

**SB1306**

**TESTIMONY**

TESTIMONY BY KALBERT K. YOUNG  
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
STATE OF HAWAII  
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
ON  
SENATE BILL NO. 1306

February 13, 2013

RELATING TO THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION

Senate Bill No. 1306 amends Chapter 323F, HRS, by adding a new section allowing any of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) regions or their health facilities to transition to non-public status. The transition can occur through the sale, lease, or transfer of assets, except for real property, which can only be transferred by lease. In addition, all liabilities of the transitioning region or facility that were transferred to HHSC upon its creation by Act 262, SLH 1996, and all collective bargaining contracts negotiated by the State shall become the responsibility of the State. Subject to legislation appropriation, the State is required to continue funding operating support subsidies and capital improvements for the new entity(ies).

The appropriate regional system board must approve the transition of a regional system or individual health facility, and in the case of the corporation transition, all of the regional boards and the corporation must approve the transition. The transition is subject to: legal review by the Department of the Attorney General; review by the Department of Budget and Finance (B&F), to ensure conformity to all applicable financing procedures; and the Governor's approval.

Although B&F is open to exploring various avenues to improve the ability of the HHSC to provide quality health services and to increase its economic viability,

we have two major concerns with the current version of Senate Bill No. 1306. The first major concern is that this version requires the State to assume “any and all liabilities” that were transferred to HHSC upon its creation by Act 262, SLH 1996, for any region or facility that transitions into a new legal entity, and all liabilities relating to collective bargaining contracts that were negotiated by the State. It is unclear what is meant by “any and all liabilities” that the State shall assume on behalf of any region or facility that transitions into a new legal entity. Because there is no definition of what constitutes the “liabilities,” it is assumed that the liabilities could be significant as there are no limitations contained in the bill.

The second major concern is that the State is required to continue funding operating support subsidies and capital improvements for the new entity(ies). If the State is to assume “any and all liabilities” that were transferred to HHSC upon its creation and all liabilities relating to collective bargaining contracts that were negotiated by the State, it is questionable why the State needs to continue its subsidies. The new entity(ies) would appear to be largely unencumbered and should have the ability to be self-sufficient. The combination of the two considerations above need to demonstrate, at least, financial advantages to the State and taxpayer in order for such an arrangement to be tenable.

In addition to these two major issues, we note that there are a number of “transitional” issues (the list below is not exhaustive) that need to be addressed:

- The current employees of the HHSC are members of the Employees’ Retirement System (ERS) and Employer-Union Trust Fund (EUTF) and most have accrued benefits under ERS and EUTF. Some transition arrangement needs to be worked out for these employees when the new entity(ies) come into being - do

they transition out of ERS and EUTF, maintaining their accrued benefits earned up to the transition, or do they stay in ERS and EUTF even while they work for the non-public entity(ies)?

- The sale or transfer of buildings that were previously financed with tax-exempt general obligation bonds may trigger a “change of use” of the bond financed building, as the owner of the building for federal tax purposes will be a private entity. This may have tax consequences as the bond issue may no longer qualify for federal tax exemption. Further discussion with bond counsel will be necessary to ensure compliance with federal tax requirements.
- Some of the HHSC’s facilities are located on ceded lands. The HHSC has not been making ceded land payments to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) because the health services revenues have been treated as an excludable sovereign function. However, if a new non-governmental entity(ies) is created, these revenues could be subject to OHA ceded lands requirements.



**HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS**

C O R P O R A T I O N

*Quality Healthcare For All*

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

Wednesday, February 13, 2013  
Conference Room 229  
8:30 a.m.  
Hawaii State Capitol

**Testimony on Senate Bill 1306, Relating to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation. Permits the regional systems of the Hawaii health systems corporation and their health facilities to transition to non-public status.**

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

Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) supports the intent of SB 1306 to clarify the powers of the HHSC and regional system boards to enter into public/private partnerships. However, the HHSC board of directors has not had the opportunity to review the bill or come up with a board position on the specific provisions that have been introduced.

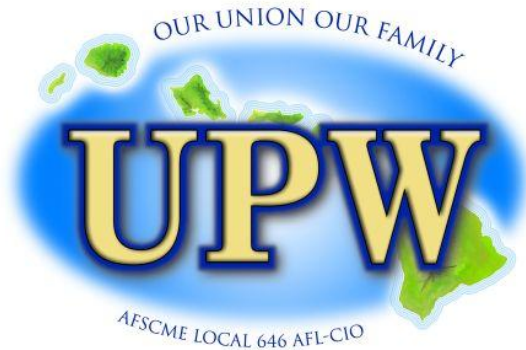
The HHSC Board passed a motion supporting continued discussions with private entities for potential partnerships and other relationships. Therefore, legislation clarifying the roles of the various boards in making decisions could prove valuable. The board meets on February 21, 2013 and will be in a better position to make comments on the specific language at hearings held after that date.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak in support of the intent of this measure.

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The Hawaii State Senate  
The Twenty-Seventh Legislature  
Regular Session of 2013

**COMMITTEE ON HEALTH**

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

DATE OF HEARING: Wednesday, February 13, 2013

TIME OF HEARING: 1:30 p.m.

PLACE OF HEARING: Conference Room 229

**TESTIMONY ON S.B. 1306**  
**RELATING TO HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION**

By Dayton M. Nakanelua,  
State Director of the United Public Workers,  
AFSCME, Local 646, AFL-CIO

My name is Dayton M. Nakanelua, and I am the state director of the United Public Workers, AFSCME, Local 646, AFL-CIO (UPW). The UPW is the exclusive representative for approximately 11,000 public employees, which include blue collar, non-supervisory employees in Bargaining Unit 01 and institutional, health and correctional employees in Bargaining Unit 10, in the State of Hawaii and various counties. The UPW also represents about 1,500 members of the private sector.

The union opposes this measure because it (1) undermines prior commitments made to public employees, (2) eliminates the merit principle, and (3) nullifies the right to engage in collective bargaining.

Historically, HHSC was established following an extensive study by a task force created by the legislature in 1994 to examine the operations of the community hospital division of the Department of Health. See 1994 Hawaii Session Laws Act 266, p. 827. Based on a report by the governor's task force which recommended the creation of "an independent agency of the State" the legislature in 1996 created HHSC "to provide better health care for all the people of the State . . . by freeing the facilities from unwarranted bureaucratic oversight." See 1996 Hawaii Session Laws Act 262, p. 595. It was expressly understood that the new corporate entity would serve as an agency of the State which maintained a corporate-wide hospital personnel system that is subject to chapters 76, 77, and 89 (See 1996 Hawaii Session Laws Act 262, § 2 ("Sec. - 7 (9)"), at 599, and that no employee of the State having tenure with the State would suffer any

loss of “seniority, prior service credit, vacation, sick leave, or other employee benefits or privileges as a consequence” of the enactment. 1996 Hawaii Session Laws, Act 262, § 20, at 612.

Long before HHSC was created in 1996 health care services in state and county hospitals were provided by civil servants employed by the community hospital division of the State of Hawaii. The employees were hired and retained in accordance with the merit principle through a statewide merit system. Under the merit principle employees were afforded reasonable job security and when layoffs occurred senior employees retained the right to bump junior employees not just within the health care facilities affected, but in any other governmental entities within the system. To ensure that this right continued with the creation of HHSC the legislature provided in 2006 Haw. Sess. L. Act 262, see § 2 (“Sec.-7”), at 599 that HHSC “develop a corporate wide hospital personnel system that is subject to chapters 76, 77, and 89.” This measure undermines the commitment made in 1996 to public employees.

As our Supreme Court determined in Konno v. County of Hawaii, 85 Hawai`i 61, 937 P.2d 397 (1997), privatization violates the constitutionally established merit principle under Article XVI, Section 1 of the Hawaii State Constitution. Where governmental services have “historically and customarily” been performed by civil servants privatization undermines the merit system, and eliminates the “openness, merit, and independence” in public administration which is promoted by the constitution. 85 Hawai`i at 68, 937 P.2d at 403. Most employees of HHSC are part of the merit system today, and this measure undermines the basic protection intended by the framers of our constitution.

In addition, this measure would nullify the right to engage in collective bargaining as set forth in chapter 89, and violate Article XIII, Section 2 of the State Constitution. In United Public Workers, AFSCME, Local 646, AFL-CIO v. Yogi (Yogi), 101 Hawai`i 46, 62 P.3d 189 (2002), the Supreme Court considered whether the legislature violated the constitutional right of public employees to engage in collective bargaining by suspending for two years the obligation to negotiate with state employees “with respect to costs items,” and thereby freezing existing salaries and benefits for two years. The Court held that “by enacting” a statute which “completely prohibited negotiation” over wages and cost items “the legislature was in fact abrogating the right of public employees to ‘organize for the purpose of collective bargaining.’” 101 Hawai`i at 56, 62 P.3d at 199.

The court rejected the State's contention that a freeze in wages for two years in all bargaining units was consistent with the underlying intent of Article XIII, Section 2.

Defendants' construction of article XII, section 2 would render that provision meaningless, because, if we follow the Defendants' reading of that provision to its logical conclusion, it would be possible for the legislature to establish a freeze in contractual terms on cost items not only for two years but for two decades. Surely, the framers did not contemplate such an absurd and unjust result, especially in light of the fact that their foremost intent in drafting this constitutional provision is to improve the standard of living of public employees. Accordingly, we reject Defendants' contention that the phrase “as provided by law” gave the legislature complete discretion to take away public employees' right to organize for the purpose of collective bargaining. Such reading is contrary to the underlying object and purpose of the constitutional provision. (Emphasis added).

Yogi, 101 Hawai`i at 54, 62 P.3d at 197.

This bill would not just freeze negotiated wages, it would completely eliminate the right to engage in collective bargaining. Such a course of action violates our state constitution. As our Supreme Court held in Malahoff v. Saito, 111 Hawai`i 168, 189, 140 P.3d 401, 419 (2006). “Yogi stands for the proposition that the legislature has broad discretion in setting the parameters for collective bargaining as long as it does not impinge upon the constitutional right of public employees to organize for the purpose of collective bargaining to negotiate core subjects of collective bargaining, that is wages, hours, and condition of employment.” This is a union busting measure which should be shelved.





**MAUI MEMORIAL**  
MEDICAL CENTER

Hawaii Health Systems Corporation—Maui Region

**February 12, 2013**

**To: Senate Committee on Health  
Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair  
And Members of the Committee**

**From: Wesley Lo, Chief Executive Officer of the Maui Region  
Hawaii Health Systems Corporation  
(808) 442-5100**

**RE: SB 1306 Relating to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation  
Wednesday, February 13, 2013  
1:30 pm  
State Capitol, Room 229**

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

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT of SB 1306**.

In 2009, “A Comprehensive, Independent Review and Evaluation of Hawai’i Health Systems Corporation” (Stroudwater Report) was completed by Stroudwater Associates in response to the Legislative mandate included in Act 182 (2009).

**The Stroudwater Report recommended that “...the corporate partnership strategy be pursued at high velocity in light of the financial status of both HHSC and the State.” At that time, in 2009, the report recommended completing this process within the next 2 to 3 years. It identified the need for continued State support during the transition period.**

The report further stated that several key factors brought them to the conclusion that the HHSC corporate partnering strategy is the best option. Relevant portions of three of the factors from the report (p. 82) are:

1. HHSC does not have the experience in operating as a highly integrated healthcare delivery system...
2. A partner will help to accelerate the transition to a higher performing system. Accessing the leadership, management and technical expertise to achieve the performance potential of a highly integrated health system will take far more time for HHSC to achieve independently than is the case if it were assisted through this process by a more mature system. Given

the financial challenges of both HHSC and the State, time is at a premium.

3. At its existing scale, HHSC is not large enough to access the highest levels of healthcare system performance as evidenced by health services research in this arena. For example, large hospital chain operating expenses per discharge are on average 8% lower than comparable services in smaller stand-alone hospitals and systems. Ongoing research by Citibank has found that the difference in operating margins between systems <\$1B in annual revenues vs. systems with >\$3B in annual revenue favors the larger system by a multiple of nearly four. *(Reference to an attached table omitted)*

Based on this report and many other factors, since 2009, the Maui Region has been exploring public-private partnerships.

The intent of this bill is to further advance the State’s commitment to provide quality health care by allowing the operations of the regional systems of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) and their facilities to transition to non-public status.

I believe that a public-private partnership, as allowed under Act 182 (2009), will enable us to move forward by expanding our services and infrastructure at Maui Memorial Medical Center (MMMC) and other public hospitals across the state and enable us to provide our communities with access to the quality health care that they deserve.

