

DENNIS "FRESH" ONISHI
Council Member
District 3



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HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL
25 Aupuni Street, Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

February 5, 2013

The Honorable Della Au Belatti, Chair
and Members of the House
Committee on Health

Dear Chair Belatti and Committee Members,

Thank you very much for this opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of House Bill 417.

The Hawai'i County Council, at its meeting in Hilo on January 23, 2013, unanimously approved Resolution 41-13, Draft 2, and a copy of this was also submitted to your committee.

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

The bill pending before your committee has the unanimous support of Hawai'i Island's representatives, all of whom understand the importance of the passage of this bill.

The Hawai'i Healthcare System 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. I ask that your committee support this bill.

Sincerely,

Dennis "Fresh" Onishi
Hawai'i County Council
District 3

DO:ps

William P. Kenoi
Mayor



Walter K.M. Lau
Managing Director

Randall M. Kurohara
Deputy Managing Director

County of Hawai'i Office of the Mayor

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February 6, 2013

The Honorable Della Au Belatti, Chair
and Members of the House Committee on Health
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 329
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

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

Aloha, Chair Au Belatti and Committee Members:

The County of Hawai'i strongly supports House Bill 417, which 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.

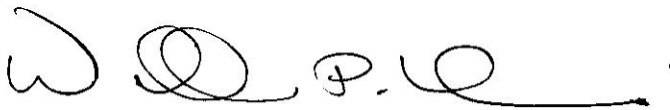
The Honorable Della Au Belatti, Chair
Page 2
February 6, 2013

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 flourish extending to the right.

William P. Kenoi
MAYOR



February 4, 2013

Re: HB 417 Hawaii Health Systems Corporation- Primary Care Training Program (HHSCPCTP)

As the representative for the University of Hawaii Hilo College of Pharmacy, we support this program HHSC Primary Care Training Program for many reasons.

For the interest of healthcare for residents of these Hawaiian Islands , the program will generate greater numbers of providers practicing primary care medicine throughout the state. The impact will be especially felt in the rural areas that currently have difficulty accessing primary care for their health needs.

For the interest of the UHH College of Pharmacy (UHH CoP), this program would provide partnership for collaborative practice with physicians and other health care professionals and allow a continuance of a training site for our student pharmacists. Since 2009, CoP faculty pharmacists practice as clinical pharmacists at the Hawaii Island Family Clinic (HIFC) and precept intern pharmacists in their second and fourth year pharmacy experiential curriculum. Our faculty and students help the health care team with medication management for chronic disease such as diabetes, hypertension, hyperlipidemia, anticoagulation and asthma. In addition, the interaction of our profession with all the other health professions who work in the program will help address the multifactorial complexities of managing chronic disease for underserved populations in geographically remote areas. The HHSCPCTP will continue to serve as a key ambulatory care experiential site necessary for our college's success.

I encourage you and your colleagues to pass HB 417. Thank you for your time and commitment.

Respectfully,

Carolyn Ma

Carolyn Ma, PharmD., BCOP
Associate Professor and Chair
Dept. of Pharmacy Practice
University of Hawaii at Hilo
College of Pharmacy

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

February 6, 2013
Conference Room 329
State Capitol

Support of HB 417

Hawaii Health Systems Corporation – Primary Care Training Program
Forrest Batz, PharmD, University of Hawaii at Hilo College of Pharmacy

As a member of the University of Hawaii at Hilo College of Pharmacy, 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 thank you, Chair Au-Belatti, Vice Chair Morikawa, and Committee members, for your foresight in supporting this measure. This legislation will make a significant impact in the rural communities throughout the neighbor islands due to this new paradigm of a TEAM approach in community health.

I urge you to pass HB 417. Thank you.

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

February 6, 2013
Conference Room 329
State Capitol

Support of HB 417

Hawaii Health Systems Corporation – Primary Care Training Program
Patricia Juszczak, University of Hawaii at Hilo College of Pharmacy, Clinical Education Coordinator

As a member of the Practice Department at the University of Hawaii at Hilo College of Pharmacy, 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.

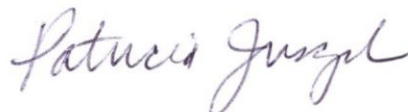
- Increasing the number of family practice physicians is expected to decrease the number and rate of “potentially avoidable hospitalizations,” which the state now pays for through both its Medicaid program and unreimbursed care by state's public hospital system, Hawaii Health Systems Corporation.
- In 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 thank you, Chair Au-Belatti, Vice Chair Morikawa, and Committee members, for your foresight in supporting this measure. This legislation will make a significant impact in the rural communities throughout the neighbor islands due to this new paradigm of a TEAM approach in community health.

