



HAWAII MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

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DATE: Friday, March 14, 2014
TIME: 9:00 AM
PLACE: 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 3012

Position: Opposition.

This measure mandates health care providers to provide medical records to patients for a flat rate of \$15.60 or the amount currently approved by the Social Security Administration, whichever amount is greater, if the request is for the purposes of a claim or appeal under any provision of the Social Security Act, or for free.

A more common standard would be to allow a fee of 1 dollar per page for the first 25 pages and a fee of 25 cents for the rest of the needed pages.

The HMA opposes this bill because some medical charts are up to 500 pages and it takes a considerable amount of staff time to retrieve files that may be in storage. There is national recognition that a reasonable fee is a dollar a page for at least the first 25 pages.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

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President - Walton Shim, MD President-Elect – Robert Sloan

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HAWAI'I PACIFIC HEALTH
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Friday, March 14, 2014 – 9:00 am
Conference Room 329

The House Committee on Health

LATE

To: Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair
Representative Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

From: Michael Robinson, Executive Director
Philanthropy & Government Relations

Re: **SB 3012, SD1 Relating to Medical Records**
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 3012, SD1 which allows health care providers to provide medical records to patients for a flat rate of \$15.60 or the amount currently approved by the Social Security Administration, whichever amount is greater, where the request is for the purposes of a claim or appeal under any provision of the Social Security Act.

We are committed to the timely production of patients' medical records. However, supplying a patient with this type of information is not just a matter of accessing a file and copying the material. Because of the sensitivity and complexity of the information, healthcare providers like us use the assistance of medical records vendors to manage medical records for which there is an associated cost. Thus, we believe a nominal fee is necessary to off-set some of the expense the providers bear in making medical records available to the patients.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.





LEGAL AID
SOCIETY OF HAWAII

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Susan M. Ichinose, Esq.
President, Board of Directors

M. Nalani Fujimori Kaina, Esq.
Executive Director

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF
SB3012 SD1 - RELATING TO MEDICAL RECORDS

Committee on Health - Room 329

Representative Della Au Bellati, Chair
Representative Dee Morikawa, Vice-Chair

March 14, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.

LATE

The Legal Aid Society of Hawaii submits testimony in support of SB3012 SD1 – Relating to Medical Records. This bill would allow access to copies of medical records at a flat rate or for free when an individual is applying for disability public assistance.

For those who are disabled and seeking support through the state’s general assistance and AABD programs, medical records are required to support their claims of disability. This population generally has no income and are seeking financial assistance. When there are charges for medical records, some eligible clients are unable to receive the assistance that they need because they cannot afford the cost of the records. This bill would assist those seeking assistance get access to those records.

We understand that there are costs for medical providers associated with the retrieval of medical records. We believe that utilizing the flat rate which social security now uses is a reasonable compromise given the limited income available to those seeking financial assistance due to disabilities.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

M. Nalani Fujimori Kaina
Executive Director

The Legal Aid Society of Hawaii (Legal Aid) is the only legal service provider with offices on every island in the state, and in 2013 provided legal assistance to almost 10,000 Hawai'i residents in the areas of consumer fraud, public assistance, family law, the prevention of homelessness, employment, protection from domestic violence, and immigration. Our mission is to achieve fairness and justice through legal advocacy, outreach and education for those in need.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2014 4:55 AM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: thirr33@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB3012 on Mar 14, 2014 09:00AM
Attachments: SB 3012 SD1 SSCR 2601.gif



SB3012

Submitted on: 3/14/2014

Testimony for HLT on Mar 14, 2014 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Arvid Tadao Youngquist	I Love Kalihi Valley	Support	Yes

Comments: Chair, HLT Committee Vice Chair, HLT Committee Right Honorable Committee Members We support the intent and the spirit of this measure and request that the Committee consider impose an amount below Federal standard fee or free (as the original language stated). As the testimonies in opposition were inclined to stay opped out of principle discated by the "bottom line" and "risk management", the Committee is not duty bound to lend those testimonies any credibility or credence. They are very predictable and "very transparent". Requ est that your Committee include my comments in your Report as to reference about requests not being charged any higher than the Federal guidelines for a fee to provide copies of patients own medical records. This applies only to requests from patients for their own files and similar requests from duely appointed agents of the patient, i.e., those with powers-of attorney, etc. Thank you for this opportunity to submit this testimony. Have the best of work day today. Me Ke Aloha Pumehana, Arvid Tadao Youngquist Founder, Administrator, & Spokesman *Note: CD1, U.S. House District registered voter for the Primary and the General Election. Today, please vote your conscience and with conviction in what is pono. Mahalo.

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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