

**STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
MARCH 27, 2013, 10:00 AM
STATE CAPITOL, CONFERENCE RM. 329**

**Testimony in partial support/opposition of
HCR 148/HR 117, Designating October 2013 as Brain Injury Awareness Month**

TO COMMITTEE CHAIRS, VICE CHAIRS, AND MEMBERS OF THE
COMMITTEES:

My name is Lyna Burian, and I am a member of the Brain Injury Association of Hawaii (BIA-HI). I am offering written testimony in partial support of HCR 148/HR 117, designating a month in 2013 as Brain Injury Awareness Month. However, instead of October 2013, March 2013 should be designated as Brain Injury Awareness Month to follow the lead of the national Brain Injury Association of America.

My son sustained a brain injury twenty years ago, and since then I have been very active with the Brain Injury Association of Hawaii. Brain injury is a national public health epidemic affecting approximately 5.3 million Americans with one person sustaining a brain injury every 21 seconds. It can affect every aspect of an individual's life including physical, cognitive, emotional, social and behavioral aspects. Brain injury changes not only the life of the individual completely, but the lives of his/her family members as well.

I urge you to pass HC148/HR 117. We can join the national Brain Injury Association of America in observing Brain Injury Awareness Month. Thank you for this opportunity to give my testimony.

Respectfully Submitted,


Lyna O. Burian

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