I urge you to pass HB 417. Thank you.



THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

February 6, 2013
Conference Room 329
State Capitol

Support of HB 417

Hawaii Health Systems Corporation – Primary Care Training Program
Kaloa Robinson, Director of Marketing, Hilo Medical Center

As the Director of Marketing for Hilo Medical Center, 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 thank you, Chair Au-Belatti, Vice Chair Morikawa, and Committee members for your foresight in supporting this measure. This legislation will make a significant impact in the rural communities throughout the neighbor islands due to this new paradigm of a TEAM approach in community health.

I urge you to pass HB 417. Thank you.

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

February 6, 2013
Conference Room 329
State Capitol

Support of HB 417

Hawaii Health Systems Corporation – Primary Care Training Program
WENDY YAMASAKI-HERRING, PHARMD
INSTRUCTOR OF PHARMACY, UH HILO COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

As a member of the University of Hawaii at Hilo College of Pharmacy faculty and as a practicing clinical pharmacist at Hawaii Island Family Health Center, 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 thank you, Chair Au-Belatti, Vice Chair Morikawa, and Committee members, for your foresight in supporting this measure. This legislation will make a significant impact in the rural communities throughout the neighbor islands due to this new paradigm of a TEAM approach in community health.

I urge you to pass HB 417. Thank you.

Wendy Yamasaki-Herring



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Written Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Health
Wednesday, February 6, 2013, 10:30 A.M.

by

Mary G. Boland, DrPH, RN, FAAN
Dean and Professor
School of Nursing & Dental Hygiene
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

HB 417 – RELATING TO HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION

Chair Bellati, Vice Chair Morikawa, and Members of the House Committee on Health, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony.

The UH Mānoa Nursing is in support of this bill, HB 417, to appropriate funds to the Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) primary care training program at the Hilo Medical Center.

We agree that the HHSC 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. The HHSC interdisciplinary program benefits the Hawai'i Island Family Medicine Residency Program, as well as advanced practice registered nursing students from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene, and nursing and pharmacy students from the University of Hawai'i at Hilo.

The UH Mānoa Nursing appreciates your continuing support of nursing and education in Hawai'i. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



THE QUEEN'S HEALTH SYSTEMS

1301 Punchbowl Street • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 • Phone (808) 691-5900

H.B. 417, RELATING TO THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION
House Committee on Health
February 6, 2013, 10:30 a.m.
Room 329

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support for H.B. 417, Relating to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation. My name Dr. Gerard Akaka, Vice President of Medical Affairs and Chief Medical Officer for The Queen's Medical Center.

In a recent Big Island survey, it was revealed that 32% of Big Island physicians intend to end their professional service within 5 years. As the area with one of the severest physician shortages statewide, this exodus will exasperate the problem. Improving the pipeline of medical students and residents is imperative to providing healthcare to rural areas across Hawaii.

Supporting and enhancing primary care training programs is a significant opportunity to promote the growth of medicine practice in rural areas. Studies have shown that up to 80% of doctors who go through similar rural residency programs remain to begin their own practices in the area. These programs promote financial sustainability, professional opportunities, and community support – all important factors in attracting new physicians to the area. This is, most certainly, Hawaii's best hope for attracting and retaining physicians.

Your support for H.B. 417 and its funding requirements helps to ensure the primary care training programs long-range vision to provide all of Hawaii with ample and well trained physicians, statewide.

[House Health Committee](#)

Chair Della Au-Belatti and Vice-Chair Dee Morikawa.

RE: Hawaii Island Healthcare Alliance strongly supports HB 417 Relating to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation

The Hawaii Island Healthcare Alliance fully understands that when resources are scarce, spending needs to be based on expected **return on investment**. Many rural states support primary care residency programs with consistent funding, because of the return on investment from supporting graduate medical education.