Under current conditions, HHSC continues to face financial challenges including increasing operating and capital improvement costs, budget shortfalls, budgetary restrictions, declining government and third-party payer subsidies and lack of scale. These issues are related to declining reimbursements, medical inflation, the Affordable Care Act and the current “fiscal cliff” and federal sequestration. These issues and many others are what bring us here today.

**We need to find a solution.**

Over the last several years, general fund subsidies and reimbursements continue to decline while operating costs continue to climb, resulting in exponential net losses for HHSC facilities. In 2012, the operating losses totaled \$143.5 million, while state subsidies decreased to \$73.4 million, resulting in \$68.9 million in net losses, a 134.4% growth in net losses from 2011.

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>
<b>Operating Loss</b>	\$(101.1)	\$(111.8)	\$(143.5)
<b>General Fund Subsidy</b>	\$98.3	82.0	73.4
<b>Net Loss</b>	\$(1.5)	\$(29.4)	\$( 68.9)

As a result of our limited biennium budget, for the fiscal 2014 and 2015 biennium budget period **HHSC anticipates a \$58.5 million budget shortfall**, which does not factor in pay raises or post-employment benefits.

In addition to the operating shortfalls, HHSC also lacks capital for necessary capital improvements. Some HHSC facilities are in need of major renovations and in few cases need to be replaced. HHSC has stated in its Strategic Plan that it needs approximately \$950 million in capital improvements to take care of aging facilities. However, historically, HHSC has only been getting approximately \$24 million per year (2.4% of the estimated total). This does not even keep up with annual depreciation, so it is anticipated that infrastructure will continue to decline without a massive infusion of capital

Declining subsidies and deteriorating infrastructure will inevitably affect quality of care. HHSC offers the only health care facilities in respective rural areas – MMMC is the only full-service acute hospital in Maui County. Our residents require and deserve more and better services which are now limited to Oahu. As a result, many patients are opting to travel to Oahu for perceived better care or for services not available on their island.

I am concerned that as hospital services erode and patient volume decreases, MMMC will have no choice but to proportionately size its employee base to match diminishing hospital operations and declining budgets. This is our reality on Maui and across the entire HHSC system.

I will be the first to recognize the outstanding work, dedication and commitment of our medical staff and employees at MMMC. These 1,700+ people are the heart of our operation and part of the foundation of our community – they are our neighbors, relatives and our friends and I know the challenges they face each and every day.

With fewer opportunities, it will then become even more difficult to offer better pay and compensation and to maintain and attract new physicians and nurses to provide care in our neighbor island communities, especially with an increasingly aging workforce. Following the passage of ACT 182 in 2009, we began exploring our options allowed under the law with one goal in mind – ensuring that Maui residents receive the highest level of health care available. Our current structure under HHSC, does not allow for growth of health care services and does not provide competitive compensation for our employees.

Over the past several years, we began discussions with many hospital systems both locally and across the country to discuss public-private partnerships, including Banner Health. We have not come to any definitive agreements with Banner Health.

The establishment of a public-private partnership with a company's like Banner Health has far reaching benefits for our community including:

- Access to private capital to expand access and service delivery.
- Private sector compensation packages to retain qualified medical service personnel.

- Create efficiencies of scale and an integrated clinical delivery system with increased resources.
- Develop sustainable model of health care delivery that will lower costs and improve the overall quality of services to the community.
- Improve support of and access to rural communities through electronic ICU and telemedicine platforms.

With the State's limited resources, we have come to point in time where we are running out of options. This is not a case of "living within our means" – the State would need to appropriate an additional \$58.5 million over the next biennium, in addition greatly increase the amount of capital invested in our facilities for us to continue operating at the status quo. And status quo is unacceptable for all of us who live and work on the neighbor islands.

The Maui Region of the HHSC is the largest provider of health care on the neighbor islands and our main priority is to provide quality care for the residents of Maui County at MMMC, Kula Hospital and Lanai Community Hospital. In recent years, we have greatly advanced, however, we can no longer rely on State funding to keep those advancements going. With new federal health care reform, combined with fiscal challenges, we have no choice but to look at innovative alternatives that could help to improve and enhance the delivery of basic health care for our residents.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this important measure. Your support would be greatly appreciated and will ultimately benefit the entire community.

February 12, 2013

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Senator Josh Green, M.D., Chair  
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair  
Committee Members

Testimony in **SUPPORT** of  
**SB1306** – Relating to Hawaii Health Systems Corporation

Thank you for the opportunity to testify **in strong support of SB1306**. The purpose of this bill is to further advance the State's commitment to providing quality health care by allowing the operations of the regional systems of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) and their facilities to transition to non-public status.

**BACKGROUND**

As a part of a legislative mandate in Act 162, Section 31 (2009), a study was commissioned by HHSC to prepare a report that shall include but not be limited to the following information:

- (1) A comprehensive facility-by-facility review of operations, detailing efficiencies, deficiencies, and any recommendations for corrective action;
- (2) Overall recommendations on improving effectiveness and efficiencies system-wide;
- (3) Determination of responsibilities of facility administration, regional boards, corporate office, and Hawai'i health systems corporation corporate board;
- (4) Determination of centralized services required by the facilities to be provided by the corporate office;
- (5) Performance benchmarks to be reported to the Legislature prior to the commencement of each regular session and upon request; and
- (6) Recommendations on transition plans deemed necessary;
- (7) Evaluation of effectiveness of the current legal structure and adherence to the state procurement code and salary structure;
- (8) Measures taken to address material control weaknesses and reporting issues cited in audits performed by the state auditor and HHSC's external auditor during fiscal year 2007-2008 and fiscal year 2008-2009;

A report, prepared by Stroudwater Associates, was submitted to Senate President Colleen Hanabusa on December 28, 2009 as detailed in DC56 (2010).

Below are excerpts from the Executive Summary of the report (pages 9 and 10):

“The fourth strategic option evaluated is an HHSC system corporate partnership strategy. This envisions that HHSC would engage in a formal process as a system to identify a capital/operating partner including both in-state and mainland options to help accelerate its transformation to a high performing contemporary delivery system. This option rests upon the conclusion that as a system HHSC by itself is insufficient in scale to move to the highest levels of performance, and that so many of its basic systems and infrastructure are in need of major updating that it will take the in-place resources of a more advanced system to help it catch up. This will result in a sharing of governance authority between HHSC and a chosen partner.

The study recommends the fourth option as the most effective one for meeting the needs of the people served by HHSC over the short and long terms. It further recommends that this option be pursued at high velocity in light of the financial status of both HHSC and the State. This targets re-structuring of HHSC governance and management, pursuit of operational efficiencies, conversion of HHSC to a 501(c)(3), and immediate pursuit of operational efficiencies identified. It further targets completion of a process for identifying the right partner with which to enter into a transaction. It recommends completing this entire process within the next 2-3 years. It identifies the need for continued State subsidy during the transition period, and ongoing support of the surviving entity based upon need beyond the transition. We recognize that these are aggressive time frames. We also recognize the intensity of financial pressures that motivate this proposed speed. “

The following are excerpts from pages 77 through 79 of the Stroudwater Report

#### Option 4: HHSC System Corporate Partnership Strategy

##### *Summary*

This option assumes that the conversion of HHSC to a private tax-exempt corporation and successful implementation of Option 3. Even with these advances, our judgment is that HHSC is so far behind in the development of so many basic elements of a contemporary operating and delivery infrastructure that it will be difficult for it to succeed in the intermediate and long term without help. Examples of high need areas include information technologies, electronic medical records, telemedicine, supply chain systems, private employer human resource systems, demand based staffing systems, revenue cycle systems, advanced quality improvement and safety systems, staff development resources, equipment and facilities maintenance systems, etc.

Attracting an operating/capital partner for HHSC as a system has not been a viable idea given its corporate status as a quasi-state agency so it has never been seriously pursued. While the individual regions have had the prerogative to structure themselves to establish such partnerships, their corporate and financial status has made it challenging to date to attract candidates willing and able to execute a transaction.

Conversion and recapitalization of HHSC as a private tax exempt corporation completely changes the dynamic in terms of attracting operating/capital partners at the corporate level. As part of this process we have validated the potential interest of systems both in Hawai'i and nationally in terms of considering a partnership with a re-structured HHSC. As previously noted, interest exists among potential in-state and mainland partners in considering both individual regions and HHSC as a system.

This option requires that discipline be applied to seek partners for HHSC only as a system. As in all multi-site hospital systems, some segments of the markets HHSC serves and related assets and operations serving them are more attractive than others. By allowing consideration of individual regions by potential partners, there is a risk that the most needy and financially vulnerable portions of HHSC's service area would not attract partners, placing their future in potential peril. This would jeopardize HHSC's service mission and values, and could ultimately result in reversion of these facilities back to the State of Hawai'i, a future that could otherwise be avoided.

##### *Corporate Structure*

In this option, the corporate structure of HHSC would be subsumed and integrated into the larger partner system. Based upon the cultural attributes of both HHSC and Hawai'i overall, we recommend that a partner selection process be limited to only non-profit systems. Following a conversion, there is likely to be interest among various investor-owned systems in HHSC. However, a change of control transaction with an investor-owned health system would require yet another conversion to a taxable corporate entity. It would also create an internal tension within HHSC between meeting the needs of shareholders and meeting the needs of disproportionately rural, poor, and unhealthy communities

served by HHSC. We can envision an unending skepticism within the communities served by HHSC regarding the foundational motivation of an investor-owned partner. There are a sufficient number of viable potential non-profit partners to put the investor-owned option aside at this juncture.

#### ***Governance Structure***

Under this option HHSC would be combined under the governance structure model of any partner selected. It is routine as part of structuring such arrangements that significant governance representation is retained within the local entity. Also, the idea of regional boards would, for many large non-profit systems we are familiar with, be looked at as an important asset. Mature systems understand and appreciate the critical importance of local input from communities served to establish and maintain healthcare delivery systems that are responsive to the needs and priorities of each local community. Again, this aspect of HHSC's current structure can almost certainly be maintained within a partnership structure with a larger system.

#### ***Financial Structure***

As part of structuring a capital/operator partnership arrangement, one of the elements generally included as part of an agreement is some commitment to address outstanding capital investment needs. In the subsequent section entitled Recommended Option and Rationale there are financial projections that assume that a partner would bring \$70M in additional investment capital to the system in FY 2013-2014. While these values are no more than conjecture at this point, they do represent investment levels that are comparable to other arrangements we are familiar with that have been put into place in recent years.

The financial operating structure of HHSC would likely be replaced by the partner's. In fact, one of the selection criteria for a partner should be the level of sophistication and maturity of revenue cycle, accounting, internal audit, and compliance systems. This is one of the areas where HHSC could with the help of a partner catch up from the current disadvantaged position that it currently experiences.

#### ***Service Structure***

The service structure for HHSC would, over time, be integrated in various ways with a larger partner health system. This should also be one of the selection criteria included in the process. The level of development of telemedicine infrastructure will be a relevant aspect of a review of potential partners. A geographic reality is that Hawai'i based systems will have a natural geographic advantage in their ability to integrate clinical service systems. As noted in prior options, clinical centers of excellence are an opportunity for HHSC, and one that can certainly be enhanced based upon a large system partner relationship.



Key Success Factors	Grade	Discussion
1 High performance capacity governance and management structure	▲	This option will add governance strength to the HHSC governance structure.
2 Access efficiencies of scale and expertise	▲	Depending upon the partner chosen, the scale accessible to HHSC facilities should grow dramatically.
3 Reduce dependence on subsidies	▲	Any ongoing financial support with the new system will require documentation and negotiation.
4 Identify scope/scale of market needs	▲	Likely preservation of regional boards would provide an ongoing local resource for monitoring community needs.
5 High quality clinical care/patient services	▲	A single standard of improved clinical care and patient services would be an essential partner requirement.

I believe SB1306 lays the foundation for HHSC to carry out the recommendations of the “Stroudwater Report.”

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

Respectfully submitted.

Patrick Saka  
Chief Administrative Officer  
Maui Region, Hawaii Health Systems Corporation  
221 Mahalani Street, Wailuku, HI 96793  
(808) 244-9056

February 12, 2013

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

Wednesday, February 13, 2013  
1:30 pm  
Conference Room 229  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania St.

**RE: SB 1306 - Relating to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation**

Dear Chair Green, Vice Chair Baker and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of SB 1306. The purpose of this bill is to permit the regional systems of Hawaii Health Systems Corporation and their health facilities to transition to non-public status.

As a physician, resident of Maui, and member of the Maui Memorial management team, I support this bill because a public-private partnership can provide:

- Access to private capital to expand services for our community
- Private sector compensation packages to retain qualified medical service personnel
- Economies of scale and an integrated clinical delivery system with increased resources to help ensure our community has access to world class health care
- Development of a sustainable model of health care delivery that will lower costs and improve the overall quality of services to our community.

