

HB417

**LATE
TESTIMONY**



March 11, 2013

The Honorable Josh Green, Chair
and Members of the Senate Committee on Health
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 229
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

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

Aloha, Chair Green and Committee Members:

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

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

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



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



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



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



Mayor Alan Arakawa
County of Maui
200 South High Street, 9th Floor
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

The Honorable Josh Green, Chair

Page 2

March 11, 2013

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

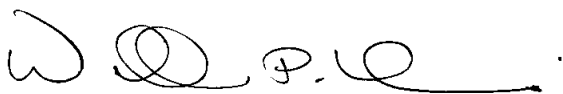
The Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation primary care training program will produce interdisciplinary teams that can care for four times as many patients as independent practitioners, and will expand to serve rural communities on each of the islands. We believe this is an innovative and effective strategy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

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

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

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

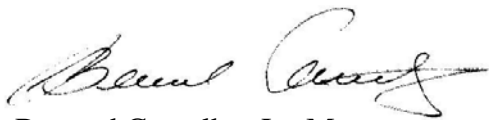
Sincerely,



William Kenoi, Mayor
County of Hawai'i



Kirk Caldwell, Mayor
City and County of Honolulu

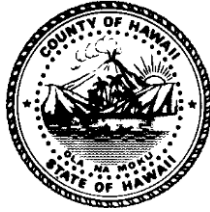


Bernard Carvalho, Jr., Mayor
County of Kaua'i



Alan Arakawa, Mayor
County of Maui

William P. Kenoi
Mayor



Walter K.M. Lau
Managing Director

Randall M. Kurohara
Deputy Managing Director

County of Hawai'i Office of the Mayor

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(808) 323-4444 • Fax (808) 323-4440

March 11, 2013

The Honorable Josh Green, Chair
and Members of the Senate Committee on Health
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 229
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

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

Aloha, Chair Green and Committee Members:

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

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

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

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

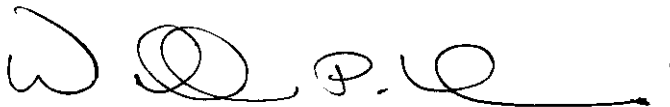
The Honorable Josh Green, Chair
Page 2
March 11, 2013

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 stroke extending to the right.

William P. Kenoi
MAYOR



Hawai'i State Center for Nursing

Written Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Health
March 11, 2013, 4:00 pm

By

Deborah B Gardner PhD, RN, FNAP, FAAN
Executive Director
Hawai'i State Center for Nursing

HB 417, HD2 RELATING TO THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION
Chair Green, Vice Chair Belatti and members of the Senate Committee on Health,
thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony. The Hawai'i State Center for
Nursing (HSCN) is in support of this bill, HB 417, HD2, to appropriate funds as a grant
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 HSCN supports the HHSC interdisciplinary program which includes the
training for advanced practice registered nurses.

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



**HILO MEDICAL CENTER
FOUNDATION**

THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Sen. Josh Green, Chair
Sen. 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
June Kunimoto, Retired Health Administrator-Hawaii Island

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

As an individual and a member of the Hilo Medical Center Foundation Board, I support **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.

I have heard from church members, my extended family and friends how difficult it is for them to secure a primary care doctor. The training program is one way to work toward enticing new physicians to practice in rural areas like Hawaii Island. 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.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Respectfully Submitted,
June Kunimoto

Hawaii State Legislature
HB 417
Testimony of Kelley Withy, President of Hawaii State Rural Health Association
March 2013

The Hawaii State Rural Health Association would like to express our strongest support for HB 417. We are acutely aware of the fact that we are approaching a healthcare crisis in rural Hawaii. Some areas of the State, such as the Big Island, are already suffering a severe shortage of healthcare providers. In fact, the JABSOM AHEC assessed the shortage and found that we need 600 more providers than we have. Because the shortage is most severe in the rural areas and the neighbor islands, particularly the Big Island of Hawaii, we feel strongly that solutions are needed.

Recruiting and retaining healthcare providers is a huge challenge, especially in rural areas such as Big Island. HB 417 provides the means for one of the most important methods for developing our health workforce where it is needed the most--training. Creating an interprofessional primary care residency program is a wonderful idea for many reasons. First of all, it provides for the training of physicians, nurse practitioners, psychologists, pharmacists and other health professionals in the area where we need them to practice. Because people tend to end up working where they do their training, this is a key strategy. Secondly, the proposed program provides for training of these health professionals collaboratively together, so that they understand the teamwork aspect of healthcare that our future healthcare system will depend upon. The interdependent nature of the training program is the best way to prepare students for working in patient centered medical homes and care coordination teams that will be required in the future and are the best way to provide the most beneficial care to patients.

Therefore we strongly support this bill and hope you will pass it. Thank you for this opportunity to be heard.

