is also no question that this program will most likely fail and this opportunity will be lost without funding from State government. The only question is when legislators from all of our islands will support a small contribution toward the health of the residents of Hawaii Island. I suggest this year. Thank you for your consideration. Robert Surber Keaau, Hawaii

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THE SENATE  
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: March 22, 2013 at 9:05 a.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 211  
State Capitol, 415 Beretania St.

**Support of HB 417 HD2**

Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) – Primary Care Training Program

Dear Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani and members of the committee:

Even as an Oahu resident, I too support **HB 417 HD2** that appropriates funds to the interdisciplinary **HHSC Primary Care Training Program** administered by Hilo Medical Center. The requested appropriation of **\$2.8 million** for both 2013-14, and 2014-15 is necessary to get this program moving forward.

This program will provide “hands on” exposure to providing essential health care in a rural environment through a team approach. Patient centered care is the way of the future in health care and this program provides the training for success and betterment for the local residents

I have personally witnessed the need for more primary care physicians in rural communities like Hawai`i Island. As a regular visitor of Hilo, I understand and support **HB 417 HD2** that authorizes appropriation of funds for the HHSC Primary Care Training Program administered by the Hilo Medical Center in coordination with Hawaii Health Care Systems.

Please Kokua as you may know how much the Hilo community needs this.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo Nui Loa,

Ms. Sharon Au, Owner & Principal Broker  
Properties of the Pacific, LLC  
3615 Harding Ave Suite 203  
Honolulu, HI 96816

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
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**Date:** Tuesday, March 19, 2013 3:31:52 PM

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HB417

Submitted on: 3/19/2013

Testimony for WAM on Mar 22, 2013 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sheri Nishida	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Support of HB 417 HD2 Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) – Primary Care Training Program Dear Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani and members of the committee: As a community member, I support HB 417 HD2 that appropriates funds to the interdisciplinary HHSC Primary Care Training Program administered by Hilo Medical Center. The requested appropriation of \$2.8 million for both 2013-14, and 2014-15 is necessary to get this program launched and moving forward. This training program will provide “hands on” exposure to providing health care in a rural environment through a team approach. Patient centered care is the way of the future in health care and this program, I believe, provides the training ingredients for success. Within our Resident Family Practice Residency model, the team will be physician-led, but utilizing advanced nurse practitioners, clinical community pharmacists, and behavioral specialists. This model of care and style of case management keeps the patient out of the hospital and more effectively manages the condition. I have witnessed the need for more primary care physicians in rural communities like Hawai`i Island. As a member of a rural community like Hilo, I support HB 417 HD2 that authorizes appropriation of funds for the HHSC Primary Care Training Program administered by the Hilo Medical Center in coordination with Hawaii Health Care Systems. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

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THE SENATE  
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF DECISION MAKING

DATE: Friday, March 22, 2013  
TIME: 9:05 a.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 211  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

**HB 417 HD2** - Addresses primary care physician shortages by appropriating funds for the interdisciplinary Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) Primary Care Training Program at Hilo Medical Center.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments relating to the HHSC Primary Care Training Program at Hilo Medical Center. I am hopeful this measure will receive the State assistance needed which will directly impact the need to get more Primary Care Physicians into the most rural areas of our State.

Upon introduction, this measure requested an appropriation of **\$2.8 million** for both 2013-14, and 2014-15. Our neighbor island medical members, county government officials, and local business leaders all agree that the appropriation is a much needed investment. Health manpower shortages, and recruitment and retention of primary care providers were identified as major rural health concerns among state offices of rural health. Access to quality health services was the most often identified rural health priority by state and local rural health leaders across the nation. According to the Community Health Profile - Report 2012, in 2010, 14.7% of adults in Hawaii County were uninsured, compared to 9.2% for the City and County of Honolulu. In addition, Hawaii County has the lowest ratio of licensed physicians per 100,000 population compared to the other counties, it has 14% of the State's Population - but only 10% of the State's Physicians, and more residents of Hawaii County do not have a personal doctor. And lastly, the Hawaii County rate of hospital admissions for uncontrolled diabetes in 2009 was nearly twice the City and County of Honolulu rate per 1,000 population.

The Primary Care Training Program uses a team approach which will train primary healthcare teams and advance the model of Patient Centered Medical Homes, with a focus on pro-active care. Some of the activity will be coordinating patient care with specialists. Within our Family Practice Residency model, the team will be physician-led, but utilizing advanced nurse practitioners, clinical community pharmacists, and behavioral specialists. This model of care and style of case management keeps the patient out of the hospital and more effectively manages the condition. The result is highly efficient, customized care that lowers costs long-term.

Our health care leaders in this State have long been aware of the approaching crisis in primary care. We have an opportunity to invest in and support a model of healthcare that is proven and will address the health needs of our rural and neighbor island communities.

Again, I thank you for this opportunity to provide comments.

Respectfully submitted by: **Steve Morrison MD, Hilo Medical Center Emergency Department,  
Medical Director  
1190 Waianuenue, Hilo, HI  
896-2855**

THE SENATE  
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF DECISION MAKING

DATE: Friday, March 22, 2013  
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**HB 417 HD2** - Addresses primary care physician shortages by appropriating funds for the interdisciplinary Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) Primary Care Training Program at Hilo Medical Center.

