

HB417, HD2

TESTIMONY

HTH HEARING

3-11-13

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Cc: csjma@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB417 on Mar 11, 2013 16:00PM
Date: Saturday, March 09, 2013 8:07:59 AM

HB417

Submitted on: 3/9/2013

Testimony for HTH on Mar 11, 2013 16:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carolyn Ma	University of Hawaii at Hilo College of Pharmacy	Support	No

Comments: Dear Chair Green, Vice Chair Baker, and Members of the Committee: I support HB417, 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. It is part of a transition from being soloists to being a member of an orchestra in providing health care. As a community member, I have witnessed the need for more primary care physicians in rural communities like Hawai'i Island. I support HB417, HD2, 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. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. Respectfully Submitted, Carolyn Ma, PharmD., BCOP Associate Professor and Dept. Chair Dept. of Pharmacy Practice University of Hawaii at Hilo College of Pharmacy

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

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To: Committee on Health
Senator Josh Green, Chair

Date: March 11, 2013, Conference Room 229, 4:00 p.m.

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

Chair Green 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.

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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

DATE: Monday, March 11, 2013
TIME: 4:00 p.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 229; State Capitol

Support of HB 417, HD2
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 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.



HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS

C O R P O R A T I O N

Quality Healthcare For All

**Senate Committee on Finance
Senator Josh Green, M.D., Chair
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair**

Monday, March 11, 2013
Conference Room 229
4:00 p.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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Cc: cvancamp3@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB417 on Mar 11, 2013 16:00PM
Date: Friday, March 08, 2013 5:34:50 PM

HB417

Submitted on: 3/8/2013

Testimony for HTH on Mar 11, 2013 16:00PM in Conference Room 229

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

Comments: We strongly support this bill and recognize the need to attract more primary care doctors to our state.

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SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
Senator Josh Green, Chair

March 11, 2013 at 4:00 p.m.
Conference Room 229

Supporting HB 417 HD 2: Relating to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii advocates for its member organizations that span the entire spectrum of health care, including all acute care hospitals, a majority of home health agencies and hospices, as well as long term care facilities and other health care organizations. Our members contribute significantly to Hawaii's economy by employing nearly 20,000 people statewide, delivering quality care to the people of Hawaii.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of HB 417 HD 2, which appropriates funds for the Primary Care Training program at the Hilo Medical Center.

The unmet need for primary care practitioners in Hawaii has been well documented. In fact, the Legislature passed Act 18 in the Special Session of 2009, directing the John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) to assess Hawaii's physician workforce. JABSOM issued a report in 2010 documenting a shortage of 600 physicians in Hawaii, particularly in the area of primary care. That shortage is expected to double if the current trend continues and no changes are made.

Primary care is the foundation of health care because it is where most of the prevention and early intervention occurs, which results in better health and lower costs. The Primary Care Training Program at the Hilo Medical Center is an innovative, interdisciplinary program designed to train teams of primary care practitioners. Each team can care for up to 10,000 patients, whereas previously one physician could manage only 2,500 patients. This collaborative approach represents the future of health care. As the program is developed, it can be exported elsewhere in the state.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 417 HD 2.

THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Rep. Josh Green, Chair
Rep. Rosalynn H. Baker, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF DECISION MAKING

Monday, March 11, 2013
4:00 p.m.
Conference Room 229

Support of HB 417, HD 2

Hawaii Health Systems Corporation – Primary Care Training Program

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

I whole-heartedly support the purpose and intent of HB 417 HD2 which appropriates funds to the interdisciplinary HHSC Primary Care Training Program.

We on the neighboring islands are in desperate need of primary care and the funding of this team-care approach will go a long way to meet our needs in innovative and cost effective ways.

We will not be able to recruitment sufficient numbers of solo primary care physicians – our needs are too great and the national supply is too small. Two programs have proven to be effective in meeting this need for primary care: 1) Growing our own professionals, and 2) Teaching and implementing the team-care approach wherein interdisciplinary professionals work together to provide primary care to a greater population. The HHSC Primary Care Training Program is a patient centered medical care model as called for in our Affordable Care Act. The HHSC Primary Care Training Program is a proven high quality and cost effective primary care delivery system.

