



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

In reply, please refer to:
File:

House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

SB2469, SD2, HD1, RELATING TO TELEHEALTH.

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

Wednesday, March 19, 2014, 2:10 pm

1 **Department's Position:** Support.

2 **Fiscal Implications:** Unknown.

3 **Purpose and Justification:** The purpose of this measure is to establish parity for reimbursement
4 between qualified telehealth services and face-to-face healthcare encounters.

5 The Department of Health defers on any fiscal implications to the General Fund and to
6 comments submitted by the Department of Human Services as it impacts Med-QUEST reimbursement
7 policies, including the requirement to seek federal approval.

8 From a public health perspective, DOH contends that telehealth reimbursement parity will help
9 ameliorate healthcare access issues in rural and underserved areas. Overall cost-effectiveness and
10 improved health outcomes are likely to be achieved with enactment of this measure.

11 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



STATE OF HAWAII
STATE COUNCIL
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
919 ALA MOANA BOULEVARD, ROOM 113
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543
March 19, 2014

The Honorable Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
House Committee on Health
Twenty-Seventh Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Representative McKelvey and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: SB 2469 SD2 HD1 – Relating to Telehealth

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities **SUPPORTS SB 2469 SD2 HD1**. The purpose of this bill is to: (1) Require reimbursement for services provided through telehealth to be equivalent to reimbursement for the same services provided via face-to-face contact between a health care provider and a patient; (2) Clarify that a health care provider of telehealth includes primary care providers, mental health providers, and oral health providers, such as physicians and osteopathic physicians, advanced practice registered nurses, psychologists, and dentists; and (3) Amend references to "telemedicine" in the Hawaii Revised Statutes to "telehealth" for consistency.

The DD Council would like to highlight the second purpose noted within the bill, which is to clarify that a health care provider of telehealth includes primary care providers, mental health providers, and oral health providers, such as physicians and osteopathic physicians, advanced practice registered nurses, psychologists, and dentists. The DD Council is responsible for the development and implementation of a Five-Year State Plan. Our current State Plan (FY 2012-2016) includes an Objective, "Address all medical gaps in services, as indicated within the Individualized Service Plan by September 30, 2016." An activity to address the objective is to pursue statewide telemedicine opportunities. This bill would assist in the delivery of enhanced statewide health care services, increase access to services, and provide timely information to patients and health care providers.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer our **support of SB 2469 SD2 HD1**.

Sincerely,


Waynette K.Y. Cabral, MSW
Executive Administrator


J. Curtis Tyler, III
Chair



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

March 19, 2014

TO: The Honorable Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

FROM: Patricia McManaman, Director

SUBJECT: **S.B. 2469, S.D.2, H.D.1 - RELATING TO TELEHEALTH**

Hearing: Wednesday, March 19, 2014; 2:10 p.m.
Conference Room 325, State Capitol

PURPOSE: The purpose of this bill is to require reimbursement for telehealth services to be equivalent to reimbursement for the same services provided via face-to-face contact between a health care provider and a patient; clarifies what health care providers are able to perform telehealth; and amends references to telemedicine to telehealth for consistency.

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) provides the following comments for consideration.

The DHS supports evidence-based telehealth to expand access to quality healthcare. The DHS currently covers telehealth psychiatric services and provides equivalent reimbursement for a face-to-face visit. However, the provider is required to have had at least one actual face-to-face visit prior to initiating telehealth psychiatric visits.

The DHS understands that telehealth services, properly delivered, can increase access to important medical services, but the DHS also believes that there must be a balance between safety and access, and does not support paying the same for disparate services. Payment

typically follows Current Procedural Terminology methodology and is based on history, physical examination, and decision making. If a physical exam would provide important information to make a clinical assessment and plan, then a telehealth visit may limit the quality and potentially safety of the visit if a physical examination that would otherwise be performed in a face-to-face visit does not occur. This also results in providers being reimbursed at the same rate for visits in which the content and provider effort differed. However, the DHS does not oppose paying the same reimbursement for face-to-face and telehealth visits that involve comparable history, physical examination, and decision making.

