

SB972

TESTIMONY

**Testimony of
Mihoko E. Ito
on behalf of
Walgreens**

DATE: February 7, 2013

TO: Senator Josh Green
Chair, Committee on Health
Senator Glenn Wakai
Chair, Committee on Technology and the Arts
Submitted Via E-mail HTHtestimony@captiol.hawaii.gov

RE: **S.B. 972 – Relating to Electronic Prescriptions**
Hearing Date: Friday, February 8, 2013 at 1:30 pm
Conference Room 229

Dear Chair Green, Wakai, and Members of the Joint Committees:

I am Mihoko Ito, testifying on behalf of Walgreen Co. (“Walgreens”).

Walgreens operates more than 8,200 locations in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. In Hawai`i, Walgreens now has 11 stores on the islands of Oahu, Maui and Hawai`i.

Walgreens **supports** S.B. 972, which amends the Uniform Controlled Substances Act in Chapter 329, Hawaii Revised Statutes, by adding definitions consistent with federal law, clarifying the conditions for electronic transmittal of prescriptions, and adding and clarifying violations of prohibited acts.

The measure would allow practitioners to electronically prescribe controlled substances and to convey the prescription directly to the pharmacy of the patient’s choice. It will also provide practitioners with a safer, more secure, and timely means to prescribe controlled substances in addition to the conventional means of prescribing controlled substances. Passage of this legislation will continue to move forward the acceptance of e-prescribing, thus improving patient care.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to submit comments regarding this measure.

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