On behalf of the Hawaii Island Healthcare Alliance, I strongly urge you to support SB 1220 which appropriates funds for the HHSC Primary Care Training Program, because of the clear need and because the residency program is expected to yield a substantial return on investment for the state. Investing in training family practice residents on Hawaii Island is expected to yield a meaningful return on investment because:

- Residency programs reliably increase the number of practicing physicians in the location of the residency program. Nationally, and in Hawaii 70% of residents practice near where they train.
- 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 through unreimbursed care by state HHSC hospitals in Kona and Hilo. (Hawaii County currently has a rate of hospitalization for diabetes which is two times higher than Honolulu County, despite having a similar prevalence of diabetes (Source: HHIC). It is well documented that hospitalizations and Emergency Room visits decrease with improved access to quality primary care. Hawaii County has the most severe primary care shortage of all the counties and currently has only **67% of physicians needed** for its population. (Source: Hawaii Physician Workforce Study 2011)
- Because of the known economic multiplier effect of additional physicians in Hawaii, each additional physician is expected to generate **5 new jobs** and new tax revenue. (Source: Lewin Group)
- Improving access to quality primary care will reduce one of the key barriers to economic development in Hawaii County- inadequate access to healthcare.

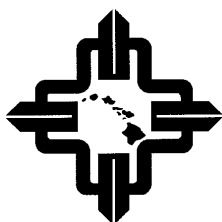
Funding SB 1220 will benefit the state economically and will serve as a rural model to be expanded to other neighbor islands as soon as feasible.

Sincerely,



Sharon Vitousek MD,

Hawaii Island Healthcare Alliance, Chair



HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS

C O R P O R A T I O N

Quality Healthcare For All

**House Committee on Health
Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair
Representative Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair**

Wednesday, February 6, 2013
Conference Room 329
10:30 a.m.
Hawaii State Capitol

Testimony Supporting House Bill 417, Relating to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation; Appropriates \$2,800,000 to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation to implement and sustain its primary care training program at the Hilo Medical Center.

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

Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) supports the intent of HB 417 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 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

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www.hhsc.org <<http://www.hhsc.org>>

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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Representative Della Au Belantti, Chair
Representative Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

Wednesday, February 6, 2013
State Capitol Room 329

Testimony Supporting House Bill 417 Relating to the Appropriation of \$2,800,000 to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation to Implement and Sustain its Primary Care Training Program at the Hilo Medical Center.

Howard Ainsley
East Hawaii Regional CEO
Hawaii Health Systems Corporation

On behalf of the East Hawaii Region of Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) and its Board of Directors, thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in strong support of HB417, relating to the appropriation of \$2,800,000 to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation to implement and sustain its Primary Care Training Program at the Hilo Medical Center.

As a member of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation, East Hawaii Region, 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 strongly urge your support of HB417.

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

February 6, 2013
Conference Room 329
State Capitol

Support of HB 417
Hawaii Health Systems Corporation – Primary Care Training Program
Hilo Medical Center Foundation

Dear Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Morikawa 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. There is ample evidence that primary care physicians serve as a strong foundation for a more efficient and effective health care system. **State investment** would help to guide health system change to achieve optimal, cost-efficient health for everyone, and support primary care medical training.

The interdisciplinary HHSC Primary Care Training Program administered by Hilo Medical Center includes the Hawai'i Island Family Medicine Residency Program and training for advanced practice nurses from UH Manoa, nursing students from School of Nursing at UHH, clinical pharmacists from UHH College of Pharmacy, and post-doctoral psychology fellow from I Ola Lahui. This team care model is a transition from being soloists to being a member of an orchestra in providing health care. The team care approach is now recognized as an essential tool for constructing a more patient-centered, coordinated, and effective health care delivery system.

We, the Hilo Medical Center Foundation, 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.

Respectfully Submitted,
Julie Tulang
President, Hilo Medical Center Foundation
1190 Waianuenue Avenue #629
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
Phone: 808-935-2957
Fax: 808-974-4746



HILO MEDICAL CENTER FOUNDATION

PRESIDENT

Julie Tulang

VICE PRESIDENT

Marcella Stroh

SECRETARY

Phoebe Lambeth

TREASURER

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Hoon Park, M.D.
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Dawn Pung
Richard Robbins, M.D.
Marie Ruhland
Michael Seu, M.D.
Peter Tadaki
Christine Takahashi
Representative Clifton Tsuji

**EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR**

Lori Rogers

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

February 6, 2013
Conference Room 329
State Capitol

Support of HB 417

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

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

My name is Lori Rogers, Executive Director of the Hilo Medical Foundation; our mission is to *“to support the Hilo Medical Center with projects that benefit the greater community.”* I appreciate this opportunity to present testimony in support of **HB 417** that authorizes appropriation of funds for the HHSC Primary Care Training administered by the Hilo Medical Center in coordination with Hawaii Health Care Systems.