The DHS has concerns that codifying how reimbursement is to be made for services could impact the Medicaid program. The DHS must obtain approval from the federal government for all services provided through the Medicaid program, including reimbursement rates. Should the State mandate a reimbursement methodology that is not approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, it will result in the DHS having to provide and fund those services with 100% State funds.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

**PRESENTATION OF THE
HAWAII MEDICAL BOARD**

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
CONSUMER PROTECTION AND COMMERCE

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2014

Wednesday, March 19, 2014
2:10 p.m.

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL NO. 2469, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, RELATING TO
TELEHEALTH.**

TO THE HONORABLE ANGUS L.K. MCKELVEY, CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Constance Cabral, and I am one of the Executive Officers of the Hawaii Medical Board ("Board"). The Board has no objections to SECTIONS 7 and 8 of this bill and takes no position on the other SECTIONS.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on Senate Bill No. 2469, S.D. 2, H.D. 1.



Wednesday – March 19, 2014 – 2:10pm
Conference Room 325

The House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

To: Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
Representative Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair

From: George Greene
President & CEO
Healthcare Association of Hawaii

Re: Testimony in Support
SB 2469, SD 2, HD 1 — Relating to Telehealth

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii (HAH) is a 116-member organization that includes all of the acute care hospitals in Hawaii, the majority of long term care facilities, all the Medicare-certified home health agencies, all hospice programs, as well as other healthcare organizations including durable medical equipment, air and ground ambulance, blood bank and respiratory therapy. In addition to providing quality care to all of Hawaii’s residents, our members contribute significantly to Hawaii’s economy by employing nearly 20,000 people statewide.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 2469 SD 2, HD 1, which would (1) require reimbursement for telehealth services to be equivalent to reimbursement for the same medical services provided in person; and (2) include primary care providers, mental health providers, oral health providers, advanced practice registered nurses, psychologists, and dentists as eligible telehealth providers.

SB 2469 SD 2, HD 1 would modernize the practice of medicine in Hawaii by promoting telehealth—which is used effectively and extensively throughout the county—by requiring coverage for telehealth services. Telehealth is vitally important to a state like Hawaii, where many segments of the population face challenges in accessing quality health care due to geography. SB 2469 SD 2, HD 1 would allow residents on the neighbor islands and in rural areas to access essential services that are readily available to patients in Honolulu. HAH supports SB 2469 SD 2, HD 1, which would improve the quality of healthcare—and quality of life—for patients throughout the state through the expanded use of telehealth.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 2469 SD 2, HD 1.



Written Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce
March 19, 2014, 2:10 p.m.

By
Kathy Yokouchi, Policy Analyst
Hawaii State Center for Nursing
University of Hawai'i at Manoa

SB 2469, SD2, HD1 RELATING TO TELEHEALTH

Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Kawakami and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in strong support on SB 2469, SD2,, HD1.

The Hawaii State Center for Nursing supports the purpose of this Act is to:

- (1) Require reimbursement for services provided through telehealth to be equivalent to reimbursement for the same services provided via face-to-face contact between a health care provider and a patient;
- (2) Clarify that a health care provider of telehealth includes primary care providers, mental health providers, and oral health providers such as physicians and osteopathic physicians, advanced practice registered nurses, psychologists, and dentists.

Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) fulfill a leadership role within Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs) by demonstrating enhanced care coordination skills and fostering positive patient-provider relationships in complex care conditions. Utilization of telehealth informatics tools within a preventative care model, such as ACOs, can reduce readmission rates, contain costs, and improve patient outcomes

Further, SB 2469, SD2, HD1 will enable APRNs to help realize the vision of the ACA by utilizing their skills in clinical integration, analytics and case management of chronic disease populations to improve upon the quality and efficiency of the health care system.