Thank you again for the opportunity to submit this testimony. Passing this measure has the potential to greatly enhance the current healthcare provided to our community.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie B. Chun M.D.  
Chief of Clinical and Medical Affairs  
Maui Memorial Medical Center  
808-442-5017

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [syamaquchi@hpsc.org](mailto:syamaquchi@hpsc.org)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1306 on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 12, 2013 10:03:02 AM

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/12/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karen Oura	Maui Regional System Board	Support	No

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in SUPPORT of SB 1306. The purpose of this bill is to permit the regional systems of Hawaii Health Systems Corporation and their health facilities to transition to non-public status. I support this bill because a public-private partnership can provide:

- o Access to private capital to expand services.
- o Private sector compensation packages to retain qualified medical service personnel.
- o Efficiencies of scale and an integrated clinical delivery system with increased resources.
- o Development of a sustainable model of health care delivery that will lower costs and improve the overall quality of services to the community.

Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony. Your support of this measure would be greatly appreciated.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

The Senate  
The Twenty-Seventh Legislature, State of Hawaii  
Regular Session of 2013  
Committee on Health

February 13, 2013

S.B. 1306 – RELATING TO  
THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION

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

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **strong opposition of the language in S.B. 1306**, which permits the regional systems of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) and their health facilities to transition to non-public status.

My name is Marc Kirchhof, I have been a union member for **9 years** and have lived on Maui for **19 years**. Banner Health is a national nonprofit hospital system that only wants private employees. If they take over, they will most likely terminate all employees by HHSC and re-hire only those who pass pre-employment requirements. Banner Health does not believe in unions and should not be allowed to take over any facility being operated by HHSC.

With regards to its impact in the community, if Banner Health deems services unfeasible to maintain or lack clinical quality, they will cut those vital services and possibly close facilities that our community depends on. For example, Banner Health has minimal experience with services such as long-term care that are currently provided to our community. Additionally, with Banner Health, Hawaii taxpayers' dollars will be supporting and funding a mainland company to provide Hawaii health services. It deeply troubles me that the Legislature is considering this partnership.

**I strongly oppose the passage of S.B. 1306.** Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Respectfully submitted,



Marc Kirchhof

The Senate  
 The Twenty-Seventh Legislature, State of Hawaii  
 Regular Session of 2013  
 Committee on Health

February 13, 2013

S.B. 1306 – RELATING TO  
THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION

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

WE **strongly oppose S.B. 1306**, which would allow a mainland company to run our local hospitals. This is not good for the Big Island.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in OPPOSITION of SB 1306.

Aloha,

PRINT

SIGNATURE

Joycelyn Iyo  
Doreen "Dee" M. Torres  
Stephanie Tsunozumi  
Glynis Yamada  
Valerie Sue Carron  
Rachel Wah Yick  
Lawrence Sumishi  
BOB Chewoweth  
Kathleen Mercado  
Piikoa K. Kila  
Acker Puki

Joycelyn Iyo  
Doreen Torres  
Stephanie Tsunozumi  
Glynis Yamada  
Valerie Sue Carron  
Rachel Wah Yick  
Lawrence Sumishi  
Bob Chewoweth  
Kathleen Mercado  
Piikoa K. Kila

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Aloha,

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SIGNATURE

CHARMAINE KAMAHA

Charmaine Kamaha

SANDRA AQUINO

Sandra Aquino

ALYSON CORTEZ HEWESON

Alyson Cortez Heweson

CYNTHIA J. CERNY

Cynthia Cerny

LORNA SUE

Lorna Sue

Toni Ann Quitoriano

Toni Ann Quitoriano

Charlene Malendres

Charlene Malendres

WAKE KUNZEL

Wake Kunzel

DORI ANN AYAP

Dori Ann Ayap

Linda L. Silva

Linda L. Silva







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 The Twenty-Seventh Legislature, State of Hawaii  
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Aloha,

PRINT

SIGNATURE

Laura Casey

*Laura Casey*

NOEL AHCACT

*Noel Ahcact*

Alex Howard

*[Signature]*

Brenda J. Ison

*Brenda J. Ison*

Robert <sup>ROBERT BALCH EN</sup> Balch

*Robert Balch*

Maria L. Berdon

*Maria Berdon*

Lon Anu Tokeshi

*Lon Anu Tokeshi*

Ann I. Ignacio

*Ann I. Ignacio*

Jean Viener

*Jean Viener*

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**Date:** Monday, February 11, 2013 12:54:40 AM  
**Attachments:** [02-13-13SB1306.pdf](#)

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SB1306

Submitted on: 2/11/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Clyde Hayashi	Hawaii LECET	Oppose	No

Comments:

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The Senate  
The Twenty-Seventh Legislature, State of Hawaii  
Regular Session of 2013  
Committee on Health

February 13, 2013

S.B. 1306 – RELATING TO  
THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION

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

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **strong opposition of the language in S.B. 1306**, which permits the regional systems of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) and their health facilities to transition to non-public status.

My name is Alton Watanabe and I have lived on Maui for about 33 years. Banner Health is a national nonprofit hospital system that only wants private employees. If they take over, they will most likely terminate all employees by HHSC and re-hire only those who pass pre-employment requirements. Banner Health does not believe in unions and should not be allowed to take over any facility being operated by HHSC.

With regards to its impact in the community, if Banner Health deems services unfeasible to maintain or lack clinical quality, they will cut those vital services and possibly close facilities that our community depends on. For example, Banner Health has minimal experience with services such as long-term care that are currently provided to our community. The hospital system is supposed to be a safety net to provide medical services to the neighbor islands and rural communities. If Banner Health or any other private entity were allowed to take over operations of the hospital system, there is no guarantee that such services would continue.

Additionally, with Banner Health, Hawaii taxpayers' dollars will be supporting and funding a mainland company to provide Hawaii health services. It deeply troubles me that the Legislature is considering this partnership.

**I strongly oppose the passage of S.B. 1306.** Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Respectfully submitted,



Alton Watanabe

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/9/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrew Pells	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB 1306. The purpose of this Act is to further advance the State's commitment to providing quality health care by allowing the operations of the regional systems of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation and their facilities to transition to non-public status. I am extremely concerned and believe that Maui County deserves the best health care available. With new federal health care reform and changes, combined with fiscal challenges, we need to look at innovative alternatives that could help to improve and enhance the quality of health care on Maui. A potential partnership can improve the quality of care and expansion of primary and specialty services. I urge the committee to support SB 1306. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/9/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Anne Leung-Stevens	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB 1306. The purpose of this Act is to further advance the State's commitment to providing quality health care by allowing the operations of the regional systems of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation and their facilities to transition to non-public status. I am extremely concerned and believe that Maui County deserves the best health care available. With new federal health care reform and changes, combined with fiscal challenges, we need to look at innovative alternatives that could help to improve and enhance the quality of health care on Maui. A potential partnership can improve the quality of care and expansion of primary and specialty services. I urge the committee to support SB 1306. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

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## SB1306

Submitted on: 2/10/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Arvid Tadao Youngquist	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: Chair, HTH Committee Honorable Members I oppose SB 1306. In particular, I oppose the following language, "Employees of the new entity, unless the new entity is a municipal facility, and the private entity shall be exempt from chapters 76, 87A, 88, and 89, and in no event shall the employees of the new entity or the private entity be considered as employees of the State; In addition this measure appears to benefit the entity which may be making a bid to take-over the systems with paractically no obligation for existing liabilities, unless it assumes them through negotiation. This measure places a great deal of chilling effect on both UPW and HGEA employees as well as contract workers who may be treated as "at will employees" without any continuing protection of a personal service contract existing prior to the enactment of SB 1306. SB 1306 is another example of fastracking and streamlining an existing due process and past practice in the interest of a for-profit operation which might be promised but seldom delivered. It is akin to granting credits and tax breaks to non-Hawaii for-profits and private sector businisses. This bill needs to be vetted on each island by a Committee or a Joint Committee Hearing to assess how each community feels about the end results apart from tge bottom line. Please hold this SB 1306 or provide some modicum of continued job security to public sector employees instead of increased displacement and down-sizing. I say this in view of a recent news piece I read or heard on the radio whereby certain hospitals were eliminating registered nurses positions. I assume this means that they would be replaced by nurses assistants or other intermediate practioners. Please defer measure indefinitely. Mahalo. Arvid Tadao Youngquist Kalihi Valley Feb. 10, 2013

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/11/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Larrabee Duarte	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Is outsourcing to the mainland the right choice? Will Banner Health be using Hawaii's subsidies to rescue mainland operations? I wonder how aggressive a local private partnership was sought out? I am concerned about current loss of services for rural health. Could Banner cut current services? I am concerned for loss of state jobs. Banner is not a union operation. Barbara Larrabee Duarte RN MMMC ER Nurse

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SB1306

Submitted on: 2/11/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bernard F. Sarmiento	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: The state should find another way to keep these hospital public.

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The Twenty-Seventh Legislature, State of Hawaii  
Regular Session of 2013  
Committee on Health

February 13, 2013

S.B. 1306 – RELATING TO  
THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION

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

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **strong opposition of the language in S.B. 1306**, which permits the regional systems of the Hawaii health systems corporation and their health facilities to transition to non-public status.

It is very scary that the State of Hawaii is considering privatizing our hospitals. The HHSC provides vital services to our community and **EVERYONE** on the Big Island. It is our safety net. The HHSC and the State of Hawaii ensures access to health care for all citizens. What happens if they bail or it fails? We suffer, we lose.....

**I strongly oppose the passage of S.B. 1306.** Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Respectfully submitted,

*Barbara Grode-Viviers*

From: [Ms BEVERLY LUCILLE CHEW](#)  
To: [HTHTestimony](#)  
Subject: SB1306  
Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2013 6:04:33 AM

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I AM A REGISTERED VOTER WHO WRITES TO ALL THOSE WHO SIT ON COMMITTEES WHO WILL HEAR THE ABOVE NOTED BILL.

I AM **STRONGLY OPPOSED** TO THIS BILL.

FOR OAHU THERE ARE SEVERAL HOSPITALS PEOPLE CAN CHOOSE FROM. FOR THE OUTER ISLANDS THERE IS ONLY ONE HOSPITAL. JUST ONE. NO OTHERS.

PRIVATE HOSPITALS ARE IN BUSINESS FOR ONE THING. TO MAKE MONEY. TO MAKE A PROFIT.

THESE PRIVATE HOSPITALS WILL NOT WANT TO SERVICE THOSE WITHOUT INSURANCE OR THOSE WHO HAVE INSURANCE THAT PAYS VERY LITTLE (I.E. WELFARE OR MEDICAID). WHERE WILL PEOPLE GO FOR SERVICE?

IF THE PRIVATE HOSPITAL DOES SERVICE THE NON-INSURANCE OR LOW INSURANCE PEOPLE, I AM SUSPECT OF THE SERVICE THAT WILL BE RECEIVED. IT WILL BE AS MINIMAL SERVICE AS POSSIBLE. AGAIN THE PRIVATE HOSPITAL WILL BE IN BUSINESS TO MAKE MONEY.

THERE ARE ORGANIZATIONS THAT SAY THEY CAN PROVIDE THE SERVICES AND NOT HAVE TO COME TO THE LEGISLATURE FOR MONEY. I SAY THEY CAN'T WITHOUT CUTTING SERVICES OR TURNING AWAY PEOPLE.

IN THAT CASE, PEOPLE WILL COME TO THE STATE (MEDICAID) ASKING FOR MONEY TO COME TO OAHU. HOW IS THE STATE GOING TO SAVE MONEY THAT WAY?

LET US ALSO CONSIDER THOSE EMPLOYED BY HHSC. GOING PRIVATE FORCES PEOPLE TO ACCEPT JOBS WITH LESS PAY (IF THEY ARE OFFERED BY THE PRIVATE ORGANIZATION), WHICH MEANS LESS INCOME FOR THE STATE (LOWER TAXES PAID). FOR THOSE THAT ARE NOT OFFERED A JOB, IT MEANS UNEMPLOYMENT (STATE PAYS) AND/OR MEDICAID (STATE PAYS). NOW THE STATE HAS NO INCOME FROM THESE PEOPLE.

THE PRIVATE ORGANIZATION (BANNER) IS MAINLAND BASED. THIS MEANS MONEY DOES NOT STAY HERE IN HAWAII. THE MONEY GOES TO THE MAINLAND FOR OTHER STATES TO COLLECT TAXES ON PAYROLLS, ETC. - NOT HAWAII.