There is ample evidence that primary care physicians serve as a strong foundation for a more efficient and effective health care system. **Nationally, and in Hawaii Studies 70% of residents practice medicine near where they train.**

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. If you have any questions, please contact me at lrogers@hhsc.org or 808-935-2957.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lori Rogers
Executive Director, Hilo Medical Center Foundation



HILO MEDICAL CENTER FOUNDATION

PRESIDENT

Julie Tulang

VICE PRESIDENT

Marcella Stroh

SECRETARY

Phoebe Lambeth

TREASURER

Valerie Peralto

TRUSTEES

Puna Belcher
Representative Jerry Chang
Beverly Dodo
Lynda Dolan, M.D.
Chuck Erskine
Steve Godzsak
Amy Hamane
Kathy Hirayama
Richard Johnson
Brad Kinoshita
Fred Koehnen
Peter Kubota
June Kunimoto
Garry Maeda
Steve Morrison, M.D.
Hoon Park, M.D.
Jon Patterson
Dr. John Pezzuto
Dawn Pung
Richard Robbins, M.D.
Marie Ruhland
Michael Seu, M.D.
Peter Tadaki
Christine Takahashi
Representative Clifton Tsuji

EXECUTIVE**DIRECTOR**

Lori Rogers

Testimony to the House Committee on Health
Wednesday February 6, 2013
Conference Room 329
State Capital
415 South Beretania Street

Re: House Bill 417 Relating to Health

Chair Della Au Belatti, Vice Chair Dee Morikawa and Members of the House Health Committee: My name is June Kunimoto, a member of Hilo Medical Center Foundation and a retired District Health Officer for the Island of Hawaii. I strongly support HB 417 that appropriates funds to the interdisciplinary HHSC Primary Care Training Program administered by Hilo Medical Center. There is evidence that primary care physicians serve as a strong foundation for a more efficient and effective health care system. State investment would help guide health system change to achieve optimal, cost-efficient health for everyone, and support primary care medical training. The interdisciplinary HHSC Primary Care Training Program administered by Hilo Medical Center is a team care model now recognized as an essential tool for constructing a more patient-centered, coordinated and more effective health care delivery system.

The Hilo Medical Center Foundation recognized the need for more primary care physicians in rural communities like Hawai`I Island. Residents are using urgent care clinics as their primary care physician, since they are not able to access a physician for themselves and their families. It is with the voices of the people in rural communities like ours that we support HB 417 that authorized 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 this testimony.

Respectfully submitted,

June Kunimoto, Hilo Medical Center Foundation Board Member
91 Kaulana Street
Hilo, Hawaii
Phone: 808-959-9378



HAWAII MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

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

Wednesday, February 6, 2013
10:30 a.m.
Conference Room 329

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
Rep. Della Au Bellati, Chair
Rep. Dee Morikawa, 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

Position: Support

Dear Chair Bellati and Vice Chair Morikawa and the House Committee on Health Members:

The Hawaii Medical Association is submitting testimony in support of HB 417.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 417. The Hawaii Medical Association fully supports the intent of this bill, which will enable the Big Island and other rural communities throughout the state of Hawaii improved access to quality health care.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony on this important issue.

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT - STEPHEN KEMBLE, MD PRESIDENT-ELECT -WALTON SHIM, MD
SECRETARY - THOMAS KOSASA, MD IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT - ROGER KIMURA, MD
TREASURER - BRANDON LEE, MD EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - CHRISTOPHER FLANDERS, DO

Testimony in Support of SB1220 & HB417 – HHSC Primary Care Medical Training Program

The Japanese Chamber of Commerce & Industry of Hawaii strongly supports this bill that would help bring more primary care doctors to our state and particularly, our neighbor islands.

Statistics have shown that many doctors choose to practice in the areas where they have completed their residency requirements. We need to aggressively pursue this opportunity to remain competitive with other areas of the country who are offering a variety of incentives to attract doctors.

Currently, many of our visitors and residents cannot find a doctor who will accept them as a patient because their practices are already overloaded. As a result, many of these patients go to our emergency rooms for basic treatments, and that significantly increases medical costs to the uninsured and “safety net” population. It also results in little preventative care and health education for this population.

We urge your support for this bill.