Therefore, Hawaii State Center for Nursing respectfully requests that this Committee pass SB 2469, SD2, HD1. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



Written Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce
March 19, 2014, 2:10 p.m.

By
Dale Allison, PhD, WHNP-BC, FNP, APRN-Rx, FAAN
Hawaii State Center for Nursing
University of Hawai'i at Manoa

SB 2469, SD2, HD1 RELATING TO TELEHEALTH

Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Kawakami and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in strong support on SB 2469, SD2, HD1.

The Hawaii State Center for Nursing supports the purpose of this Act is to:

(1) Require reimbursement for services provided through telehealth to be equivalent to reimbursement for the same services provided via face-to-face contact between a health care provider and a patient;

(2) Clarify that a health care provider of telehealth includes primary care providers, mental health providers, and oral health providers such as physicians and osteopathic physicians, advanced practice registered nurses, psychologists, and dentists.

Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) fulfill a leadership role within Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs) by demonstrating enhanced care coordination skills and fostering positive patient-provider relationships in complex care conditions. Utilization of telehealth informatics tools within a preventative care model, such as ACOs, can reduce readmission rates, contain costs, and improve patient outcomes

Further, SB 2469, SD2, HD1 will enable APRNs to help realize the vision of the ACA by utilizing their skills in clinical integration, analytics and case management of chronic disease populations to improve upon the quality and efficiency of the health care system.

Therefore, Hawaii State Center for Nursing respectfully requests that this Committee pass SB 2469, SD2, HD1 unamended. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Written Testimony Presented Before the
COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE

Wednesday, March 19, 2014, 2:10 p.m.

By
Lenora Lorenzo DNP, APRN, FAANP
Family, Geriatrics and Diabetes Nurse Practitioner
Region 9 Director, American Association of Nurse Practitioners

SB 2469 RELATING TO TELEHEALTH

Chair Green, Vice Chair . Kawakami and members of the House Committee On Consumer Protection & Commerce thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in strong support on SB 2469.

The American Association of Nurse Practitioners and I as a practicing Nurse Practitioner supports the purpose of this Act is to:

(1) Require reimbursement for services provided through telehealth to be equivalent to reimbursement for the same services provided via face-to-face contact between a health care provider and a patient; (2) Clarify that a health care provider of telehealth includes primary care providers, mental health providers, and oral health providers such as physicians and osteopathic physicians, advanced practice registered nurses, psychologists, and dentists.

As a practicing Nurse Practitioner, I have been delivering health care for chronic conditions like Diabetes, and Hypertension for 5 years to our Hawaiian neighbor islands and remote US Pacific Territory Islands of Guam and Samoa. Our Veterans Administration telehealth care demonstrate good outcomes and the efficacy of telehealth in increasing access to high quality health care.

Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) fulfill a leadership role within Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs) by demonstrating enhanced care coordination skills and fostering positive patient-provider relationships in complex care conditions. Utilization of telehealth informatics tools within a preventative care model, such as ACOs, can reduce readmission rates, contain costs, and improve patient outcomes. Further, SB 2469 will enable APRNs to help realize the vision of the ACA by utilizing their skills in clinical integration, analytics and case management of chronic disease populations to improve upon the quality and efficiency of the health care system.

Therefore, the American Association of Nurse Practitioners and I as a practicing Nurse Practitioner requests that this Committee pass SB 2469 unamended. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

kawakami3-Benigno

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2014 9:17 AM
To: CPCtestimony
Cc: mamaupin@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2469 on Mar 19, 2014 14:10PM*

SB2469

Submitted on: 3/18/2014

Testimony for CPC on Mar 19, 2014 14:10PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Margaret Maupin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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kawakami3-Benigno

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2014 9:18 AM
To: CPCtestimony
Cc: geesey@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2469 on Mar 19, 2014 14:10PM

SB2469

Submitted on: 3/18/2014

Testimony for CPC on Mar 19, 2014 14:10PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Yvonne Geesey	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Committee Members; please support this bill as it clarifies the healthcare team members authorized to provide and be reimbursed for telehealth care. mahalo, Yvonne Geesey JD, MSN Advanced Practice Registered Nurse