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The Primary Care Training Program uses a team approach which will train primary healthcare teams and advance the model of Patient Centered Medical Homes, with a focus on pro-active care. Some of the activity will be coordinating patient care with specialists. Within our Family Practice Residency model, the team will be physician-led, but utilizing advanced nurse practitioners, clinical community pharmacists, and behavioral specialists. This model of care and style of case management keeps the patient out of the hospital and more effectively manages the condition. The result is highly efficient, customized care that lowers costs long-term.

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Again, I thank you for this opportunity to provide comments.

Respectfully submitted by: Tandy Newsome, RN, CIC,  
Quality Director  
Hilo Medical Center  
1190 Waianuenue Avenue  
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720  
**(808) 932-3180**

THE SENATE  
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF DECISION MAKING

DATE: Friday, March 22, 2013  
TIME: 9:05 a.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 211  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

**HB 417 HD2** - Addresses primary care physician shortages by appropriating funds for the interdisciplinary Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) Primary Care Training Program at Hilo Medical Center.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments relating to the HHSC Primary Care Training Program at Hilo Medical Center. I am hopeful this measure will receive the State assistance needed which will directly impact the need to get more Primary Care Physicians into the most rural areas of our State.

Upon introduction, this measure requested an appropriation of **\$2.8 million** for both 2013-14, and 2014-15. Our neighbor island medical members, county government officials, and local business leaders all agree that the appropriation is a much needed investment. Health manpower shortages, and recruitment and retention of primary care providers were identified as major rural health concerns among state offices of rural health. Access to quality health services was the most often identified rural health priority by state and local rural health leaders across the nation. According to the Community Health Profile - Report 2012, in 2010, 14.7% of adults in Hawaii County were uninsured, compared to 9.2% for the City and County of Honolulu. In addition, Hawaii County has the lowest ratio of licensed physicians per 100,000 population compared to the other counties, it has 14% of the State's Population - but only 10% of the State's Physicians, and more residents of Hawaii County do not have a personal doctor. And lastly, the Hawaii County rate of hospital admissions for uncontrolled diabetes in 2009 was nearly twice the City and County of Honolulu rate per 1,000 population.

The Primary Care Training Program uses a team approach which will train primary healthcare teams and advance the model of Patient Centered Medical Homes, with a focus on pro-active care. Some of the activity will be coordinating patient care with specialists. Within our Family Practice Residency model, the team will be physician-led, but utilizing advanced nurse practitioners, clinical community pharmacists, and behavioral specialists. This model of care and style of case management keeps the patient out of the hospital and more effectively manages the condition. The result is highly efficient, customized care that lowers costs long-term.

Our health care leaders in this State have long been aware of the approaching crisis in primary care. We have an opportunity to invest in and support a model of healthcare that is proven and will address the health needs of our rural and neighbor island communities.

Again, I thank you for this opportunity to provide comments.

Respectfully submitted by: Tracy S. Aruga, Private Citizen  
92 E Chong Street, Hilo, HI 96720  
(808) 932.2528

THE SENATE  
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF DECISION MAKING

DATE: Friday, March 22, 2013  
TIME: 9:05 a.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 211  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

**HB 417 HD2** - Addresses primary care physician shortages by appropriating funds for the interdisciplinary Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) Primary Care Training Program at Hilo Medical Center.

Thank you . It is **vital** to receive the State assistance needed which will directly impact the need to get more Primary Care Physicians into the most rural areas of our State.

An appropriation, of **\$2.8 million** for both 2013-14, and 2014-15, is what neighbor island medical members, county government officials, and local business leaders all agree is a much needed investment. Health manpower shortages, and recruitment and retention of primary care providers were identified as major rural health concerns among state offices of rural health that negatively impact **ACCESS** to quality health services across the nation.

The Primary Care Training Program uses a **team** approach which will train primary healthcare teams and advance the model of Patient Centered Medical Homes, with a focus on pro-active care. Some of the activity will be coordinating patient care with specialists. Within our Family Practice Residency model, the team will be physician-led, but utilizing advanced nurse practitioners, clinical community pharmacists, and behavioral specialists. This model of care and style of case management keeps the patient out of the hospital and more effectively manages the condition. The result is highly efficient, customized care that lowers costs long-term.

The health care team approach is a **key feature** because we start the flow of non physicians professionals into the system more quickly. We have an opportunity to **be a leader** in addressing the shortage of health care professionals with his program. The \$2.8 million appropriation is essential to put this program into operation as a model for others.

Our health care leaders in this State have long been aware of the approaching crisis in primary care. We have an opportunity to invest in and support a model of healthcare that is proven and will address the health needs of our rural and neighbor island communities.

Again, I thank you for this opportunity to provide comments.

Respectfully submitted by: **Wayne Kanemoto**  
**Hilo, Hi**

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
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HB417

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Valerie Peralto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Again, I thank you for this opportunity to provide comments.

Respectfully submitted by: Wendy Yamasaki-Herring,  
Clinical Program Coordinator, University of Hawaii at Hilo  
Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy  
Clinical Pharmacist, Hawaii Island Family Health Center  
45 Mohouli St  
Hilo, HI 96720  
(808) 932-4215