OF WHAT TRUE BENEFIT IS A PRIVATE ORGANIZATION TO HAWAII?  
PLEASE SERIOUSLY THINK ABOUT THESE THINGS WHEN YOU VOTE ON THIS BILL AND REJECT THE BILL.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME. PLEASE EXCUSE THE CAPITALS AS MY SIGHT IS NOT THE BEST AND I CAN READ CAPITALS BETTER.

AGAIN THANK YOU.

SINCERELY,  
BEVERLY L CHEW,  
PUNA DISTRICT OF THE BIG ISLAND  
808-896-7122

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/11/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bill Mills	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support SB 1306.

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/10/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brad Wagenaar	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I urge the committee to support SB 1306 to help improve and enhance the quality of health care on Maui.

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/9/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Hoyle		Support	No

Comments: I strongly support this bill as it will allow HHSC Hospitals the opportunity to greatly benefit from the operational and financial capability of some of the best private healthcare providers in the US. Non-public status, proven healthcare providers like Banner Health will offer better healthcare services and options for all Hawaiians in addition to many millions of dollars in potential savings to the Hawaii State Budget. Brian H. Hoyle President Newport Hospital Corporation Developer of the West Maui Hospital and Medical Center

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**Date:** Monday, February 11, 2013 10:06:24 AM  
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SB1306

Submitted on: 2/11/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Candace Tablit	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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The Twenty-Seventh Legislature, State of Hawaii  
Regular Session of 2013  
Committee on Health

February 13, 2013

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Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **strong opposition of the language in S.B. 1306**, which permits the regional systems of the Hawaii health systems corporation and their health facilities to transition to non-public status.

My name is Carol Nakahara and I have worked as a registered nurse for the Kona Hospital for 25 years. As a government employee, I dedicate my career to public service. Banner Health is a national nonprofit hospital system that only wants private employees. If they take over, they will most likely terminate all employees in Kona Hospital, and re-hire only those who pass pre-employment requirements. Banner Health does not believe in unions, and my civil servant service status and benefits will be lost as I will no longer be a state employee. With regards to its impact in the community, if Banner Health deems services unfeasible to maintain or lack clinical quality, they will cut those vital services and possibly close facilities that our community depends on. For example, Banner Health has minimal experience with services such as long-term care that are currently provided to our community. Additionally, with Banner Health, Hawaii taxpayers' dollars will be supporting and funding a mainland company to provide Hawaii health services. It deeply troubles me that the Legislature is considering this partnership.

**I strongly oppose the passage of S.B. 1306.** Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Nakahara

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SB1306

Submitted on: 2/10/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carolyn Schaefer	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to testify in STRONG support of SB 1306. The purpose of this Act is to further advance the State's commitment to providing quality health care by allowing the operations of the regional systems of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation and their facilities to transition to non-public status. I am extremely concerned and believe that Maui County deserves the best health care available. With new federal health care reform and changes, combined with fiscal challenges, we need to look at innovative alternatives that could help to improve and enhance the quality of health care on Maui. A potential partnership can improve the quality of care and expansion of primary and specialty services. I urge the committee to SUPPORT SB 1306. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/11/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carrie Machan	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB 1306. The purpose of this Act is to further advance the State's commitment to providing quality health care by allowing the operations of the regional systems of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation and their facilities to transition to non-public status. I am extremely concerned and believe that Maui County deserves the best health care available. With new federal health care reform and changes, combined with fiscal challenges, we need to look at innovative alternatives that could help to improve and enhance the quality of health care on Maui. A potential partnership can improve the quality of care and expansion of primary and specialty services. I urge the committee to support SB 1306. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/11/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chad Goodfellow	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB 1306. The purpose of this Act is to further advance the State's commitment to providing quality health care by allowing the operations of the regional systems of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation and their facilities to transition to non-public status. I am extremely concerned and believe that Maui County deserves the best health care available. With new federal health care reform and changes, combined with fiscal challenges, we need to look at innovative alternatives that could help to improve and enhance the quality of health care on Maui. A potential partnership can improve the quality of care and expansion of primary and specialty services. I urge the committee to support SB 1306. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/10/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Charles Among Jr	Individual	Oppose	No

**Comments:**

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**Date:** Sunday, February 10, 2013 10:20:45 AM

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/10/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Charles Ice	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: It's a mistake to start down the road of health care for profit. We have not seen good examples of improved health care when facilities are sucked into the debt-driven private economy. Hawaii is blessed with good care and we pay for it - a tempting target for privateers who can chain us to ever-higher premiums without lifting a finger toward better health other than that of their bottom lines. Health financing solutions come from single-payer lowered administration costs, and Hawaii has been in the lead. We should take it to the next level, not back into poorer care due to private financialization, which has bloated and corrupted the rest of the economy.

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**From:** [Chiyono Kinoshita](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** S.B. 1306 Hawaii Health Systems Corporation  
**Date:** Monday, February 11, 2013 10:23:50 AM

---

Ladies and Gentlemen:

My name is Chiyono Kinoshita. I am a retiree and a voter whose residence is 23 Nohea Sreet, Hilo, HI 96720; my phone number is (808) 959-7542.

I strongly oppose passing of SB 1306, the transition of Hawaii Health Systems Corporation to a non-profit status.

February 11, 2013

Ladies and Gentlemen:

My name is Chiyono Kinoshita and I am a retiree. My address is 23 Nohea Street, Hilo, HI 96720; my phone number is (808) 959-7542.

I strongly oppose the passing of SB 1306, transition of Hawaii Health Systems Corporation to a non-profit status. The control of hospitals by a private entity outside the State invites fear and apprehension to our community. The firm may pull out if it is not profitable. Where will we be? A firm from out of state has no prior loyalty or commitment to our community and may cease to service us. We will be supporting the firm with our tax dollars and there is no guarantee that the dollars will remain in Hawaii. In addition, the current employees will lose their seniority in the State system as well as the collective bargaining power and benefits they worked hard for.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Chiyono Kinoshita  
[ckino@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:ckino@hawaiiantel.net)

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**Attachments:** [testimony.doc](#)

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SB1306

Submitted on: 2/11/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Claire K. Campos	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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**Date:** Saturday, February 09, 2013 5:04:27 PM

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/9/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Clifford Wright	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB 1306. The purpose of this Act is to further advance the State's commitment to providing quality health care by allowing the operations of the regional systems of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation and their facilities to transition to non-public status. I am extremely concerned and believe that Maui County deserves the best health care available. With new federal health care reform and changes, combined with fiscal challenges, we need to look at innovative alternatives that could help to improve and enhance the quality of health care on Maui. A potential partnership can improve the quality of care and expansion of primary and specialty services. I urge the committee to support SB 1306. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/9/2013

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Colin Moreton	Individual	Support	No

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/11/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Constance Skidmore	Individual	Support	No

**Comments:**

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/11/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cory Uchima	Individual	Support	No

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**From:** [Curtis Omuro](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** SB 1306  
**Date:** Saturday, February 09, 2013 9:48:21 PM

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Regarding SB 1306:

I fully support SB 1306 and the privatization of HHSC.

- 1) If we continue using state subsidies to maintain current operations the community of Maui will suffer because the state has no money to:
  - a. Make improvements to existing facilities
  - b. Bring in quality employess with no competitive wages.
  - c. Provide medical services.
  - d. Community will have to fly out to mainland or Oahu for care.
  - e. HHSC will probably need to cut services because of medicare reimbursements are going down, state subsidies are decreasing, and costs are going up.
- 2) This also gives the state options to help the healthcare system.
- 3) HGEA is not looking out for the best interest of the community on Maui, only to keep the union dues flowing. HGEA is ineffective.

I hope that the State can start doing things that make bottom line sense and also provide benefit to a larger population and not just union members.

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/9/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cyrus Monroe	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am in strong support of SB 1306. I believe it imperative to rise above the status quo when it comes to health care here in Hawaii.

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**Date:** Monday, February 11, 2013 9:00:25 AM

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SB1306

Submitted on: 2/11/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Painter	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB 1306. The purpose of this Act is to further advance the State's commitment to providing quality health care by allowing the operations of the regional systems of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation and their facilities to transition to non-public status. I am extremely concerned and believe that Maui County deserves the best health care available. With new federal health care reform and changes, combined with fiscal challenges, we need to look at innovative alternatives that could help to improve and enhance the quality of health care on Maui. A potential partnership can improve the quality of care and expansion of primary and specialty services. I urge the committee to support SB 1306. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1306 on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM  
**Date:** Friday, February 08, 2013 4:18:10 PM

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/8/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Williams	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Since I believe that our health care is on Maui is sub standard and that the State of Hawaii will not be able to afford the necessary investments to improve it, we must allow a transition to a private partner arrangement. We must be focused on the "greater good" and not allow small interest groups like our unions drive the process. We are talking about the needs of our entire population and your decisions must reflect that priority.

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House of Representatives  
The Twenty-Seventh Legislature, State of Hawaii  
Regular Session of 2013  
Committee on Health  
Committee on Labor & Public Employment

February 6, 2013

SB 1306 – RELATING TO  
THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION

Chair Belatti, Chair Nakashima, and members of the Committee on Health and Committee on Labor & Public Employment:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **strong opposition of the language in S.B. 1306**, which permits the regional systems of the Hawaii health systems corporation and their health facilities to transition to non-public status and amends the governance structure of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC).

My name Debra Lynn Bullion and I have worked as an RN in Surgery for Kona Community Hospital for 21 years. As a government employee, I dedicate my career to public service. Banner Health is a national nonprofit hospital system that only wants private employees. If they take over, they will most likely terminate all employees in Kona Community Hospital and re-hire only those who pass pre-employment requirements. Banner Health does not believe in unions, and my civil servant service status and benefits will be lost as I will no longer be a state employee. With regards to its impact in the community, if Banner Health deems services unfeasible to maintain or lack clinical quality, they will cut those vital services and possibly close facilities that our community depends on. For example, Banner Health has minimal experience with services such as long-term care that are currently provided to our community. Additionally, with Banner Health, Hawaii taxpayers' dollars will be supporting and funding a mainland company to provide Hawaii health services. It deeply troubles me that the Legislature is considering this partnership. Please, I urge you to oppose S.B. 1306! These are tough times that we can get through without selling out to Banner Health, a company that has no investment in our community and its workers. I and my co workers have dedicated ourselves to our hospital and jobs for the long term, not just some short term fix. Mahalo for taking the time to hear me.

**I strongly oppose the passage of S.B. 1306.** Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Respectfully submitted, Debra Lynn Bullion

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/10/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Denise Cohen	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of this . The purpose of this the Act is to advance the State's commitment to providing quality health care to by allowing Hawaii Health Systems Corporation transition to non-public status . With mandatory health care changes coming we need to take a strong proactive stance in improving and enhancing the quality of health care on Maui. A potent ion private/public partnerships has the ability to achieve this goal. I urge the committee to support SB 1306. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/12/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Desmond Machado	Individual	Oppose	No

**Comments:**

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/9/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
diana hageboeck	Individual	Support	No

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/9/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
DIANA OLSON	Individual	Support	No

**Comments:**

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/11/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Donna McCleary,MD	Individual	Support	No

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/9/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Doug Schatz	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB 1306. The purpose of this Act is to further advance the State's commitment to providing quality health care by allowing the operations of the regional systems of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation and their facilities to transition to non-public status. I am extremely concerned and believe that Maui County deserves the best health care available. With new federal health care reform and changes, combined with fiscal challenges, we need to look at innovative alternatives that could help to improve and enhance the quality of health care on Maui. A potential partnership can improve the quality of care and expansion of primary and specialty services. I urge the committee to support SB 1306. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

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SB1306

Submitted on: 2/12/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Douglas Peterson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB 1306. The purpose of this Act is to further advance the State's commitment to providing quality health care by allowing the operations of the regional systems of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation and their facilities to transition to non-public status. I am extremely concerned and believe that Maui County deserves the best health care available. With new federal health care reform and changes, combined with fiscal challenges, we need to look at innovative alternatives that could help to improve and enhance the quality of health care on Maui. A potential partnership can improve the quality of care and expansion of primary and specialty services. I urge the committee to support SB 1306. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

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## SB1306

Submitted on: 2/9/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Drena Lynn Rodrigues	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Is a non profit hospital really the best solution for the outer islands? Hilo Medical center is one of the biggest employers in Hilo and if Banner Health comes in it will have a negative affect on the employees and their future. We are not a rich community and good paying jobs are hard to come by in Hilo. Although I don't make that much at HMC., I accepted this job knowing that it would give me the chance to retire someday and possibly cover some of my medical expenses in my old age. With out our retirement and Medical benefits many of the employees here will not be able to retire at 65,if at all. I feel like the State of Hawaii is turning their backs on us. When the state needed money we took a 5% pay cut, and now the state wants us to take a cut out of our future. This will trickle down to the rest of our community. These non profits are not looking out for our communities. The tax exemptions and lower cost on drugs are not passed on to the people of these communities that they have taken so much money out of. These hospitals are supposed to be charity hospital, but because of their lack of charity, many states are proposing to define laws to make sure that these non profit hospitals are not just taking their tax exemptions and running. There is a reason why these non profit hospitals are making so much money, I just don't want it made on the backs of the people in these smaller communities. Please do your research and vote No. I do not believe this is the best thing for our community. We are already struggling without the state bringing in another big corporation to take more money from us. Higher cost for services, higher cost for drugs, more taxes to pay for those who can't pay for these higher cost. The senate keeps saying we need to create job for the middle class, but then they keep cutting jobs from the middle class and this bill will do the same.

