



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P.O. Box 3378
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:
File:

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

HCR0103, ENCOURAGING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII ADMINISTRATION TO ESTABLISH AND IMPLEMENT A TOBACCO-FREE UNIVERSITY POLICY FOR ALL UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES AND FACILITIES

Testimony of Loretta J. Fuddy, A.C.S.W., M.P.H.
Director of Health

March 27, 2013
10:00AM, Room 329

1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health supports the intent of HCR0103 which encourages
2 the University of Hawaii to establish and implement 100 percent tobacco-free policies for all campuses
3 and facilities. This action would set an example for all institutions of higher education and demonstrate
4 a proactive investment in the health of future generations.

5 **Fiscal Implications:** None

6 **Purpose and Justification:** Tobacco use continues to endure as one of the worst public health
7 problems in our nation's history. Creating Tobacco-Free College campuses is not only a growing trend
8 in the United States, but it is considered to be an effective strategy to combat the tobacco-use epidemic
9 today. As the University of Hawaii system of schools is the largest provider of higher education in the
10 State, encouraging implementation of Tobacco-Free campuses has the potential to dramatically reduce
11 the health and economic burdens placed upon our state related to smoking.

12 Although the prevalence of adult smokers has declined due to either quitting smoking or
13 premature death, youth and young adults remain the sole source of "replacement smokers" by the
14 tobacco industry. According to the U.S. Surgeon General's report, nearly 9 out of 10 smokers start

1 smoking by age 18 and 99% start by age 26, if young people don't start using tobacco by age 26, they
2 most likely will never start. One of the recommended strategies proposed by the Surgeon General to
3 help young adults to quit or never start is to create community norms where seeing people smoke or use
4 other tobacco products is the exception, rather than the norm.

5 While aggressive measures to curb tobacco marketing to youth and young adults, as well as
6 restricting accessibility of products are also necessary components of tobacco control, proactive steps to
7 change the social norms around the acceptability of tobacco-use is a missing and critical step.
8 Establishing official policies to prohibit smoking in environments where young adults explore their
9 individual identities and establish lifelong behavior patterns may dramatically impact the health of an
10 entire generation of Americans.

11 Smoke-free college campuses not only impact health, but have broader reaching positive effects
12 as well. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the benefits of smoke-free
13 campuses include increased productivity and decreased use of sick time, decreased risk of fire, and
14 possible decreased maintenance expense for facilities and grounds in managing related litter.

15 Smoke-free college campuses are a growing nationwide trend. As of January 2013, the
16 American Nonsmokers' Rights Foundation reports that nearly 800 colleges and universities across the
17 country have adopted a 100 percent tobacco-free policy. Encouraging the University of Hawaii System
18 of Schools to follow suit would not only demonstrate a serious commitment to health, but could prove to
19 be a small investment with exponential gains in terms of cost-savings, decreased health burden on our
20 State, and prolonged quality of life for those impacted by tobacco-use.

21 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



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

Hearing: March 27, 2013; 10:00 a.m.

HCR 103/ HR 79 – ENCOURAGING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII ADMINISTRATION TO
ESTABLISH AND IMPLEMENT A TOBACCO-FREE UNIVERSITY POLICY FOR ALL
UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES AND FACILITIES.

Cory Chun, Government Relations Director – Hawaii Pacific
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HCR 103 and HR 79, which encourages the University of Hawaii administration to adopt a tobacco-free system-wide university policy.

The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN), the advocacy affiliate of the American Cancer Society, is the nation's leading cancer advocacy organization. ACS CAN works with federal, state, and local government bodies to support evidence-based policy and legislative solutions designed to eliminate cancer as a major health problem.

According to the U.S. Surgeon General's 2012 report, 99% of all first tobacco use occurs by age 26.¹ Many young people in the college aged group, ages 18-26, are likely to try tobacco products when tobacco use may be seen as societal norm on college campuses.

This measure encourages the University of Hawaii to adopt a tobacco-free policy, similar to tobacco-free policies at other universities across the county. Creating a tobacco-free policy would promote and support a healthy lifestyle for many of Hawaii's higher education populations.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this issue.

¹ *Preventing Tobacco Use Among Youth and Young Adults: A Report of the Surgeon General*. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Surgeon General. Executive Summary, 2012 at 2.

morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2013 4:33 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: kathyk323@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR103 on Mar 27, 2013 10:00AM

HCR103

Submitted on: 3/26/2013

Testimony for HLT on Mar 27, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kathy Kim	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: I don't want to live in a NANNY STATE! What makes a college campus so different? If you can't smoke inside and you can't smoke outside, then where? In the middle of the street?

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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