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Kelley Withy
571 Kaimalino St.
Kailua, HI 96734

Written Testimony in Support of SB2469

I am writing to offer my strongest support for SB2469. As President of the Hawaii State Rural Health Association, Director of the Area Health Education Center and a physician workforce researcher, I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for working toward expanding the telemedicine network in Hawaii. My research has shown that Hawaii has 700 fewer physicians than a comparable population on the mainland US. The shortage is most severe in rural areas such as Hawaii Island. The shortage is for primary care and all specialties except plastic surgery. Therefore telemedicine is essential to meet the needs of patients in rural Hawaii. However there have been four major hurdles to implementing telemedicine. The first is the cost of the equipment, which has been decreasing recently. The second is provider and patient acceptance which is also improving. The third is equity of medical liability coverage which will require some frank conversation with one of our medical insurance providers. And the fourth one is payment. While both Medicare and some private insurers report that they will pay for telemedicine in certain situations, providers are hesitant to bill for fear of audit or rejection of the bill. SB2469 will help alleviate this fear and go a long way to encouraging providers to utilize telemedicine services, therefore increasing access to healthcare for our populations most in need. Thank you for your attention to this matter and please keep up the good work!

Kelley Withy, MD, PhD

Written Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce
March 19, 2014, 2:10 p.m.

By
Beth Hoban, RN
Board Member, Hawaii State Center for Nursing (HSCFN)

SB 2469, SD2, HD1 RELATING TO TELEHEALTH

Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Kawakami and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of SB 2469, SD2, HD1.

The Hawaii State Center for Nursing supports the purpose of this Act to:

- (1) Require reimbursement for services provided through telehealth to be equivalent to reimbursement for the same services provided via face-to-face contact between a health care provider and a patient;
- (2) Clarify that a health care provider of telehealth includes primary care providers, mental health providers, and oral health providers such as physicians and osteopathic physicians, advanced practice registered nurses, psychologists, and dentists.

Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) fulfill a leadership role within Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs) by demonstrating enhanced care coordination skills and fostering positive patient-provider relationships in complex care conditions. Utilization of telehealth informatics tools within a preventative care model, such as ACOs, can reduce readmission rates, contain costs, and improve patient outcomes

Further, SB 2469, SD2, HD1 will enable APRNs to help realize the vision of the ACA by utilizing their skills in clinical integration, analytics and case management of chronic disease populations to improve upon the quality and efficiency of the health care system.

Therefore, I, Beth Hoban, respectfully requests that this Committee pass SB 2469, SD2, HD1. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

kawakami3-Benigno

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2014 10:52 AM
To: CPCtestimony
Cc: joann@nsautomation.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2469 on Mar 19, 2014 14:10PM*

SB2469

Submitted on: 3/18/2014

Testimony for CPC on Mar 19, 2014 14:10PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
JoAnn Lepke	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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LATE



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

HONOLULU

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE

The Hon. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
The Hon. Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair

March 19, 2014, 2:10 Agenda, Room 325

SUPPORT: SB 2469, SD 2, HD 1 RELATING TO TELEHEALTH

Beth Giesting, Healthcare Transformation Coordinator, Office of the Governor

Thank you for the opportunity to support SB 2469, SD 2, HD 1 Relating to Telehealth. We thoroughly agree with the premise that effective use of telehealth is essential to improve access to care in Hawaii, where our island geography presents us with unique challenges. We also endorse SB 2469's approach that clarifies the practice of telehealth, ensures equitable payment, and continues to build the infrastructure that will support its use.

We support changes that are being proposed to clarify that behavioral health services delivered via telehealth will be reimbursed even if the patient is not accompanied by a treating health care provider, and would appreciate your passing this legislation to allow time for any further language fix-ups as the bill progresses.

Thank you for the opportunity to support his measure.