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/9/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Duffy Herman	Individual	Support	No

**Comments:**

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**From:** [Dwayne Yoshina](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Privatization of Health Services - SB 1306  
**Date:** Monday, February 11, 2013 10:30:13 AM

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Aloha Members of the Senate:

I oppose the transition of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) and its health facilities to non-public status as proposed under SB 1306.

As a lifelong resident of Hawaii, I have experienced the slow erosion and deterioration of our necessary health services in the state. I am concerned when I hear that you are yet again contemplating the "privatization" of this essential public responsibility and service.

As a "student" of government and public policy, I have yet to see an example where a private profit driven entity exhibits any modicum of "social responsibility and/or consciousness". The "not for profit" language of this legislation only adds to the duplicity.

If you agree that one of the responsibilities of government is to provide for the well-being of its citizens and that part and parcel of this well-being includes essential health services, please continue to provide these as such.

Thank you for the good service which you provide for us.

Aloha and mahalo,

Dwayne D. Yoshina

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/10/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
earls stoner	Individual	Support	No

Comments: i support SB1306. it allows hha the flexibility to consider alternatives to their present operation and may provide for a substantial upgrade in the condition of facilities and an attendant improvement in health care for all of it's operations.

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**Date:** Monday, February 11, 2013 6:38:26 PM

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/11/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Emelia M. Carvalho	Individual	Support	No

**Comments:**

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Support for SB1306.

I support SB1306 to allow for the transition to non-public status (privatization) within HHSC. A public/private partnership would work, because it would consolidate the resources and expertise of both the management-corporation and the Hawaii hospitals.

The opposition from the unions can be remedied. The concerns of local workers are for more than just the fear of job loss, but also for the fear of the oppressive working conditions. Hawaii style is “family-style” where there is an internal support system. If someone is late, there is someone willing to cover for them. Corporate style includes lateness as grounds for termination.

The Hawaii management style comes with a lot of benefits; fewer harassment lawsuits, and fewer disgruntled workers. The results are a friendly and happier workplace, where workers are willing to go the extra mile.

Negotiations with the managing entity on incorporating Hawaiian management styles will go a long way in gaining support of local workers.

Eve Clute [doctor of public Health]  
Lahaina, Maui

The Senate  
The Twenty-Seventh Legislature, State of Hawaii  
Regular Session of 2013  
Committee on Health

February 11, 2013

S.B. 1306 – RELATING TO  
THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION


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

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **strong opposition of the language in S.B. 1306**, which permits the regional systems of the Hawaii health systems corporation and their health facilities to transition to non-public status.

My name is Georgeann Suguitan, and I am a civil service employee for another Hawaii State agency for over twenty years. As a government employee, I dedicate my career to public service. Banner Health is a national nonprofit hospital system that only wants private employees. If they take over, they will most likely terminate all employees in the Hawaii Health System Corporation and re-hire only those who pass pre-employment requirements. Banner Health does not believe in unions, and my fellow civil servants will lose their civil service status and benefits once they are no longer a state employee. With regards to its impact in the community, if Banner Health deems services unfeasible to maintain or lack clinical quality, they will cut those vital services and possibly close facilities that our community depends on. For example, Banner Health has minimal experience with services such as long-term care that are currently provided to our community. Additionally, with Banner Health, Hawaii taxpayers' dollars will be supporting and funding a mainland company to provide Hawaii health services. It deeply troubles me that the Legislature is considering this partnership.

**I strongly oppose the passage of S.B. 1306.** Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Respectfully submitted,



**Georgeann Suguitan**

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/10/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Germaine B. Dwyer	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Previously submitted testimony but checked oppose box by mistake. I support SB 1306. Aloha, Germaine Dwyer

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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1306 on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM  
**Date:** Sunday, February 10, 2013 12:57:06 PM

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/10/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Germaine B. Dwyer	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: No need for further hearings. There have been numerous hearings and the financial problems of Maui Memorial continue to grow. Please support Dr Wes Lo's proposal for a public/ private partnership for Maui Memorial. Aloha Germaine Dwyer

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**Date:** Saturday, February 09, 2013 2:27:39 PM

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/9/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Hannu Selin	Individual	Support	No

**Comments:**

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SB1306

Submitted on: 2/10/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Heidi Bigelow	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB 1306. The purpose of this Act is to further advance the State's commitment to providing quality health care by allowing the operations of the regional systems of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation and their facilities to transition to non-public status. I am extremely concerned and believe that Maui County deserves the best health care available. With new federal health care reform and changes, combined with fiscal challenges, we need to look at innovative alternatives that could help to improve and enhance the quality of health care on Maui. A potential partnership can improve the quality of care and expansion of primary and specialty services. I urge the committee to support SB 1306. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

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**Date:** Sunday, February 10, 2013 12:57:48 PM

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/10/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Howard Howell	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support SB1306. This act will advance the States commitment to proved quality care by allowing the transition of the regional systems of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation to transition to non-public status. I believe that Maui County deserves the best care available. With the new health care reform and fiscal challenges, new alternatives need to be considered. I believe this act will improve the health care quality here on Maui. Please urge the committee to support SB1306. Thank you...

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/9/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Hugh Farrington	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB 1306. The purpose of this Act is to further advance the State's commitment to providing quality health care by allowing the operations of the regional systems of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation and their facilities to transition to non-public status. I am extremely concerned and believe that Maui County deserves the best health care available. With new federal health care reform and changes, combined with fiscal challenges, we need to look at innovative alternatives that could help to improve and enhance the quality of health care on Maui. A potential partnership can improve the quality of care and expansion of primary and specialty services. I urge the committee to support SB 1306. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/9/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jake Smookler	Individual	Oppose	No

**Comments:**

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/12/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeannie Moniz-Kekumu	Individual	Oppose	No

**Comments:**

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**Date:** Monday, February 11, 2013 2:11:01 PM

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/11/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeff Halpin	Individual	Support	No

**Comments:**

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/9/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
JERRY OLSON	Individual	Support	No

**Comments:**

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/9/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jill Schatz	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB 1306. The purpose of this Act is to further advance the State's commitment to providing quality health care by allowing the operations of the regional systems of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation and their facilities to transition to non-public status. I am extremely concerned and believe that Maui County deserves the best health care available. With new federal health care reform and changes, combined with fiscal challenges, we need to look at innovative alternatives that could help to improve and enhance the quality of health care on Maui. A potential partnership can improve the quality of care and expansion of primary and specialty services. I urge the committee to support SB 1306. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/11/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joanne Iritani, DNP, RN	Maui Memorial Medical Center	Support	No

Comments: I would like to testify on behalf of SB 1306. As a health care executive there is an increasing number of financial, clinical, operational and ethical challenges as the cost of care/technology is faced with decreasing reimbursements and patients and families desire for accessible, affordable and high quality care. This bill would allow Hawaii Health Systems Corporation to explore alternatives to the status quo. This bill would allow HHSC the opportunity to explore options that may ultimately improve the health care of our community. I appreciate the opportunity to testify on behalf of SB 1308. Thank you very much for your consideration.

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SB1306

Submitted on: 2/9/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Bruce	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Chair Green, Vice Chair Baker, and members of the Committee on Health: Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong opposition of the language in S.B. 1306, which permits the regional systems of the Hawaii health systems corporation and their health facilities to transition to non-public status. Banner Health does not believe in unions, which will jeopardize Hospital working staff civil servant service status and benefits will be lost. Searching online you will find that Banner Health pays a lower wage, even for Arizona, where wages are low to begin with. With regards to its impact in the community, if Banner Health deems services unfeasible to maintain or lack clinical quality, they will cut those vital services and possibly close facilities that our community depends on. For example, Banner Health has minimal experience with services such as long-term care that are currently provided to our community. Additionally, with Banner Health, Hawaii taxpayers' dollars will be supporting and funding a mainland company to provide Hawaii health services. It deeply troubles me that the Legislature is considering this partnership. Banner Health's CEO Peter Fine earns more than \$4 Million a year. If that "Non-profit" is given the Hawaii Hospitals, our taxpayers, you and I, will be paying this persons salary... I strongly oppose the passage of S.B. 1306. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/10/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Spasari	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Thanks for the opportunity to strongly support SB 1306. The quality of health care on Maui County is in need of improvement from its current status. Allowing the regional systems of Hawaii Health Systems Corporation to transition to non-public status will be a big step in the right direction. Maui County deserves quality health care and the current system falls far short of that goal. A potential public/private partnership can help achieve the goal of quality health care for Maui County and likely other regions as well. Thanks for the chance to testify in support of this measure.

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The Senate  
The Twenty-Seventh Legislature, State of Hawaii  
Regular Session of 2013  
Committee on Health

February 13, 2013

S.B. 1306 – RELATING TO  
THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION

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

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **strong opposition of the language in S.B. 1306**, which permits the regional systems of the Hawaii health systems corporation and their health facilities to transition to non-public status.

My name is **Jo-Nelle Tavares**, and I have worked as an **Institutional Food Service Manager II** for **Hale Ho'ola Hamakua** for **22 years**. As a government employee, I dedicate my career to public service. Banner Health is a national nonprofit hospital system that only wants private employees. If they take over, they will most likely terminate all employees in **Hale Ho'ola Hamakua**, and re-hire only those who pass pre-employment requirements. Banner Health does not believe in unions, and my civil servant service status and benefits will be lost as I will no longer be a state employee. With regards to its impact in the community, if Banner Health deems services unfeasible to maintain or lack clinical quality, they will cut those vital services and possibly close facilities that our community depends on. For example, Banner Health has minimal experience with services such as long-term care that are currently provided to our community. Additionally, with Banner Health, Hawaii taxpayers' dollars will be supporting and funding a mainland company to provide Hawaii health services. It deeply troubles me that the Legislature is considering this partnership.

**I strongly oppose the passage of S.B. 1306.** Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Respectfully submitted,

**Jo-Nelle Tavares**

Marie Biga  
22 Puakala Place  
Kahului, HI 96732

The Senate  
The Twenty-Seventh Legislature, State of Hawaii  
Regular Session of 2013  
Committee on Health

February 13, 2013

S.B. 1306 – RELATING TO  
THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION

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

I am writing in opposition to the passage of S.B. 1306. The transition to privatize public hospitals would create a major impact on the state of the economy in the State of Hawaii. It is foreseeable that many cut backs would occur if a private corporation has to seek ways to produce profits. Cutbacks would entail loss of jobs, non-union positions, lower quality services, lack of due care and a higher unemployment rate in the State of Hawaii.

We only have one hospital on the island of Maui that serves our entire island as well as the necessary needs of the islands of Molokai and Lanai to service our residents and visitors. There are no other hospitals on island to choose from. This one hospital, Maui Memorial Medical Center, has so many good things said about its employees, services, and the excellent care provided when patients are admitted. Many tourists have written letters of gratitude and contentment because of the wonderful staff and services Maui Memorial Medical Center provides. Many Maui residents are just as pleased with our only hospital on Maui. Keeping the current staff and employees ensures quality care in our hospital. Privatizing Maui's hospital may change the culture of the current prominence of Maui Memorial Medical Center from excellent to less than adequate. It would be a shame to change something that is positive and beneficial to Maui's community. Maui's community is one that is so small that everyone knows what is happening because the lines of communication are open everywhere. As soon as a change that affects our island in a negative way is made, the island people struggle to adjust because of adverse effects.

If profits and loss of revenue is the only reason to privatize, perhaps it's worth looking into administrative decisions that affect the financial conditions of Maui Memorial Medical Center. Budget planning should be improved. Maybe an audit should be ordered to ensure proper allocation of funds and financial reporting. The State of Hawaii should strongly support its own responsibilities to the people of Maui and their

only hospital that sees to the needs and care of the community and its visitors. The need to find ways to improve the financial condition of Maui's hospital should not be at the expense of the intention of hospital services. I would be extremely disappointed to see such a good reputation turn sour because profits were not met due to business decisions that should have been better planned beforehand.