Please help us; please let's work together to improve our healthcare delivery system and improve the health of all in our communities by funding the HHSC Primary Care Training Program.

Thank you very much.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gary Yoshiyama
Director, HHSC East Hawaii Regional Board
March 10, 2013

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

THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Monday, March 11, 2013
TIME: 4:00 p.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 229
State Capitol
415 Beretania St.

Howard Ainsley
East Hawaii Regional CEO
Hawaii Health Systems Corporation

HB 417 HD 2 – Appropriates funds for the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation Primary Care Training Program at the Hilo Medical Center.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony 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 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. 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 Waianuenue Avenue, Hilo, HI 96720
(808) 932-3101

HMSA



An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

March 11, 2013

The Honorable Josh Green, M.D., Chair
The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Health

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

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

The Hawaii Medical Service Association (HMSA) appreciates the opportunity to testify on HB 417, HD2, 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, HD2, and we urge its passage.

Sincerely,

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

Jennifer Diesman
Vice President
Government Relations



**HILO MEDICAL CENTER
FOUNDATION**

THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Rep. Josh Green, Chair
Rep. Rosalynn H. Baker, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF DECISION MAKING

Monday, March 11, 2013
4:00 p.m., Conference Room 229

Support of HB 417, HD 2

Hawaii Health Systems Corporation – Primary Care Training Program
Julie Tulang, HMCF President

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

I want to thank you and your committee members for the outstanding support you have demonstrated in regard to this HHSC Primary Care Training Program during this session.

The Hilo Medical Foundation Board supports **HB 417 that appropriates funds to the interdisciplinary HHSC Primary Care Training Program** administered by Hilo Medical Center. As members of the community we are witness to the need for more primary care physicians, we each have family, friends and new acquaintances who cannot find a primary care physician. They are the people who use Urgent Care as their primary physician; this is not the best alternative but the only one outside the ER. 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.

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.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Respectfully Submitted,
Julie Tulang
President, Hilo Medical Center Foundation
1190 Waianuenue Avenue #629
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

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

THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING
DATE: Monday, March 11, 2013
TIME: 4:00 p.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 229
State Capitol
415 Beretania St.

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

HB 417 HD 2 – Appropriates funds for the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation Primary Care Training Program at the Hilo Medical Center.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony relating to the HHSC Primary Care Training Program at Hilo Medical Center. Also, mahalo to Chairman Green and Vice Chair Baker for helping to navigate this important legislative measure that will directly address 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 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. 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: Kaloa R.N. Robinson, Director of Marketing, Hilo Medical Center
1190 Waianuenue Avenue, Hilo, HI 96720
(808) 932-3251

THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Rep. Josh Green, Chair
Rep. Rosalynn H. Baker, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF DECISION MAKING

Monday, March 11, 2013
4:00 p.m.
Conference Room 229

Support of HB 417, HD 2

Hawaii Health Systems Corporation – Primary Care Training Program

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

My apologies for not standing before you today. The good news is that my in person testimony is prevented only by the necessity of being in Hilo for the accreditation site visit for the Hawaii Island Family Medicine Residency. This site visit is the essential next step in our plan to expand primary care training in the state, including making at least four new family physicians ready for independent practice in Hawaii each year beginning in the summer in 2017.

My main plea to you today is to emphasize the timeliness of this piece of legislation and its Senate companion. The HHSC primary care training program is up and running, but cannot add the essential component of physician training without state support. 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. Just this morning, 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 that has been going strong for over 40 years. These 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 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 resolution. 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 of our citizens to primary care. 2013 is the year to change this by fully funding the bill as initially written.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristine I McCoy



HILO MEDICAL CENTER FOUNDATION

PRESIDENT

Julie Tulang

VICE PRESIDENT

Marcella Stroh

SECRETARY

Phoebe Lambeth

TREASURER

Valerie Peralto

TRUSTEES

Puna Belcher
Representative Jerry Chang
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June Kunimoto
Garry Maeda
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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

THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Rep. Josh Green, Chair
Rep. Rosalynn H. Baker, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

Monday, March 11, 2013
4:00 p.m.
Conference Room 229

Support of HB 417, HD 2

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

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

I am Lori Rogers, Executive Director for the Hilo Medical Center Foundation. I 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 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 HEALTH
Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING
DATE: Monday, March 11, 2013
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State Capitol
415 Beretania St.