Sincerely,

Kelley Withy, MD, PhD
President, Hawaii State Rural Health Association

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Cc: marier350@hhsc.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB417 on Mar 11, 2013 16:00PM
Date: Monday, March 11, 2013 9:37:25 AM

HB417

Submitted on: 3/11/2013

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marie Ruhland	Hilo Medical Center Home Care	Support	No

Comments: PLEASE SUPPORT BH 417 WHICH WILL APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR HHSC PRIMARY CARE TRAINING PROGRAM AT HILO MEDICAL CENTER. THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THIS CRITICAL TRAINING PROGRAM FOR THE ENTIRE STATE. BIG ISLAND IS IN A GROWING CRITICAL NEED FOR PHYSICIANS.

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
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.

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: **Nona B. Wilson, RN, BSN, MSA, Assistant Administrator/DON
Ka'u Hospital, 1 Kamani St, Pahala, Hawaii, 96777
808 9324390**



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www.Kona-Kohala.com info@kona-kohala.com

Testimony to the Senate Committee on Health
Monday, March 11, 2013
4 p.m.
Conference Room 229, State Capitol

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

Aloha Chair Green, Vice Chair Baker and Members of this Committee:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Sincerely,

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

Vivian Landrum
President/CEO

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Health
March 11, 2013 at 4:00 p.m.
by
Donald O. Straney, Ph.D.
Chancellor, University of Hawai'i at Hilo

HB417 HD2 RELATING TO HAWAI'I HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION

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

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

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

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Cc: ted@peskin.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB417 on Mar 11, 2013 16:00PM
Date: Monday, March 11, 2013 11:21:38 AM

HB417

Submitted on: 3/11/2013

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

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

Comments: 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. 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: Ted Peskin, MD Medical Director for Acute Care East Hawaii Region, Hawaii Health Systems Corp. 1190 Waianuenue Aven Hilo, HI 96720 808-3330285

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To: HTHTestimony
Cc: gbarfield@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB417 on Mar 11, 2013 16:00PM
Date: Monday, March 11, 2013 9:34:09 AM

HB417

Submitted on: 3/11/2013

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

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

Comments: THE SENATE THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION OF 2013 COMMITTEE ON HEALTH Sen. Josh Green, Chair Sen. 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: As a resident of East Hawaii I and my family well know the difficulties of obtaining medical care here, the revolving door or physicians, the temporary stays of nurses and other health professionals, and the needs of an aging population. THEREFORE, I strongly 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, Gay Leah Barfield, Ph.D., Lic. MFT 101 Aupuni, Suite 250 Hilo, Hawaii 96771

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

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

Respectfully submitted by: Harry Yada
24 Kaulana Street
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
(808) 959-4210

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Cc: irene.nagao@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB417 on Mar 11, 2013 16:00PM
Date: Monday, March 11, 2013 7:54:41 AM

HB417

Submitted on: 3/11/2013

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

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

Comments: Dear Chair Green, Vice Chair Baker & Members of the Committee: I support HB417, HD2 that appropriates funds to the Interdisciplinary HHSC Primary Care Training Program administered by the Hilo Medical Center. This measure will address the physician shortage in rural communities like the one I live in, by building a strong foundation of primary care physicians as part of a transition to building a more effective and coordinated health care delivery system. A team care approach as in the interdisciplinary HHSC Primary Care Training Program (by Hilo Medical Ctr) will offer a patient-centered, coordinated and effective health care delivery system. Living in Hilo for more than 40 years, I find such a shortage of primary care physicians, that I have to go to Oahu for care. In my elder years now many of us need more, and better health care that we just cannot find in our community. I support HB417, HD1 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 considering my testimony Respectively
Submitted Irene Nagao Community member

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Cc: alohaliz@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB417 on Mar 11, 2013 16:00PM*
Date: Monday, March 11, 2013 7:46:54 AM

HB417

Submitted on: 3/11/2013

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

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

Comments:

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Cc: fitzz@maui.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB417 on Mar 11, 2013 16:00PM*
Date: Sunday, March 10, 2013 7:14:30 PM

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
John FitzGerald	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Cc: randy@creativeartshawaii.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB417 on Mar 11, 2013 16:00PM
Date: Monday, March 11, 2013 10:27:40 AM

HB417

Submitted on: 3/11/2013

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Randall Kurohara	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This bill needs to pass with full funding (2.8 million) to provide our rural communities with the resources necessary to build much needed primary care capacity. As a business owner and brother of a primary care doctor in Hilo, I know that our present situation is one of a crisis when it comes to access to primary care and that it will only get worse unless we take action immediately through multiple initiatives of which this is a key one. Its social and economic impact can not be understated. Mahalo for your support.

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Subject: Submitted testimony for HB417 on Mar 11, 2013 16:00PM
Date: Monday, March 11, 2013 10:36:40 AM

HB417

Submitted on: 3/11/2013

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

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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Subject: Submitted testimony for HB417 on Mar 11, 2013 16:00PM
Date: Sunday, March 10, 2013 7:21:20 PM

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
William Snider	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please vote to support this bill. Health care is in a financial mess nowadays. This measure will help.

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