**SB2469 SD2 HD1
RELATING TO TELEHEALTH**

House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

March 19, 2014

2:10 p.m.

Room 325

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** SB2469 SD2 HD1, which clarifies telehealth statutes and requires equity in reimbursement for services provided through telehealth programs.

OHA’s strategic priorities include Maui Ola (Health), which represents our commitment to improving the conditions of Native Hawaiians. The recent “Assessment and Priorities for Health & Well-being in Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Peoples” study by the Department of Native Hawaiian Health at the John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) identified access to primary health care and mental health services as a key need in rural communities, many of which have large Native Hawaiian populations.¹ The JABSOM study also stressed the need for innovative strategies, particularly to address the lack of basic health and medical services, nutrition services and education, cardiometabolic disease care and behavioral and mental health services on the neighbor islands. **Telehealth programs are one method by which such services may be effectively and efficiently provided to rural areas and the neighbor islands.**

Ensuring that telehealth services are reimbursed at equivalent rates to health services provided face-to-face may remove barriers to delivery for many areas in critical need, such as rural areas and the neighbor islands where many of OHA’s beneficiaries reside.

OHA therefore urges the Committee to **PASS** SB2469 SD2 HD1. Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

¹ The JABSOM report is available online at <http://blog.hawaii.edu/uhmednow/files/2013/09/AP-Hlth-REPORT-2013.pdf>

LATE



HAWAII MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

1360 S. Beretania Street, Suite 200, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814
Phone (808) 536-7702 Fax (808) 528-2376 www.hmaonline.net

DATE: Wednesday, March 19, 2014
TIME: 2:10 PM
PLACE: Conference Room 325
State Capitol

COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE

Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
Rep. Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair

FROM: Hawaii Medical Association

Dr. Walton Shim, MD, President
Dr. Linda Rasmussen, MD, Legislative Co-Chair
Dr. Ron Keinitz, DO, Legislative Co-Chair
Dr. Christopher Flanders, DO, Executive Director
Lauren Zirbel, Community and Government Relations

RE: SB 2469 RELATING TO TELEHEALTH

Position: Support

This measure requires reimbursement for services provided through telehealth to be equivalent to reimbursement for the same services provided via face-to-face contact between a health care provider and a patient. Clarifies that a health care provider of telehealth includes primary care providers, mental health providers, and oral health providers such as physicians and osteopathic physicians, advanced practice registered nurses, psychologists, and dentists. This measure amends references to "telemedicine" in the Hawaii Revised Statutes to "telehealth" for consistency.

HMA supports this measure on behalf of our neighbor island patients who rely on telehealth to maintain a regular relationship with their treating physician. Telehealth can be an important tool if used properly. HMA advises that a previous face-to-face consultation between the patient and the provider take place before a telehealth relationship is used to care for the patient.

The HMA also strongly supports provider to provider consultation via telehealth. Often times a patient will have a primary care provider on the island that they live on and a specialist that lives on Oahu. Telehealth allows these two providers to interact with the patient at one time.

Officers

*President - Walton Shim, MD President-Elect – Robert Sloan
Secretary - Thomas Kosasa, MD Immediate Past President – Stephen Kemble, MD
Treasurer – Brandon Lee, MD Executive Director – Christopher Flanders, DO*

Provider to provider consultation is very important for patients that see providers on more than one island and can be extremely helpful in an emergency medical situation.

We find the description of providers of telehealth is confusing because physicians seem to be listed as oral health providers. We would recommend amending the language in multiple parts of the bill to be more in line with this:

Clarify that a health care provider of telehealth includes primary care providers, mental health providers, oral health providers, physicians and osteopathic physicians, advanced practice registered nurses, psychologists, and dentists; and

Thank you for introducing this bill and for the opportunity to provide testimony.