HB 417 HD 2 – Appropriates funds for the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation Primary Care Training Program at the Hilo Medical Center.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony relating to the HHSC Primary Care Training Program at Hilo Medical Center. I support **HB 417 HD2** because this important legislative measure will directly address 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 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. 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:

Sharon Vitousek MD, Hawaii Island Healthcare Alliance, Chair
65-1219 Laelae Pl. Kamuela, Hi 96743
(808) 885-4692

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HB417

Submitted on: 3/8/2013

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barry Mizuno	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We need primary care doctors. Please support passage of HB 417, HD2.

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THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Rep. Josh Green, Chair
Rep. Rosalynn H. Baker, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF DECISION MAKING

Monday, March 11, 2013

4:00 p.m.

Conference Room 229

Support of HB 417, HD 2

Hawaii Health Systems Corporation – Primary Care Training Program

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

I support **HB417, 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. It is part of a transition from being soloists to being a member of an orchestra in providing health care.

As a community member, I have witnessed the need for more primary care physicians in rural communities like Hawai`i Island. I support HB417, HD2, 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.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Respectfully Submitted,
Breanne Miller

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

March 10, 2013

The Honorable Senator Green, Chair
The Honorable Senator Baker, Vice Chair
Committee on Health
Hawaii State Capitol Rm #229
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

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

Chair Green and Vice-Chair Baker 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

THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013

Written Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Health

Rep. Josh Green, Chair
Rep. Rosalynn H. Baker, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF DECISION MAKING

Monday, March 11, 2013

4:00 p.m.

Conference Room 229

By

Christine Beck MSN/MA, APRN, PHCNS-BC, FNP, CNE, CTN
Member-Board of Directors: East Hawaii Regional Board of HHSC
Member -Board of Directors: Hawaii Association of Professional Nurses
Assistant Professor- UH Hilo SON, Lecturer-UH Manoa SONDH

Support of HB 417, HD 2

Hawaii Health Systems Corporation – Primary Care Training Program

Dear Chair Green, Vice Chair Baker, and members of the Senate Committee on Health:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of HB 417, HD2, **Support of HB 417, HD 2** that appropriates funds to the interdisciplinary **HHSC Primary Care Training Program** administered by Hilo Medical Center.

As an advanced practice nurse (APRN) , nurse educator , and community member, I recognize the dire need to train primary care providers in order to deliver cost effective and quality care to the people of Hawaii. This measure will help to address the primary care shortage through training of both physicians and advanced practice nurses.

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. This training is an essential component necessary for the transition of health care systems that facilitate disease prevention, health promotion, and patient engagement.

As a community member, I have witnessed the need for more primary care providers (physicians, advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs), and physician assistants in rural communities like Hawai`i Island. I support HB417, HD2, 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.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Beck MSN/MA, APRN, FNP, P/CHCNS-BC, CNE, CTN

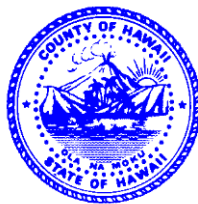
Assistant Professor
University of Hawaii at Hilo School of Nursing

Lecturer: UH Manoa SONDH
200 West Kawili St.
Office: UCB: 255

808-756-0607

cdbeck@hawaii.edu

DENNIS "FRESH" ONISHI
Council Member
District 3



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

HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

25 Aupuni Street, Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

March 8, 2013

The Honorable Josh Green, Chair
and Members of the Senate Committee on Health

Dear Chair Green and Senate Members,

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify on this important bill.

The Hawai'i County Council, at its meeting in Hilo on January 23, 2013, unanimously approved Resolution 41-13, Draft 2, a copy of which has been sent to you and this committee.

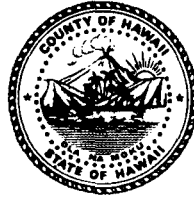
In summary, the Council's resolution urges the Legislature to approve the \$2.8 million appropriation contained in the original version of House Bill 417 to address critical future shortfalls in the number of primary care physicians in Hawai'i's rural and underserved areas.