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 House Committee on Health
Wednesday, February 6, 2013
10:30 a.m.
Conference Room 329, State Capitol

Re: HB 417 Relating to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation

Aloha Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Morikawa 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 520 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.

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.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Sincerely,

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

Vivian Landrum
President/CEO

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

February 6, 2013
Conference Room 329
State Capitol

Support of HB 417

Hawaii Health Systems Corporation – Primary Care Training Program
JONI WALTJEN, HILO MEDICAL CENTER, EAST HAWAII MANGEMENT ANALYST

As a member of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation's East Hawaii Region 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 thank you, Chair Au-Belatti, Vice Chair Morikawa, and Committee members, for your foresight in supporting this measure. This legislation will make a significant impact in the rural communities throughout the neighbor islands due to this new paradigm of a TEAM approach in community health.

I urge you to pass HB 417. Thank you.

morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 2:36 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: jfurtado@hhsc.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB417 on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM

HB417

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jane Furtado	Hilo Medical Center	Support	No

Comments: I fully support this bill. The shortage of primary care practitioners in Hawaii indicates a serious need to have additional residency training programs focusing on rural health. This program will be a nice addition to the JABSOM Family Medicine Residency program on Oahu and will provide different training for practices in the more rural areas of our islands. Currently, the residents of the program on Oahu rotate here in Hilo. Residents of a Hilo based residency program could provide for rotations in other rural areas of our islands. As the Medical Staff Coordinator at Hilo Medical Center, I know that there is a trend where residents practice in the area where they train. I would assume Nurse Practitioners may find a similar trend and these specialists will also help to alleviate the primary care shortage in Hawaii.

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

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

February 6, 2013
Conference Room 329
State Capitol
Support of HB 417
Hawaii Health Systems Corporation – Primary Care Training Program

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

I thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in strong support of HB 417, 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 and strongly urge your support for this critical legislation.

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

February 6, 2013
Conference Room 329
State Capitol

Support of HB 417

Hawaii Health Systems Corporation – Primary Care Training Program
Merilyn Harris, Administrator, Ka’u Hospital

As the administrator of Ka’u Hospital, in one of the isolated communities in the state, I experience first hand the recurring struggle to find primary care providers for our hospital and rural health family practice clinic. 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 thank you, Chair Au-Belatti, Vice Chair Morikawa, and Committee members, for your foresight in supporting this measure. This legislation will make a significant impact in the rural communities throughout the neighbor islands due to this new paradigm of a TEAM approach in community health.

I urge you to pass HB 417. Thank you.

HMSA



An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

February 6, 2013

The Honorable Della Au Belatti, Chair
The Honorable Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

House Committee on Health

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

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

The Hawaii Medical Service Association (HMSA) appreciates the opportunity to testify on HB 417 which would appropriate funding to the Department of Health to provide a grant to the Hawaii Health System Corporation Primary Care Training Program (HHSC-PCPT) at Hilo Medical Center. HMSA strongly supports this legislation.

As you may be aware, in the past, HMSA has supported programs to build health care capacity. The HMSA Foundation, for example, has provided over \$500,000 to the Rural Family Practice Residency Program in Hilo to help train physicians who will remain and practice on the Big Island.

We are informed that the HHSC-PCPT would train primary care teams consisting of advanced practice nurses, pharmacist clinicians, and psychologists, as well as family physicians. Each team would be able to care for up to 10,000 patients, whereas a single doctor may only be able to manage 2,500 patients.

HMSA believes innovations like the HHSC-PCPT are laudable and consistent with our goal of creating a health care system that is efficient, as well as effective.

We thank you for allowing us to testify in support of HB 417, and we urge its passage.

Sincerely,

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

Jennifer Diesman
Vice President
Government Relations

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

February 6, 2013
Conference Room 329
State Capitol

Support of HB 417
Hawaii Health Systems Corporation – Primary Care Training Program
Chao Cox, Student Pharmacist

As a member of the University of Hawaii College of Pharmacy, *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 thank you, Chair Au-Belatti, Vice Chair Morikawa, and Committee members, for your foresight in supporting this measure. This legislation will make a significant impact in the rural communities throughout the neighbor islands due to this new paradigm of a TEAM approach in community health.

I urge you to pass HB 417. Thank you.

morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 8:42 AM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: milla_lite0524@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB417 on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM*

HB417

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Breanne Miller	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 2:13 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: bob_hanley@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB417 on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM*

HB417

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room 329

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

Comments:

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THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

February 6, 2013
Conference Room 329
State Capitol

Support of HB 417
Hawaii Health Systems Corporation – Primary Care Training Program
John Allan Stowell, BSN, RN, CWCN

As a member of Hilo Medical Center Wound Care Team, we 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. We 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).