Wednesday – March 19, 2014 – 2:10pm
Conference Room 325

The House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

To: Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
Representative Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair

From: George Greene
President & CEO
Healthcare Association of Hawaii

Re: **Testimony in Support**
SB 2469, SD 2, HD 1 — Relating to Telehealth

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii (HAH) is a 116-member organization that includes all of the acute care hospitals in Hawaii, the majority of long term care facilities, all the Medicare-certified home health agencies, all hospice programs, as well as other healthcare organizations including durable medical equipment, air and ground ambulance, blood bank and respiratory therapy. In addition to providing quality care to all of Hawaii’s residents, our members contribute significantly to Hawaii’s economy by employing nearly 20,000 people statewide.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 2469 SD 2, HD 1, which would (1) require reimbursement for telehealth services to be equivalent to reimbursement for the same medical services provided in person; and (2) include primary care providers, mental health providers, oral health providers, advanced practice registered nurses, psychologists, and dentists as eligible telehealth providers.

SB 2469 SD 2, HD 1 would modernize the practice of medicine in Hawaii by promoting telehealth—which is used effectively and extensively throughout the county—by requiring coverage for telehealth services. Telehealth is vitally important to a state like Hawaii, where many segments of the population face challenges in accessing quality health care due to geography. SB 2469 SD 2, HD 1 would allow residents on the neighbor islands and in rural areas to access essential services that are readily available to patients in Honolulu. HAH supports SB 2469 SD 2, HD 1, which would improve the quality of healthcare—and quality of life—for patients throughout the state through the expanded use of telehealth.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 2469 SD 2, HD 1.

LATE

From: Louis Erteschik <Louis@hawaiidisabilityrights.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2014 2:45 PM
To: CPCtestimony
Subject: FW: SB2054 Autism Ins and SB2469 Telehealth

We support this measure, and prefer the prior version that did not have an age cap on the provision of services.

Louis Erteschik, Esq.
Executive Director
Hawaii Disability Rights Center

SB 2054, SD3, HD1<http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2014/Bills/SB2054_HD1_.pdf>
(HSCR960-14)<http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2014/CommReports/SB2054_HD1_HSCR960-14_.pdf>
Status<http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=2054&year=2014>

RELATING TO HEALTH.

Requires health insurers, mutual benefit societies, and health maintenance organizations to provide coverage for autism spectrum disorder treatments. Effective July 1, 2050.

HLT, CPC, FIN



55 Merchant Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813-4333

HAWAII PACIFIC HEALTH
Kapi'olani • Pali Momi • Straub • Wilcox

808-535-7401
www.hawaiipacifichealth.org

Wednesday, March 19, 2014 – 2:10 pm
Conference Room 325

The House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

To: Representative Angus McKelvey, Chair
Representative Derek Kawakami, Vice Chair

From: Michael Robinson, Executive Director
Philanthropy & Government Relations

Re: **SB 2469, SD2, HD1 Relating to Telehealth
Testimony in Support**

My name is Michael Robinson, Executive Director, Philanthropy & Government Relations for Hawai'i Pacific Health (HPH). HPH is a not-for-profit health care system, and the state's largest health care provider and non-government employer. It is committed to providing the highest quality medical care and service to the people of Hawai'i and the Pacific Region through its four hospitals, more than 50 outpatient clinics and service sites, and over 1,600 affiliated physicians. HPH's hospitals are Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children, Pali Momi Medical Center, Straub Clinic & Hospital and Wilcox Memorial Hospital. The system's leading strategic initiatives include women's health, pediatric care, cardiovascular services, cancer care, and bone and joint services. HPH ranks among the top three percent of hospitals nationwide in the adoption of electronic health records, with system-wide implementation that allows its hospitals and physicians to offer integrated, coordinated care throughout the state.

I write in support of SB 2469 SD2, HD1 which requires reimbursement for services provided through telehealth to be equivalent to reimbursement for the same services provided via face-to-face contact between a health care provider and a patient.

Telemedicine can serve as a cost effective solution in overcoming the healthcare access barriers created by our disperse island geography and concentration of medical specialists on Oahu. Access to care to medically underserved areas can be increased by reducing the social costs associated with travel for both patient and medical professional through the adoption of telehealth technology.