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



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

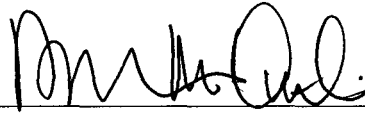
WHEREAS, the health care needs of Hawai‘i County will suffer without assistance from the State Legislature; now, therefore,

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

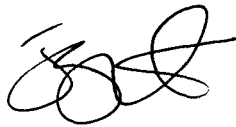
COUNTY COUNCIL
County of Hawai'i
Hilo, Hawai'i

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)

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Cc: kepa_2@msn.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB417 on Mar 11, 2013 16:00PM
Date: Saturday, March 09, 2013 3:23:01 PM

HB417

Submitted on: 3/9/2013

Testimony for HTH on Mar 11, 2013 16:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dawn Kepa	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support HB417HD2. Its the right thing to do. For the People, by the People and of the People. Health, Education, Housing and Welfare. Please think of the Hawaiian People who are oppressed, repressed, depressed, discriminated against and displaced in our own country. Dawn Kepa one of 800 Hawaiians who voted for Gov. Abercrombie.

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

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THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Rep. Josh Green, Chair
Rep. Rosalynn H. Baker, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF DECISION MAKING

Monday, March 11, 2013

4:00 p.m.

Conference Room 229

Support of HB 417, HD 2

Hawaii Health Systems Corporation – Primary Care Training Program

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

I support **HB417, 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. It is part of a transition from being soloists to being a member of an orchestra in providing health care.

As a community member, I have witnessed the need for more primary care physicians in rural communities like Hawai'i Island. I support HB417, HD2, 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.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Respectfully Submitted,

Forrest Batz, PharmD
Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice
Daniel K Inouye College of Pharmacy
University of Hawaii at Hilo
Hilo, HI

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Cc: glenshigehara@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB417 on Mar 11, 2013 16:00PM*
Date: Saturday, March 09, 2013 7:40:39 AM

HB417

Submitted on: 3/9/2013

Testimony for HTH on Mar 11, 2013 16:00PM in Conference Room 229

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

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Cc: takemural@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB417 on Mar 11, 2013 16:00PM
Date: Friday, March 08, 2013 8:32:07 PM

HB417

Submitted on: 3/8/2013

Testimony for HTH on Mar 11, 2013 16:00PM in Conference Room 229

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

Comments: Please fund the program for training new doctors at Hilo Medical Center. We have many doctors who will be close to retiring. We need doctors who will not only come to Hilo, but to remain here after their training. Thank you for your support.

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THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING
DATE: Monday, March 11, 2013
TIME: 4:00 p.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 229
State Capitol
415 Beretania St.

HB 417 HD 2 – Appropriates funds for the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation Primary Care Training Program at the Hilo Medical Center.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony relating to the HHSC Primary Care Training Program at Hilo Medical Center. I support **HB 417 HD2** because this important legislative measure will directly address the need to get more Primary Care Physicians into the most rural areas of our State.

As 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. There have been times in the past when it has taken almost a year for us to find a physician replacement in our clinic so this measure has particular relevance for us.

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 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. 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: Merylyn Harris, Administrator
Ka'u Hospital
P.O. Box 40,
Pahala, Hi 96777
808-932-4370

From: [Paulette Tam](#)
To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Subject: HB417 HD2 Re: The Hawaii Health Systems Corp; Primary Care Training Program (\$)
Date: Sunday, March 10, 2013 4:14:08 AM

HB417 HD2 Re: The Hawaii Health Systems Corporation; Primary Care Training Program (\$)
Monday, March 11, 2013 at 4pm at Hawaii State Capitol Room 229

Aloha Chairman and Committee Members:

My name is Paulette Tam. I am a former Kaneohe Neighborhood Board member, representing Sub District 9 - Keapuka from 1989-2005 and a Public Health, Safety and Education Committee Chairman. Through the years of being a board member, I have read all kinds of documents and news reports about the various community related issues from the almost closure of Kaneohe District Health Center and be replaced by H P P, CIP Improvement Projects for Hawaii State Hospital and the financial woes of Kahuku Hospital.

The cost of living in our world today is increasing almost daily, I believe; we never know how much the cost per gallon of gas will be. Our Kupuna on fixed income and our young couples just starting family life might be laid off have increased in population numbers compared to the days of the "country doctor" needs. I support HB417 HD2 because it "is an effective way to reduce the impact of the shortage of primary care providers and improve access to healthcare throughout the state (of Hawaii)".