**I strongly oppose the passage of S.B. 1306.** Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marie Biga". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

**Marie Biga**

The Senate  
The Twenty-Seventh Legislature, State of Hawaii  
Regular Session of 2013  
Committee on Health

February 13, 2013

S.B. 1306 – RELATING TO  
THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION

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

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **strong opposition of the language in S.B. 1306**, which permits the regional systems of the Hawaii health systems corporation and their health facilities to transition to non-public status.

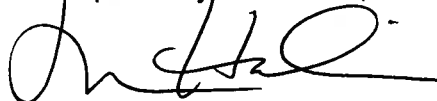
My name is Marian Hashiro, and I am a Maui resident of nearly six years. I am a concerned citizen questioning our elected officials' views on privatizing our hospital. Banner Health is a national nonprofit hospital system that only wants private employees. If they take over, they will most likely terminate all employees at the Maui Memorial Medical Center, and re-hire only those who pass pre-employment requirements. Banner Health does not believe in unions, and my friends will lose their civil servant service status and their benefits will be lost.

With regards to its impact in the community, if Banner Health deems services unfeasible to maintain or lack clinical quality, they will cut those vital services and possibly close facilities that our community depends on. For example, Banner Health has minimal experience with services such as long-term care that are currently provided to our community. Life expectancy is going up and more and more of our elderly will need care. Many of them fall into the low to middle income range. My mother just turned 75 and it is my hope that she will not require long-term care. However, situations occur that is not within our control and there may come a time where long-term care will be necessary. What then? What effective solution(s) do you have?

Additionally, with Banner Health, Hawaii taxpayers' dollars will be supporting and funding a **mainland** company to provide Hawaii health services. It deeply troubles me that the Legislature is considering this partnership. Perhaps we will need to rethink who we vote for, as those elected do not have the community's best interest at heart.

**I strongly oppose the passage of S.B. 1306.** Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Respectfully submitted,



Marian Hashiro



The Senate  
The Twenty-Seventh Legislature, State of Hawaii  
Regular Session of 2013  
Committee on Health

February 13, 2013

S.B. 1306 – RELATING TO  
THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION

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

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **strong opposition of the language in S.B. 1306**, which permits the regional systems of the Hawaii health systems corporation and their health facilities to transition to non-public status.

My name is Kevin Brunsen, and I have worked as a Registered Nurse for the Kona Community Hospital for 33 years. As a government employee, I dedicate my career to public service. Banner Health is a national nonprofit hospital system that only wants private employees. If they take over, they will most likely terminate all employees in Kona Community Hospital, and re-hire only those who pass pre-employment requirements. Banner Health does not believe in unions, and my civil servant service status and benefits will be lost as I will no longer be a state employee. With regards to its impact in the community, if Banner Health deems services unfeasible to maintain or lack clinical quality, they will cut those vital services and possibly close facilities that our community depends on. For example, Banner Health has minimal experience with services such as long-term care that are currently provided to our community. Additionally, with Banner Health, Hawaii taxpayers' dollars will be supporting and funding a mainland company to provide Hawaii health services. It deeply troubles me that the Legislature is considering this partnership.

**I strongly oppose the passage of S.B. 1306.** Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Respectfully submitted,

**Kevin Brunsen**



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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/11/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joseph J. Schmidt	Individual	Support	No

**Comments:**

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/12/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kaman Steindamm	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This would negatively impact my life, possibly forcing me to move from my beloved childhood home due to union benefits being stripped and lower salary pay. This organization would attract lower quality of care to hospital patients because of the low quality of care it would bring to its employees. As the saying goes, you get out what you put in. I strongly oppose to this and propose the state find some other way to save money. We don't need anymore cutbacks in healthcare, especially in this state. Let's look to other states who have a more organized and cost efficient way to run their healthcare before we go jumping further into the wrong direction.

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**Date:** Friday, February 08, 2013 3:44:10 PM

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SB1306

Submitted on: 2/8/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karen Williams	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in favor of SB 1306 that provides the framework for Hawaii Health Systems Corporation to explore a public-private partnership and to transition into a non-public entity. I am an extremely concerned citizen of Maui County who believes that Maui County deserves the best healthcare available. With new federal health care reform and changes, combined with fiscal challenges, we need to look at innovative alternatives that could help to improve and enhance the delivery of health care for residents on Maui. With new health care reform and changes, combined with fiscal challenges, we need to look for innovative alternatives that could help improve and enhance the delivery of healthcare for Maui residents. An example of this is the cardiac service line recently added at Maui Memorial Medical Center. Those cardiac patients who might not have survived a trip off island are now treated at home. As Maui Memorial Medical Center is the only acute care hospital on the island, we have an opportunity to create a true center of excellence with a public/private partnership. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of SB 1306. Respectfully submitted, Karen Williams 4328 Melianani Place Wailea, HI 96753 808-250-8038

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/12/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karey Kapoi	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in SUPPORT of SB 1306. The purpose of this bill is to permit the regional systems of Hawaii Health Systems Corporation and their health facilities to transition to non-public status. I support this bill because a public-private partnership can provide: o Access to private capital to expand services. o Private sector compensation packages to retain qualified medical service personnel. o Efficiencies of scale and an integrated clinical delivery system with increased resources. o Development of a sustainable model of health care delivery that will lower costs and improve the overall quality of services to the community. Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony. Your support of this measure would be greatly appreciated.

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12 February 2013

**STRONG OPPOSITION OF:  
SB1306 – RELATING TO  
THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION**

Aloha Kakou,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **strong opposition of the language in SB1306**, which permits the regional systems of the Hawaii health systems corporation and their health facilities to transition to non-public status and amends the governance structure of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC).

My name is Karin Hokoana and although I am a State employee, I am submitting this as a concerned 4<sup>th</sup> generation Mauian. After much personal debate with myself in the benefits of testimony vs. possible alienation or retaliation, I feel that in the best interest of my multi generational family, friends and the sake of the community, it is my duty as a concerned citizen to come forward and speak up.

The language of this as well as related bills should not be given much consideration or change until a long overdue independent audit or an impartial task force is brought forward to insure a win-win situation for all parties. Caution prior to the changes is much more prudent and cost effective vs. trying to undo everything after the fact.

Since August 2012, the leaders of MMMC have been “courting” Banner Health, a private hospital system based in Arizona, in the hopes of “partnering” with our facility. Banner Health is a national nonprofit hospital system that wants controllable private employees. They have made it known that if they partner with MMMC, more than likely, after the first initial six months ALL employees will be terminated and rehired ONLY if the employee passes their pre-employment requirement, which as of today still remains unclear in terms. Their benefits package and salary ranges also seem shrouded with no direct answers. Only a select few MMMC employees are allowed to speak directly to Banner representatives which has led to misleading information and more confusion.

Of concern is also the fact that Banner is actively lobbying the legislature while these bills are being read. If it really is a “courting” period, then there should be no reason for their involvement in the process. Clearly their actions lead to increased distrust between employees and the MMMC administrative staff.

It is publically known that Banner is anti-union, regardless of what they claim and my civil servant service status and benefits will be lost once no longer a State employee. This is a company that could be a template of why worker unions were initially created. Testimony to that effect lies in Banner employee

statements of being overwork, severely underpaid and on occasion not even having time for lunch, all in the name of cost cutting.

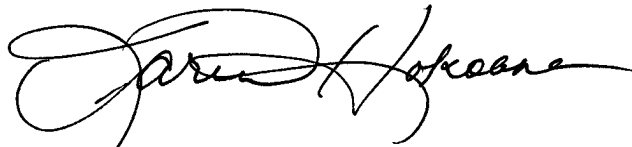
With regards to its impact in the community, if Banner Health deems services unfeasible to maintain or lack clinical quality, they will cut those vital services and possibly close or limit services and programs that our community depends on. Please take note on the words "if Banner Health deems", which could possible translate to what they want regardless of our island culture or needs. Additionally, with Banner Health, Hawaii taxpayers' dollars will be supporting and funding their Arizona company to provide our island home health services. It appears they centralize services which clearly mean that patients will have to work directly with employees in Arizona to address a lot of their concerns and with this centralization comes significant job cuts. MMMC is the ONLY hospital on Maui and our Ohana must have trust in us and in what we do. This partnership is just another form of "outsourcing" which nationally is no longer condoned by the general public, the very ones who would be affected by your decisions.

Reimbursement to hospitals across the nation continue to dwindle. In order to remain functional, MMMC will eventually have to seek outside assistance. Partnering would be a good idea IF the connection remained IN HAWAII and not tied to the continent.

MMMC is the largest employer on Maui. Maui has the highest cost of living in the State. Why would you even consider raising our unemployment rate while boosting a private company's revenue on the continent? It deeply troubles me, as well as my family and friends in the community, that the Legislature may pass these bills without getting clarification of the "unknown".

**I strongly oppose the passage SB1306.** Again, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karin Hokoana". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Karin Hokoana  
PO Box 484  
Ha'iku, Hawaii 96708

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/10/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kathy Halpin	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I believe that Maui County deserves the best health care available. We need to look at new alternatives to improve and enhance the quality of health care on Maui. A potential partnership can improve the quality of care and expansion of primary and specialty services. I urge the committee to support SB1306. Thank you.

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/9/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kay Lloyd	Individual	Support	No

**Comments:**

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SB1306

Submitted on: 2/10/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kristi Kapahulehua	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB 1306. The purpose of this Act is to further advance the State's commitment to providing quality health care by allowing the operations of the regional systems of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation and their facilities to transition to non-public status. I am extremely concerned and believe that Maui County deserves the best health care available. With new federal health care reform and changes, combined with fiscal challenges, we need to look at innovative alternatives that could help to improve and enhance the quality of health care on Maui. A potential partnership can improve the quality of care and expansion of primary and specialty services. I urge the committee to support SB 1306. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/12/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lanakila Kauhaahaa	Individual	Oppose	No

**Comments:**

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The Senate  
The Twenty-Seventh Legislature, State of Hawaii  
Regular Session of 2013  
Committee on Health

February 13, 2013

S.B. 1306 – RELATING TO  
THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION

**IN OPPOSITION TO HB 1483 and HB 1484**

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

- 1) Privatization will increase costs and reduce quality.
- 2) Privatization is associated with fraud.
- 3) Privatization will reduce wages and benefits for workers, increasing income inequality on the island.

I have been on the staff of Maui Memorial Hospital Center including taking night and weekend call for 17 years. As a physician, I dedicate myself to patient care. The state selling out to Banner is so sad for the people of Hawai'i. Privatization of health care in Hawai'i will result in poorer care for patients who have no choice as to where to go for health care. The idea that a mainland company will operate to maximize the quality of care to patients is absurd. The company exists to extract money from our hospitals in Hawai'i. That money can only come from patient care and employee salaries and benefits (raising income inequality). Banner does not exist to practice high quality health care. They will try to do without a lot of staff, eg raise the number of patients each nurse cares for, etc. Banner exists to provide high salaries for their executives, not to provide high quality health care to the people. The patients and their insurance companies are simply the source of money Banner seeks to extract money from Hawai'i. For every dollar Banner invests in a hospital, they will expect a significant return on that investment that will eventually result in medical decisions being trumped by financial decisions. This is a net outflow of money from Hawai'i which does not provide any health care to our patients. It's a tax. Ah Quan McElrath is turning over in her grave.

Sincerely,

Leslie Hartley Gise MD  
Staff psychiatrist  
Maui Memorial Medical Center

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/10/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marbeth Aquino	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: These jobs here in Hawaii supports lots of families and their extended families. These would be a take away of their incomes and maybe a cause for more homelessness.

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/9/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marjo Selin	Individual	Support	No

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/9/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark	Individual	Support	No

**Comments:**

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/9/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
marla wakashige	Individual	Oppose	No

**Comments:**

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/12/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Martin Nunez	Individual	Oppose	No

**Comments:**

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The Senate  
The Twenty-Seventh Legislature, State of Hawaii  
Regular Session of 2013  
Committee on Health

February 13, 2013

S.B. 1306 – RELATING TO  
THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION

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

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **strong opposition of the language in S.B. 1306**, which permits the regional systems of the Hawaii health systems corporation and their health facilities to transition to non-public status.

My name is **Nancy Cabral**, and I have worked as an Educational Assistant III for the **Dept. Of Education** for **5 years**. As a government employee, I dedicate my career to public service. Banner Health is a national nonprofit hospital system that only wants private employees. If they take over, they will most likely terminate all employees in **Hawaii health facilities**, and re-hire only those who pass pre-employment requirements. Banner Health does not believe in unions, and workers' civil servant service status and benefits will be lost as they will no longer be a state employee. With regards to its impact in the community, if Banner Health deems services unfeasible to maintain or lack clinical quality, they will cut those vital services and possibly close facilities that our community depends on. For example, Banner Health has minimal experience with services such as long-term care that are currently provided to our community. Additionally, with Banner Health, Hawaii taxpayers' dollars will be supporting and funding a mainland company to provide Hawaii health services. It deeply troubles me that the Legislature is considering this partnership.