We 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.

We 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.

We thank you, Chair Au-Belatti, Vice Chair Morikawa, and Committee members, for your foresight in supporting this measure. This legislation will make a significant impact in the rural communities throughout the neighbor islands due to this new paradigm of a TEAM approach in community health.

We urge you to pass HB 417. Thank you.

morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 3:00 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: RWSurber@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB417 on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM

HB417

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room 329

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 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

February 6, 2013
Conference Room 329
State Capitol

Support of HB 417
Hawaii Health Systems Corporation – Primary Care Training Program
Hilo Medical Center Foundation

Dear Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Morikawa 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. There is ample evidence that primary care physicians serve as a strong foundation for a more efficient and effective health care system. **State investment** would help to guide health system change to achieve optimal, cost-efficient health for everyone, and support primary care medical training.

The interdisciplinary HHSC Primary Care Training Program administered by Hilo Medical Center includes the Hawai'i Island Family Medicine Residency Program and training for advanced practice nurses from UH Manoa, nursing students from School of Nursing at UHH, clinical pharmacists from UHH College of Pharmacy, and post-doctoral psychology fellow from I Ola Lahui. This team care model is a transition from being soloists to being a member of an orchestra in providing health care. The team care approach is now recognized as an essential tool for constructing a more patient-centered, coordinated, and effective health care delivery system.

We, the Hilo Medical Center Foundation, 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.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dawn S. Pung
Past President, Hilo Medical Center Foundation
1190 Waianuenue Avenue #629
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
Phone: 808-935-2957
Fax: 808-974-4746

morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 3:44 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: eshunter@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB417 on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM

HB417

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stewart Hunter	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill. It is difficult on the outer islands to find physicians. We need to take measures to train more doctors locally so they stay. Thanks, Stewart

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I support HB417 because:

- Hawaii Healthcare System Corporation Primary Care Training Program (HHSCPCTP) effectively addresses the severe access to primary care issue resulting from the severe healthcare provider shortage in the rural areas of Hawaii State.
- The HHSC Primary Care Training Program will train four new primary care providers each year and most are likely to remain and practice on Hawaii Island, which will improve access to high quality primary care, and therefore improve prevention, detection and management of chronic diseases.
- The HHSC Primary Care Training Program will help by also reducing the onset and advancement of chronic diseases in rural communities throughout the state; which will eventually reduce the high cost of healthcare by reducing potentially avoidable emergency room and hospital utilization.
- Primary Care Training Programs (Rural Residency programs) have been shown to have a positive return on investment in other states and are frequently supported by other states for that reason.

Sincerely,

Mary D. Le, MD

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

February 6, 2013
Conference Room 329
State Capitol

Support of HB 417

Hawaii Health Systems Corporation – Primary Care Training Program
Christine Takahashi RN at Hilo Medical Center

As a member of Hilo Medical Center, 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 thank you, Chair Au-Belatti, Vice Chair Morikawa, and Committee members, for your foresight in supporting this measure. This legislation will make a significant impact in the rural communities throughout the neighbor islands due to this new paradigm of a TEAM approach in community health.

I urge you to pass HB 417. Thank you.

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

February 5, 2013

The Honorable Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair
The Honorable Representative Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair
House Committee on Health
Hawaii State Capitol Rm #329
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

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

Chair Belatti and Vice-Chair Morikawa and committee members:

I support 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

morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 6:38 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: ted@peskin.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB417 on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM

HB417

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room 329

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

Comments: As a practicing physician and medical director on the Big Island, I am very concerned about the upcoming retirement of many physicians and other health care professionals. There are very few new physicians and allied health care workers on the Big Island. It is my understanding that there is a similar problem on other Neighbor Islands. Therefore, I think the financial support that will allow this program to proceed is critical for the future of health care in Hawaii. The alternative is fewer preventive services and more emergency room visits and hospitalizations, which is likely to cost much more than the amount of financial support being requested.

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morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 7:24 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: peytonw@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB417 on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM*

HB417

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Peyton Wong	UHH College of Pharmacy	Support	No

Comments:

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THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

February 6, 2013
Conference Room 329
State Capitol

Support of HB 417
Hawaii Health Systems Corporation – Primary Care Training Program
Wayne Kanemoto

As member of East Hawaii Regional Board, I believe the HHSC Primary Care Training Program (HHSCPCTP) will strengthen the state's provider workforce.