Please pass HB417 HD2. Mahalo for your time.

Paulette Tam, P O Box 4787, Kaneohe HI 96744-1861

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Cc: phoebel@msn.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB417 on Mar 11, 2013 16:00PM*
Date: Sunday, March 10, 2013 11:54:10 AM

HB417

Submitted on: 3/10/2013

Testimony for HTH on Mar 11, 2013 16:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Phoebe Lambeth	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Cc: irviner002@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB417 on Mar 11, 2013 16:00PM*
Date: Friday, March 08, 2013 5:34:54 PM

HB417

Submitted on: 3/8/2013

Testimony for HTH on Mar 11, 2013 16:00PM in Conference Room 229

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

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Cc: rontthi@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB417 on Mar 11, 2013 16:00PM*
Date: Friday, March 08, 2013 5:13:24 PM

HB417

Submitted on: 3/8/2013

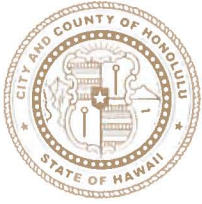
Testimony for HTH on Mar 11, 2013 16:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ronald Taniguchi, Pharm.D.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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CITY COUNCIL
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
530 SOUTH KING STREET, ROOM 202
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-3065
TELEPHONE: (808) 768-5010 • FAX: (808) 768-5011

STANLEY CHANG

Councilmember – District IV

Phone: (808) 768-5004

Fax: (808) 768-5000

ccldistrict4@honolulu.gov

www.honolulu.gov/council/d4

March 8, 2013

TESTIMONY OF STANLEY CHANG
COUNCILMEMBER FOR THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

On

H.B. No. 417, HD2, RELATING TO HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION

Monday, March 11, 2013

4:00 p.m.

Conference Room 229

Dear Chair Green and Committee Members:

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to submit testimony in support of H.B. 417, HD2 Relating to Hawaii Health Systems Corporation as a Councilmember for the City and County of Honolulu.

The purpose of this H.B. 417, HD2 is to address the state's shortage of primary care providers by appropriating funds to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation. This money would fund the primary care training program at the Hilo Medical Center. More primary care would increase prevention, intervention, and healthcare savings.

For these reasons, I respectfully ask for your favorable passage of H.B. 417, HD2 Relating to Hawaii Health Systems Corporation and thank the Committee for allowing me to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stanley Chang".

Stanley Chang
Councilmember – District IV

THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Rep. Josh Green, Chair
Rep. Rosalynn H. Baker, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF DECISION MAKING

Monday, March 11, 2013

4:00 p.m.

Conference Room 229

Support of HB 417, HD 2

Hawaii Health Systems Corporation – Primary Care Training Program

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

I support **HB417, 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. It is part of a transition from being soloists to being a member of an orchestra in providing health care.

As a community member, I have witnessed the need for more primary care physicians in rural communities like Hawai`i Island. I support HB417, HD2, 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.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Respectfully Submitted,

Walter A. Thistlewaite, PhD, MPH
Program Evaluation Manager
Hawaii Island Beacon Community

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Cc: kanemotow001@Hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB417 on Mar 11, 2013 16:00PM
Date: Friday, March 08, 2013 9:09:24 PM

HB417

Submitted on: 3/8/2013

Testimony for HTH on Mar 11, 2013 16:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Wayne Kanemoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments: THE SENATE THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION OF 2013 COMMITTEE ON HEALTH Rep. Josh Green, Chair Rep. Rosalynn H. Baker, Vice Chair NOTICE OF DECISION MAKING Monday, March 11, 2013 4:00 p.m. Conference Room 229 Support of HB 417, HD 2 Hawaii Health Systems Corporation – Primary Care Training Program Dear Chair Green, Vice Chair Baker, and Members of the Committee: I support HB417, 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. It is part of a transition from being soloists to being a member of an orchestra in providing health care. As a community member, I have witnessed the need for more primary care physicians in rural communities like Hawai`i Island. I support HB417, HD2, 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. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. Respectfully Submitted, Wayne Kanemoto

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