Hawai'i Pacific Health whose affiliated hospitals deliver and coordinate care for patients between Lana'i, Kauai, Oahu and Statewide adopts telehealth in a variety of care settings. For example we utilize telemedicine to provide direct patient care via fetal tile-ultrasound from Kapi'olani Medical Center to neighbor island patients, as well as tele-cardiology for use with ultrasound imaging to provide convenient care to cardiac patients throughout our state.

By ensuring that reimbursement for all services provided through telehealth is equivalent to reimbursement for same services provided via traditional face-to-face contact between a health care provider and a patient will further incentivize adoption of this technology. We urge your committee to pass SB 2469.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.



Affiliates of Hawai'i Pacific Health

LATE

Written Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce
March 19, 2014, 2:10 p.m.

By

*Pualani Gandall Yamamoto
MSN, APRN-Rx, FNP-BC
American Association of Nurse Practitioners – Hawaii State Representative
808 / 282-6714 pyamamoto@hawaii.edu*

SB 2469, SD2, HD1 RELATING TO TELEHEALTH

Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Kawakami and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce,

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in strong support on SB 2469, SD2, HD1. The purpose of this Act is to:

(1) Require reimbursement for services provided through telehealth to be equivalent to reimbursement for the same services provided via face-to-face contact between a health care provider and a patient;

(2) Clarify that a health care provider of telehealth includes primary care providers, mental health providers, and oral health providers such as physicians and osteopathic physicians, advanced practice registered nurses, psychologists, and dentists.

Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) fulfill a leadership role within Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs) by demonstrating enhanced care coordination skills and fostering positive patient-provider relationships in complex care conditions. Utilization of telehealth informatics tools within a preventative care model, such as ACOs, can reduce readmission rates, contain costs, and improve patient outcomes

Further, SB 2469, SD2, HD1 will enable APRNs to help realize the vision of the ACA by utilizing their skills in clinical integration, analytics and case management of chronic disease populations to improve upon the quality and efficiency of the health care system.

Therefore, I respectfully request that this Committee pass SB 2469, SD2, HD1. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

LATE

kawakami3-Benigno

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2014 2:37 PM
To: CPCtestimony
Cc: scannerchief@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2469 on Mar 19, 2014 14:10PM

SB2469

Submitted on: 3/18/2014
Testimony for CPC on Mar 19, 2014 14:10PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christopher Toyama	Individual	Support	No

Comments: please say yes to telehealth

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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LATE

kawakami3-Benigno

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2014 9:08 PM
To: CPCtestimony
Cc: paulakomarajr@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2469 on Mar 19, 2014 14:10PM*

SB2469

Submitted on: 3/18/2014

Testimony for CPC on Mar 19, 2014 14:10PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Paul A. komara, Jr.	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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HMSA

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An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

March 19, 2014

The Honorable Angus L. K. McKelvey, Chair
The Honorable Derek S. K. Kawakami, Vice Chair
House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

Re: SB 2469, SD2, HD1 – Relating to Telehealth

Dear Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Kawakami, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Medical Service Association (HMSA) appreciates the opportunity to testify on SB 2469, SD2, HD1. HMSA supports this measure

HMSA currently reimburses providers for services rendered via telehealth at the same level as a face-to-face encounter, as long as the patient is present during the examination. And, the examination must be an interactive medical examination and clinical assessment directed by the specialist or consulting provider.

As you know, HMSA also is heavily invested in furthering the usage of telehealth specifically through our Online Care program, aimed at improving access to care throughout the Islands. Residents can speak with an HMSA provider electronically, 24 hours-a-day, seven days-a-week. This is a program and not a claims-based telehealth service.

The earlier version of this Bill and its companion measure, HB 2411, HD1, jeopardized the Online Care program. However, as drafted, SB 2469, SD2, includes a provision that ensures programs such as HMSA's Online Care may continue.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark K. Oto".

Mark K. Oto
Director
Government Relations