



LATE

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

In reply, please refer to:
File:

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

**SB2045,SD2, RELATING TO THE COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING
PILOT PROGRAM**

**Testimony of Linda Rosen, M.D., M.P.H.
Director of Health**

**March 12, 2014
8:30 AM, Room 329**

1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health (DOH) supports SB2045,SD2 and defers to
2 the priorities of the Governor's Supplemental Budget request.

3 **Fiscal Implications:** SD2 blanks out the appropriation for funding. The Department
4 respectfully requests that the appropriation out of the general revenues, in the sum of \$200,000
5 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015 for the establishment of the
6 Hawaii Colorectal Cancer Screening Awareness Pilot Program to the DOH be reinstated as
7 proposed in the original measure.

8 **Purpose and Justification:** The DOH recognizes the importance of increasing awareness and
9 education of colorectal cancer screening and early detection in cancer control. Colorectal cancer
10 is the second leading cause of cancer death in Hawaii. Early detection of colorectal cancer
11 greatly reduces costs and increases survival rates. The DOH, through the Hawaii
12 Comprehensive Cancer Control Program (HCCCP) will continue to work with partners,
13 including the Department of Human Services and the Hawaii Cancer Coalition. If this measure
14 is enacted, the Department's HCCCP will utilize the proposed funding to: (1) establish a pilot
15 program that will include implementation of evidenced-based practices from *The Guide to*

1 *Community Preventive Services* (Cancer Prevention and Control); (2) develop and implement a
2 plan to work with the Community Health Centers and the Native Hawaiian Health Care Systems
3 to educate and train health care and allied health professionals, as well as lay health educators in
4 the detection and management of colorectal cancer; and (3) develop, implement, and disseminate
5 an educational toolkit containing colorectal cancer screening resources that will inform and
6 educate the public regarding the risks associated with colorectal cancer and the benefits of
7 screening.

8 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



HAWAII MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

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DATE: ~~Wednesday, March 12, 2014~~ Wednesday, March 12, 2014
TIME: ~~8:15 AM~~ 8:30 AM
PLACE: ~~Conference Room 329~~ Conference Room 329

TO:
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

FROM: Hawaii Medical Association
Dr. Walton Shim, MD, President
Dr. Linda Rasmussen, MD, Legislative Co-Chair
Dr. Ron Kienitz, DO, Legislative Co-Chair
Dr. Christopher Flanders, DO, Executive Director
Lauren Zirbel, Community and Government Relations

RE: SB 2045 RELATING TO COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING PILOT PROGRAM

In Support.

Chair & Committee Members:

Hawaii Medical Association supports this measure.

Cancer of the colon and rectum, also known as colorectal cancer, is the second leading killer in the United States among cancers affecting both men and women.

The HMA agrees with the legislature that a screening program will increase detections of any cancer at an early state, which in turn improves chances for survival and decreases mortality rates.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Officers

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Secretary - Thomas Kosasa, MD Immediate Past President – Stephen Kemble, MD
Treasurer – Brandon Lee, MD Executive Director – Christopher Flanders, DO



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Cancer Action Network
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House Committee on Health
Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair
Representative Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee



Hearing: March 12, 2014; 8:30 a.m.

SB 2045, SD2 – RELATING TO THE COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING PILOT PROGRAM

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

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB S2045, SD2, which establishes the colorectal cancer screening pilot project.

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

The purpose of this measure is to establish a program to educate and raise awareness for colorectal cancer screening. The measure also provides funding for outreach to at-risk individuals, which could raise Hawaii's screening rates by encouraging the individuals to be screened.

Colorectal cancer affects about 900 people in Hawaii each year. Colorectal cancer is a dangerous and deadly cancer because precancerous polyps and early-stage colorectal cancer don't always cause symptoms, especially at first. This means that someone could have polyps or colorectal cancer and not know it.

Getting screened early can be lifesaving. Ninety percent of all individuals diagnosed with colorectal cancer, at an early or local stage, are still alive five years later. Thousands of colorectal cancer deaths could be avoided each year if people were screened according to recommendations.

