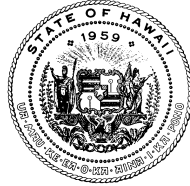


SB 42



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

In reply, please refer to:
File:

Senate Committee on Health

S.B. 42, Relating to Mental Health

**Testimony of Loretta J. Fuddy, A.C.S.W., M.P.H.
Director of Health**

Monday, January 28, 2013, 1:15 p.m.

1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health (DOH) supports the intent of this bill but it is not
2 necessary at this time.

3 **Fiscal Implications:** Currently, the Hawaii Certified Peer Specialist (HCPS) program is funded through
4 the Trauma-Informed Care Initiative (TIC-IT) Federal Grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental
5 Health Services Administration. Following the conclusion of the grant in 2015, the Adult Mental Health
6 Division (AMHD) may seek funding to support and sustain this program.

7 **Purpose and Justification:** This bill seeks funds to support the AMHD HCPS Initiative. Through the
8 TIC-IT grant, Hawaii has been able to fund certified peer specialist training.

9 At the end of the grant funding, AMHD anticipates continuing its commitment to the program.
10 After the conclusion of the grant, funds may be requested from the legislature for continuation of the
11 certified peer specialist training.

12 As we improve the integration of our of certified peer specialists' activities, the department will
13 continue to work with key stakeholders in this critical area of performance.

14 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

Alan Johnson, Comments



SB42 Relating to Health Appropriates funds for the adult mental health division’s Hawaii certified peer specialist program.

- ✚ SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH: Senator Green, M.D. Chair; Senator Baker, Vice Chair
- ✚ Monday, Jan. 28, 2012; 1:15 p.m.
- ✚ Conference Room 229

HAWAII SUBSTANCE ABUSE COALITION Supports SB42

GOOD MORNING CHAIR GREEN, VICE CHAIR BAKER AND DISTINGUISHED COMMITTEE MEMBERS. My name is Alan Johnson. I am the current chair of the Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition (HSAC), a statewide hui of more than twenty non-profit treatment and prevention agencies.

Because of their life experiences with mental illness and mental health services, the peer specialists provide expertise that professional training cannot replicate. They help the recovering person gain confidence in decision-making and promote a culture of self-help rehabilitation.

Peer specialists improve outcomes and reduce decompensating conditions that can be costly.

Healthcare reform has worked in those states that did “invest” in chronic care to stabilize what can be very costly conditions followed by systems of care that would encourage self-help responsibility to manage their conditions. Peer specialists are an essential key for developing prevention type strategies that promote individual responsibility that would help reduce the upward spiraling costs of healthcare.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony and are available for questions.



Community Alliance for Mental Health

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Susan King

To: The Hawai'i State Senate Committee on Health
Re: SB 42

To: The Honorable Senator Green and the members of the committee.

Aloha,

The Community Alliance for Mental Health along with United Self Help wholeheartedly supports SB 42. We believe that Hawai'i Certified Peer Specialist will become one of the pillars in the transformation of the delivery of health care to some of our states most vulnerable population. We also know that to meet the coming need for HCPS's they are going to have to be trained. This bill is one of the vehicles by which that training will be funded.

Mahalo,
Robert Scott Wall
Vice-President