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. The Hawaii health system faces three major challenges that impact health care we receive. They are access, quality and cost. In addition, our rural and island setting increases the challenge to access quality health care.

The Hawaii Health System Corporation Primary Care Training Program (HHSC PCTP) will address the challenge of ACCESS and have a positive impact on QUALITY and reduce COST. 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 a medical assistant and receptionist. The team model of care in which the HHSC PCTP is training Hawaii's future providers allows one physician and their team to care for up to 10,000 patients. The team is composed of a primary care physician, 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. **This advanced model of care delivery eliminates the need to train or attract unrealistically high numbers of physicians.**

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. **It will generate greater numbers of providers practicing throughout the islands.**

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.
- In rural areas of the state the Primary Care Training Program will create greater access to family medicine physicians and is projected to have a profound impact on lowering the costs of treating expensive and debilitating conditions.
- 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 believe quality of health care will improve with the team model of care. Communication, with the patient, throughout the cycle of prevention, diagnosis, treatment and recovery/rehabilitation will increase.

In addition:

- Family medicine residencies bring up the general quality of care in the institutions in which they operate by a) attracting higher quality physicians who like to teach, b) forcing all physicians with whom the residents interact to

stay more current because either they must explain and justify what they are doing to the resident physicians or because the resident physicians teach them either informally in the clinic setting or at higher quality institutional “grand rounds” or continuing medical education sessions, and c) the academic focus on quality assessment and improvement permeates the institution.

- Team-based primary care is showing greater quality improvements in both delivering preventive services like cancer screening and flu shots and in chronic disease management such as controlling diabetes and preventing flare ups of congestive heart failure. To deliver all the recommended preventive services to a “panel” of 2500 patients would take a primary care doctor 27 hours per day working 5 days per week. Clearly this is impossible, but by employing a team approach it can get done.

The HHSC PCTP is a critical step in getting ALL of us access to medical care and treatment close to our homes, reduce our costs and improve the quality we receive. Therefore I urge you to pass SB 1220. Thank you.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

JULIE-BETH AKO

P.O. Box 787 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96721-0787

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

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Support of HB No. 417, Relating to Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of H. B. No. 417, Relating to the Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation. My name is Julie-Beth Ako and I am a resident of Hawai'i Island as well as an employee at Hilo Medical Center who would like to see the state's provider workforce strengthened through the HHSC Primary Care Training Program (HHSC PCTP).

Support of this program and of family medicine graduate education will generate greater numbers of providers practicing throughout not only Hawai'i Island, but throughout the state. I endorse the HHSC PCTP as a means of closing the provider gap in Hawai'i.

Investing in training family practice residents in the neighbor islands is expected to yield a meaningful return on investment. The HHSC PCTP 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 HHSC PCTP is training Hawai'i'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.

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 am in support of H. B. No. 417 and strongly urge you and the committee to pass H. B. No. 417. Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony.

morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 11:17 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: NancyC@daylum.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB417 on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM

HB417

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room 329

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

Comments: Please Support the ability of your citizens to live on the neighbor island and still obtain basic medical care - SUPPORT the Residency Program for Hilo and the Big Island.

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morikawa2 - Shaun

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Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 9:05 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: radbuilders@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB417 on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM*

HB417

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room 329

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

Comments:

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morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2013 5:27 AM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: diesel.girl.808@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB417 on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM*

HB417

Submitted on: 2/5/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Taryn Yogi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2013 9:36 AM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: odote@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB417 on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM

HB417

Submitted on: 2/5/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Olivia Dote Kapono	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am a 4th year medical student at John A. Burns. I would have applied to a family med residency program on the Big Island if there were one.

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THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

February 6, 2013
Conference Room 329
State Capitol

Support of HB 417

Hawaii Health Systems Corporation – Primary Care Training Program
JENNIFER MANINGA, DIRECTOR OF PATIENT SERVICES

As a member of Hawaii HealthSystems Corporation, 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 thank you, Chair Au-Belatti, Vice Chair Morikawa, and Committee members, for your foresight in supporting this measure. This legislation will make a significant impact in the rural communities throughout the neighbor islands due to this new paradigm of a TEAM approach in community health.

I urge you to pass HB 417. Thank you.