**I strongly oppose the passage of S.B. 1306.** Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Respectfully submitted,

**Nancy Cabral**

The Senate  
The Twenty-Seventh Legislature, State of Hawaii  
Regular Session of 2013  
Committee on Health

February 13, 2013

S.B. 1306 – RELATING TO  
THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION

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

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **strong opposition of the language in S.B. 1306**, which permits the regional systems of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) and their health facilities to transition to non-public status.

My name is Michele Mitra and I have lived on Maui since 1992. As a member of the Maui community, I have concerns on whether or not a private company will have the best interest of our local community at heart. I understand that this bill is crafted as a framework for Banner Health to enter into a private partnership with Maui Memorial Medical Center. If Banner Health deems services unfeasible to maintain or lack clinical quality, they will have the ability to cut those vital services and possibly close the only acute care facility on Maui which will have an adverse impact on our community.

Additionally, with Banner Health, Hawaii taxpayers' dollars will be supporting and funding a mainland company to provide Hawaii health services. I also understand that Banner would be receiving a maintenance fee of 8-9% that will be paid to its 'corporate headquarters', again will this be keeping our Hawaii tax dollars local? Before passing this bill, please consider the long term effects this change will have on our community. It deeply concerns me that the Legislature is considering this partnership.

**I strongly oppose the passage of S.B. 1306.** Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Respectfully submitted,



Michele Mitra

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/12/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nazareth Nunez	Individual	Oppose	No

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SB1306

Submitted on: 2/11/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Micaela L Aizawa	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: My name is Micaela L Aizawa, and I have worked as a Patient Access Representative II for the Hilo Medical Center for eight years. As a government employee, I dedicate my career to public service. Banner Health is a national nonprofit hospital system that only wants private employees. If they take over, they will most likely terminate all employees in Hilo Medical Center, and re-hire only those who pass pre-employment requirements. Banner Health does not believe in unions, and my civil servant service status and benefits will be lost as I will no longer be a state employee. With regards to its impact in the community, if Banner Health deems services unfeasible to maintain or lack clinical quality, they will cut those vital services and possibly close facilities that our community depends on. For example, Banner Health has minimal experience with services such as long-term care that are currently provided to our community. Additionally, with Banner Health, Hawaii taxpayers' dollars will be supporting and funding a mainland company to provide Hawaii health services. It deeply troubles me that the Legislature is considering this partnership. I strongly oppose the passage of S.B. 1306. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony. Respectfully submitted, Micaela Lewis Aizawa

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SenateSenate Health committee;

I am oppose to Senate Bill 1306. I am a Registered Professional Nurse at HIlo Medical Center for the pass 9 years, a professional Nurse for the last 22 years, and a taxpayer of the state of Hawaii for 36 years. I feel allowing this Bill to pass will not benefit my community of HIlo, nor the other facilities on the BIg Island. Allowing HHSC to RUN with this concept will only decrease services and operational power of all of the affected hospitals. We in the health care industries are facing difficult times with the new Medicare-Medicaid guidelines and the transition of Obama Care. Do we really know what the impact is going to be with the new rules and guidelines! What if 5 years down the road HHSC or a private entity has to close the smaller health care-critical access facility to "better manage" to be "cost effective"! What about the smaller facilities and, the people! Who will provide for these communities! What if 5 to 10 years down the road HHSC or a private entity is unable to keep afloat, unable to pay the loans taken out for the operational/growth phase of the business? Will the state of Hawaii resume the services and provide health care services to their people, of course we will but at what expense and possible lost of lives! Shame on you if this Senate Bill is allowed to pass!

Mahalo for you time, sincerely

Maureen Vierra,RN

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**Cc:** [mike.clair@comcast.net](mailto:mike.clair@comcast.net)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1306 on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM  
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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/8/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Clair	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB 1306. The purpose of this Act is to further advance the State's commitment to providing quality health care by allowing the operations of the regional systems of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation and their facilities to transition to non-public status. I am extremely concerned and believe that Maui County deserves the best health care available. With new federal health care reform and changes, combined with fiscal challenges, we need to look at innovative alternatives that could help to improve and enhance the quality of health care on Maui. A potential partnership can improve the quality of care and expansion of primary and specialty services. I urge the committee to support SB 1306. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

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February 12, 2013

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

**Wednesday, February 13, 2013**  
**1:30 pm**  
**Conference Room 229**  
**State Capitol**  
**415 South Beretania St.**

**RE: SB 1306 - Relating to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation**

**Dear Chair Green, Vice Chair Baker and Committee Members:**

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT of SB 1306**. The purpose of this bill is to permit the regional systems of Hawaii Health Systems Corporation and their facilities to transition to non-public status.

As a cardiothoracic surgeon who has practiced throughout Hawaii for over three decades both on Oahu and the Neighbor Islands, I understand first hand how much a public-private partnership could help ensure our communities throughout the State have high quality, world-class health care.

For decades, I practiced in Honolulu where I operated on patients from all over our State. I have traveled extensively to all Neighbor Islands to provide care, however previously all open heart surgeries needed to go Oahu. That changed a few years ago when Maui Memorial Medical Center (MMMC) started a Cardiothoracic Surgery program, allowing Maui residents the ability to undergo open heart procedures on Maui without needing to travel to Honolulu. Last year, MMMC performed almost 100 open heart surgeries at a level of care that is of high quality and possibly better than many other institutions across the United States.

I firmly believe that other surgeries beyond open heart surgery can and should be done at Neighbor Island hospitals to bring care closer to our communities. Starting and maintaining these types of programs usually require large amounts of capital as well as clinical and managerial expertise. The private sector may be able to provide this capital and expertise more readily and allow HHSC hospitals to provide additional high quality services to the communities it serves, particularly on the Neighbor Islands.

The communities that HHSC serves deserve a sustainable, high quality health care system which a private partner could help us achieve. I believe HHSC needs to have the ability to partner with a private entity, which this legislation would allow it to do.

Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony. Your support of this measure would be greatly appreciated. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

**Respectfully submitted,**

Michael Dang M.D.  
Cardiothoracic Surgeon  
Maui Memorial Medical Center  
808-242-2528

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SB1306

Submitted on: 2/10/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
michael heijer	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB 1306. The purpose of this Act is to further advance the State's commitment to providing quality health care by allowing the operations of the regional systems of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation and their facilities to transition to non-public status. I am extremely concerned and believe that Maui County deserves the best health care available. With new federal health care reform and changes, combined with fiscal challenges, we need to look at innovative alternatives that could help to improve and enhance the quality of health care on Maui. A potential partnership can improve the quality of care and expansion of primary and specialty services. I urge the committee to support SB 1306. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/11/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michelle Sciascia	Individual	Support	No

**Comments:**

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Dear Senate Committee on Health:

I support SB 1306.

In today's world of complexity and rapid pace it is almost impossible to do anything alone. This is especially true in health where constantly rising prices, changing disease patterns, and increasing use of technology have made it virtually impossible to imagine any single organization providing services without some type of institutional partnership.

As the pressures of cost control and reputation continue to influence health care in Maui, public-private partnerships can be a powerful force in the shaping of health care, and can lead to improvements in efficiency, innovation, access to services.

It is no longer feasible for any State, rich or poor, to provide all needed health services to its entire population. The reason for this is the extraordinary increases in health care costs throughout the country, and the very real budgetary limitations that all of us face.

I'd like you to help further advance the State's commitment to providing quality health care by allowing the operations of the regional systems of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation and their facilities to transition to non-public status. I am extremely concerned and believe that Maui County deserves the best health care available.

With new federal health care reform and changes, combined with fiscal challenges, we need to look at innovative alternatives that could help to improve and enhance the quality of health care on Maui. A potential partnership can improve the quality of care and expansion of primary and specialty services.

I urge the committee to **support SB 1306**. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

Sincerely,

Mike Morris  
President/CEO  
Maui Family YMCA

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/9/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
norman hageboeck	Individual	Support	No

**Comments:**

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**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Oppose S.B. 1306  
**Date:** Sunday, February 10, 2013 2:09:02 PM

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Dear Senate Health Committee,

I am oppose to S.B. 1306. This bill will have a tremendous negative impact on our Big Island community. Allowing an outside mainland organization to operate and control our public hospitals is very dangerous as there is no guarantee that the vital services that we rely on over here will be continued. Why should our tax dollars go to support a outside private company to provide health services to Hawaii? As a private entity from the mainland, Banner does not have any vested interest in our Island state or communities, if they don't make or turn a profit, they will either layoff workers or cut vital services or worse both. These hospitals are our safety nets and if Banner has control over them, they will run the hospital system like a business and will do whatever it takes and at whatever cost (to the communities to employees), to make money. With this business mindset, it is clear that Banner won' t be concerned about the people of Hawaii and won't have any vested interest in our state.

Sincerely,

Maile Etherton

--

Maile Etherton  
64-5219 Nuuanu Street  
Kamuela, HI 96743  
808.203.3047

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/10/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Patti Skelton	Individual	Support	No

**Comments:**

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**Date:** Sunday, February 10, 2013 8:19:55 AM

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/10/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Paul MacLaughlin	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose the formation of a task force; I believe it is a waste of time and money.

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/10/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ray Skelton	Individual	Support	No

**Comments:**

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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1306 on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM  
**Date:** Saturday, February 09, 2013 6:59:33 AM

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/9/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

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

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB 1306. The purpose of this Act is to further advance the State's commitment to providing quality health care by allowing the operations of the regional systems of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation and their facilities to transition to non-public status. I am extremely concerned and believe that Maui County deserves the best health care available. With new federal health care reform and changes, combined with fiscal challenges, we need to look at innovative alternatives that could help to improve and enhance the quality of health care on Maui. A potential partnership can improve the quality of care and expansion of primary and specialty services. I urge the committee to support SB 1306. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/11/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
robert mcclarey	Individual	Support	No

**Comments:**

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**Date:** Sunday, February 10, 2013 1:04:06 PM

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/10/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

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

Comments: Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to testify in support of SB 1306. I urge the committee to support SB 1306.

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/10/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
ROGER MACARTHUR	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I STRONGLY SUPPORT THIS BILL TO PRIVATIZE OUR HOSPITAL SYSTEM. I BELIEVE SUCH A PARTNERSHIP WITH PRIVATE ENTERPRISE WILL PROVIDE OUR HOSPITAL SYSTEM TO KEEP PACE WITH THE REQUIRMENTS OF A GOOD HEALTH CARE SYSTEM.THE PRESENT SYSTEM IS NOT WORKING AND THIS NEW APPROACH WITH PRIVATIZING HOSPITALS WILL BE A POSITVE MOVE TO MAKE THE SYSTEM FINANCIALLY STRONGER AND PROVIDE FOR GOOD HEALTH CARE.

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**Cc:** [ron.bunnell@bannerhealth.com](mailto:ron.bunnell@bannerhealth.com)  
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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/11/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ronald R. Bunnell	Banner Health	Support	Yes

**Comments:**

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**Cc:** [ron.bunnell@bannerhealth.com](mailto:ron.bunnell@bannerhealth.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB1306 on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM\*  
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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/11/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ronald R. Bunnell	Banner Health	Support	Yes

**Comments:**

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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1306 on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 12, 2013 8:49:11 AM

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/12/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sandra Wilson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose the bill that allows HHSC and their health care facilities to transition to non-public status. I am a Registered Nurse at Kona Community Hospital where I have been working since 2007. I am proud to work for the State of Hawaii and proud to help care for our community. The thought of a mainland company taking over our only hospital in Kona is very disturbing to me and I would like to ask you to please stop this bill today.

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**Date:** Saturday, February 09, 2013 5:52:37 PM

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/9/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sean Hehir	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB 1306. The purpose of this Act is to further advance the State's commitment to providing quality health care by allowing the operations of the regional systems of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation and their facilities to transition to non-public status. I am extremely concerned and believe that Maui County deserves the best health care available. With new federal health care reform and changes, combined with fiscal challenges, we need to look at innovative alternatives that could help to improve and enhance the quality of health care on Maui. A potential partnership can improve the quality of care and expansion of primary and specialty services. I urge the committee to support SB 1306. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/12/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shayne Kauhaaha	Individual	Oppose	No

**Comments:**

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/12/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sheldon Biga	Individual	Oppose	No

**Comments:**

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/12/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
sheri	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in SUPPORT of SB 1306. The purpose of this bill is to permit the regional systems of Hawaii Health Systems Corporation and their health facilities to transition to non-public status. I support this bill because a public-private partnership can provide: o Access to private capital to expand services. o Private sector compensation packages to retain qualified medical service personnel. o Efficiencies of scale and an integrated clinical delivery system with increased resources. o Development of a sustainable model of health care delivery that will lower costs and improve the overall quality of services to the community. Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony. Your support of this measure would be greatly appreciated.