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



**S.B. 2045, SD2
RELATING TO THE COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING PILOT PROGRAM
House Committee on Health
March 12, 2014; 8:30 a.m.**

The Queen's Medical Center supports S.B. 2045, SD2 for the purpose of establishing a two-year Hawaii colorectal cancer screening pilot program using the Hawaii comprehensive breast and cervical cancer control program as a model, and appropriating funds for the pilot program.

It is our understanding that this program would not fund screening or treatment for individuals who have insurance (as a means of circumventing their cost share obligation). This program would also not serve individuals who have coverage for colorectal-cancer screening or treatment through mandated individual or group hospital and medical service contracts. However, similar to the initial start up of the Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program, this program will enhance Department of Health colorectal cancer education efforts and provide screening only, not treatment, for uninsured individuals who do not have and/or are not eligible for medical/health insurance), such as Compact of Free Association migrants and Green Card holders who lack the required 5-year residency criteria for Medicaid.

According to the Affordable Care Act, colorectal cancer screening (like breast and cervical cancer screening) are to be afforded to everyone as of 2014. However, it is anticipated there will continue to be gap groups of uninsured who still lack access to colorectal cancer screenings, just as there continues to be gap groups of uninsured who lack access to breast and cervical cancer screenings despite the existing Breast and Cervical Cancer Mortality Prevention Act of 1990 and the Hawaii Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) established in 1997.

In October 2011, Queen's Colon Screening Program was started to increase colon cancer awareness and decrease the wait-time for a colonoscopy screening. Since its inception, over 1,500 eligible patients have been screened with an alarming polyp (cancerous growth) detection rate of 72% and adenoma (non-cancer, but can become cancer) detection rate of 41%.

Screening tests can prevent the occurrence of colorectal cancers by allowing the detection and removal of pre-cancerous lesions (Hawaii Cancer Facts and Figures 2010). Survival from colorectal cancer is more than 90 percent when the cancer is diagnosed early, before it has extended beyond the intestinal wall. Trend data from the National Cancer Institute also supports the need for increased screening to reduce colon cancer mortality.

The latest U.S. Surgeon General's Report, released January 11, 2014, states there is sufficient evidence to infer a causal relationship between smoking and colorectal adenomatous polyps and colorectal cancer. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Hawaii's smoking-attributable mortality rate ranks 2nd among the states.

Therefore, a two-year colorectal cancer screening pilot program will enable the Department of Health and its chronic disease partners to demonstrate the feasibility and sustainability of a Hawaii Colorectal Cancer Control Program that is tailored after its successful BCCCP model and utilizes the existing infrastructure and funding mechanism.

The Queen's Medical Center supports this measure and asks for your full support in establishing a two-year Hawaii colorectal cancer screening pilot program to fight colorectal cancer, a cancer that IS preventable, treatable, and beatable.

**Testimony of:
Yolanda Caluya Domingo
University of Hawai'i at Manoa
Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work**

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

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Wednesday, February 12, 2014
State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street, Conference Room 329

**RE: SB2045 SD2 RELATING TO A COLORECTAL CANCER
SCREENING PILOT PROGRAM**

Establishes a Hawai'i colorectal cancer screening awareness pilot program using the Hawai'i comprehensive breast cancer and cervical control program as a model. Appropriates funds for the first year of the pilot program.

Aloha Committee on Health,

My name is Yolanda Caluya Domingo and I am a graduate student at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa, Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work. I am testifying in **STRONG SUPPORT** of **SB2045 SD2**.

I strongly support a Hawai'i colorectal cancer screening pilot program similar to the comprehensive breast cancer and cervical control program that has been a success in Hawai'i. Colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer

deaths in the United States (Medicine.net, 2014). Supporting and funding a colorectal program to educate and build awareness can lead to early detection of this deadly cancer if not diagnosed early. A screening program will assist in reducing medical costs and increasing survival rates due to the people of Hawai'i having the ability and services to get tested. Colorectal cancer does not show symptoms immediately and someone could have polyps and not know they have this cancer. As a breast cancer survivor, early detection and treatment are very important in preventing cancer from taking more lives because someone cannot afford to pay for a test that can save their life. A colorectal cancer screening program will be a life-saving tool that the people of Hawai'i can live healthier, happier lives knowing that they can get tested through a screening program.

Thank you for your time and the opportunity to testify on a program that will help the people of Hawai'i. I strongly urge the committee to **PASS** bill **SB2045**.