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/11/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stephen Leis	Dorvin D. Leis Co., Inc.	Support	No

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB 1306. The purpose of this Act is to further advance the State's commitment to providing quality health care by allowing the operations of the regional systems of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation and their facilities to transition to non-public status. I am extremely concerned and believe that Maui County deserves the best health care available. With new federal health care reform and changes, combined with fiscal challenges, we need to look at innovative alternatives that could help to improve and enhance the quality of health care on Maui. A potential partnership can improve the quality of care and expansion of primary and specialty services. As President of a large Mechanical Contractor based on Maui that employs approximately 150 individuals, I urge the committee to support SB 1306. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/9/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Steve Goodfellow	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I feel we are in critical need of private collaboration and expertise for the benefit of our Maui community. I also believe we need to cut our dependence on State funding. This change will offer more and better jobs to the union long term.

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Date: Monday, February 11, 2013 11:14:06 PM

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## SB1306

Submitted on: 2/11/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan J. Kohnke, APRN	Individual	Support	No

Comments: SUBMITTED HERE AS WEBSITE WOULD NOT UPLOAD MY FILE. The Senate The Twenty-Seventh Legislature, State of Hawaii Regular Session of 2013 Committee on Health February 13, 2013 S.B. 1306 – RELATING TO THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION Chair Green, Vice Chair Baker, and members of the Committee on Health: Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong SUPPORT of the language in S.B. 1306, which permits the regional systems of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation and their health facilities to transition to non-public status and amends the governance structure of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC). I have never in the past written a political letter, until now. I obtained both my Bachelors of Science and my Masters of Nursing at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland and I am an oncology Nurse Practitioner, currently employed at Kona Community Hospital for the last 2 months. In my career I have worked in various healthcare settings including for profit and not-for-profit healthcare institutions, as well as private practice and never once was I mandated, to be a union member, until I arrived in Hawaii. I chose my career path so that I could dedicate myself to the care of patients, not to be a government employee, not to have a career in public service, not be civil servant and certainly NOT to be a union member. At one time in history the unions most definitely served a purpose, but it seems the original intent of a union is no longer needed. I was not asked by my union how I felt about this bill, I was simply told to write a letter to oppose it. The union seems to believe that Banner Healthcare may take away employee benefits by only hiring private employees who meet pre-employment requirements.... Well that might not be a bad thing. I took a 60% salary cut to work here in Hawaii, specifically the Big Island, had my vesting time extended from 3 years to 10 years (and if I leave prior to 10 years I only earn 2% on my MANDATORY 8% salary contribution.... That's worse than social security!), I no longer control how my retirement is invested, I no longer have short term or long term disability, my life insurance policy payout is a fraction of my previous one, I'm paying more in healthcare premiums than I ever had to AND still have to pay mandatory union dues so that the union can continue to negotiate these "fabulous???" benefits on my behalf! I came to Hawaii to practice because it's important to me and the love of my life, who grew up here as a local boy, that we give back to the island by trying to provide quality healthcare, but to do that

I had to accept the above mentioned cutbacks. So what has the union done? In my short tenure here I have not seen much positive. It appears a system has been created where employees/members often feel entitled and/or are not accountable or responsible for their own behavior. The healthcare facility, i.e. The Employer, is not allowed to pay employees based on merit, so there is no incentive for an employee to improve themselves, their work environment or the care of their patients, unless internally self- motivated to do so. And when I refer to the "care of their patients" I don't mean just front line hands on care. Each employee who works within the healthcare system provides care to a patient, whether they are fielding billing questions, scheduling appointments, negotiating insurance contracts, providing security or handling the patient records.... We ALL touch the patients in some way. I've been told that making changes in the Hawaii healthcare system is next to impossible as long as we have union mentality, and I can see that. If we are to raise the bar for healthcare in Hawaii we not only need to change the systems in place we also need to raise the level of employee and the union does not appear to be equipped or interested in accomplishing that. If required by Banner Healthcare, or anyone else for that matter, that I need to reapply for my job, I'll be happy to do that as I feel I have something of value to offer. There's a limited work pool in Hawaii, for obvious reasons, and a health delivery system needs to operate 24/7, because of this I would assume the majority of people would keep a job, however, the expectation of job performance would probably be much different. Let's broaden our horizons, think outside the box and look for new solutions to some old problems. I want to be part of a new and improved era by raising the quality and delivery of healthcare in Hawaii and not retreating 60-70 years just because "it's the way it's always been done." I've been through corporate buy-outs in the past. It can be scary, any change can be, but change can and often is for the positive. The union has put a negative spin on this bill, inciting fear amongst its members and have asked each member to write a letter against this bill. They state that Banner Health will terminate employees, cease "vital medical services" and close facilities that "our communities depend on." The reality is the current system appears to need an overhaul, but if we are truly providing vital medical services (and I think we are), in facilities that our communities depend on (and I think they do), then it's our responsibility to help Banner Health or anyone else for that matter, to understand these unique issues. But to shut down the possibilities of improving and potentially upgrading our medical systems and services because union(s) oversight must be present seems draconian and short sighted. Negotiating benefits with Banner Healthcare should be part of the purchase. There's no reason why vesting can't be carried forward and other benefits can't be met or exceeded as part of the transition and is common practice elsewhere, perhaps we employees could recognize a benefit through a transaction such as this. Although I'm all for supporting local businesses, the State of Hawaii is not a local business, it's a government entity that is not equipped to be or manage a healthcare system. I have no problem supporting a mainland company or a Hawaii based company if it can improve the delivery of healthcare to the people of Hawaii who desperately need and deserve it. I SUPPORT the passage of S.B.1306 in an effort to explore all valid avenues of improvement of healthcare in Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony. Sincerely, Susan J. Kohnke, APRN SJK:s

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SB1306

Submitted on: 2/11/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Virgil Medeiros	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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SB1306

Submitted on: 2/10/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan Werner	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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The Senate  
The Twenty-Seventh Legislature, State of Hawaii  
Regular Session of 2013  
Committee on Health

February 13, 2013

S.B. 1306 – RELATING TO  
THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION

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

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **strong opposition of the language in S.B. 1306**, which permits the regional systems of the Hawaii health systems corporation and their health facilities to transition to non-public status.

My name is Rynella Pasco, and I have worked as a Health Information Tech I for the Hilo Medical Center for 4 ½ years. As a government employee, I dedicate my career to public service. Banner Health is a national nonprofit hospital system that only wants private employees. If they take over, they will most likely terminate all employees in Hilo Medical Center, and re-hire only those who pass pre-employment requirements. Banner Health does not believe in unions, and my civil servant service status and benefits will be lost as I will no longer be a state employee. With regards to its impact in the community, if Banner Health deems services unfeasible to maintain or lack clinical quality, they will cut those vital services and possibly close facilities that our community depends on. For example, Banner Health has minimal experience with services such as long-term care that are currently provided to our community. Additionally, with Banner Health, Hawaii taxpayers' dollars will be supporting and funding a mainland company to provide Hawaii health services. It deeply troubles me that the Legislature is considering this partnership.

**I strongly oppose the passage of S.B. 1306.** Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rynella Pasco

The Senate  
The Twenty-Seventh Legislature, State of Hawaii  
Regular Session of 2013  
Committee on Health  
February 12, 2013

S.B. 1306 – RELATING TO  
THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION

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

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong opposition of the language in S.B. 1306, which permits the regional systems of the Hawaii health systems corporation and their health facilities to transition to non-public status.

My name is Susanne Payn, and I have worked as a nurse for the Hilo Medical Center for almost 10 years. As a government employee, I dedicate my career to public service. Banner Health is a national nonprofit hospital system that only wants private employees. If they take over, they may terminate employees at the Hilo Medical Center, and re-hire only those who pass pre-employment requirements which would be devastating to the older employees who have given their lives to serve the public.

Banner Health does not believe in unions, and my civil servant service status and benefits will be lost as I will no longer be a state employee. Those that are close to the 10 year vesting status would lose the years toward their retirement and would be left with nothing for those years of employment. If you are inclined to vote for this bill I urge you to add on a provision that Banner would work out some sort of agreement with the employees to provide for a fair transition with the employees including accumulated leave and that the leave would not just be "lost" .

With regards to its impact in the community, if Banner Health deems services unfeasible to maintain or lack clinical quality, they will cut those vital services and possibly close facilities that our community depends on. For example, Banner Health has minimal experience with services such as long-term care that are currently provided to our community. As part of any agreement that the State allows, please include provisions for those services that are not traditional "money makers", so that those areas of health care in Hawaii are not "deleted".

Additionally, with Banner Health, Hawaii taxpayers' dollars will be supporting and funding a mainland company to provide Hawaii health services. It deeply troubles me that the Legislature is considering this partnership.

I strongly oppose the passage of S.B. 1306. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Respectfully submitted,

Susanne Payn

Susanne Payn

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SB1306

Submitted on: 2/9/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
WENDY MORETON	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB 1306. The purpose of this Act is to further advance the State's commitment to providing quality health care by allowing the operations of the regional systems of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation and their facilities to transition to non-public status. I am extremely concerned and believe that Maui County deserves the best health care available. With new federal health care reform and changes, combined with fiscal challenges, we need to look at innovative alternatives that could help to improve and enhance the quality of health care on Maui. A potential partnership can improve the quality of care and expansion of primary and specialty services. I urge the committee to support SB 1306. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/12/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tehani Nunez	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am opposed and don't think it is fair for Hawaii taxpayers to be subsidizing an out of state entity to earn profits only to be taken out of state. A detailed audit should be done to find out the answer why Hawaii Health Systems Corporation through each of their regions have come to the financial position they are currently in so any necessary changes can be made towards financial viability in providing quality healthcare. Again, I oppose SB 1306. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/9/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tamar Chotzen Goodfellow	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Committee Chair and Members, Please support SB1306! This bill is critical to improving our hospital on Maui. A public private partnership is our only hope of ever having a quality hospital on Maui. Tax payer dollars will continue to dwindle, and our hospital is already sub standard. A partnership with a proven private operator will give us the necessary capital and expertise to become a cutting edge medical facility. This could mean life or death for those of us that call the neighbor islands home. Please support this bill! Mahalo nui loa, Tamar Chotzen Goodfellow

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Wednesday, February 13, 2013; 1:30 P.M.; Conference Room 229

TO: Senate Committee on Health  
Senator Josh Green, Chair  
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

FROM: Tamara R. Koller 

RE: SB 1306 RELATING TO THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION  
In Support

Chairs & Committee Members:

I support SB 1306 that would permit the regional systems of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation and their health facilities to transition to non-public status for the following reasons:

- As an employee of the Maui Region of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation;
- As a homeowner and taxpayer of the State of Hawaii realizing that the State has financial concerns and is unable to fund our safety net hospitals at the current level or as required due to decreasing reimbursements, increased costs, and aging facilities;
- As a citizen I recognize that there is a need to continue to provide and improve quality health care for all Hawaii residents; and
- I am also aware that the State has budgetary concerns and is currently unable to meet those needs.

Therefore, I support SB 1306 to permit the regional systems of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation and their health facilities to transition to non-public status. This will provide the regional systems boards the opportunity for addressing budgetary shortfalls and improve aging facilities infrastructure, and to address health care needs within the communities they serve.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.



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**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [Tanisbiga@gmail.com](mailto:Tanisbiga@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB1306 on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM\*  
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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/12/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tanis Biga	Individual	Oppose	No

**Comments:**

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/10/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Timothy Dwyer	Individual	Support	No

Comments: previously submitted testimony but checked Oppose box by mistake. I support SB 1306 along with the rest of by comments on previous submittal. Aloha Timothy Dwyer

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/10/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Timothy J Dwyer	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Maui Memorial has had numerous studies over the past few years. The recommendations were not followed. The Hospital operating loss continues to grow each year. I support the public/ private partnership proposed by Dr Wes Lo. Next steps should to discuss the terms of that partnership so the quality of health care for all Maui residents is perserved and enhanced. Further delays in doing this will only put endanger the future of health care for all Maui County residents. Aloha, Tim Dwyer

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**SB1306**

Submitted on: 2/9/2013

Testimony for HTH on Feb 13, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tricia Morris	Individual	Support	No

**Comments:**

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