



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

In reply, please refer to:
File:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

**SCR15 SD1, URGING THE FORMATION OF A WORK GROUP TO DEVELOP
NUTRITION GUIDELINES FOR GOVERNMENT AGENCIES**

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

April 4, 2013

1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health (DOH) supports this measure.

2 **Fiscal Implications:** None.

3 **Purpose and Justification:** The purpose of Senate Concurrent Resolution 15 SD1 is to establish a work
4 group to develop statewide nutrition guidelines for foods and beverages that are provided on
5 government-run property, purchased by government agencies for their guests at meetings, and made
6 available to employees through vending machines or onsite vendors. The task force will also develop
7 and recommend an implementation plan for state agencies to adopt the nutrition guidelines.

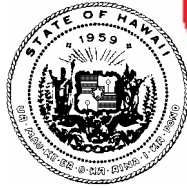
8 The Department supports this bill as a part of the comprehensive package of legislation
9 developed by the Childhood Obesity Prevention Task Force. The Task Force was created on July 6,
10 2012 as Senate Bill 2778 and signed into law as Act 269 by Governor Abercrombie to address the
11 growing crisis of childhood obesity in Hawaii. The task force identified twelve policy recommendations
12 that when implemented together, have the potential to reshape the environments in Hawaii where people
13 live, work, play, and learn. SCR15 SD1 is one of the twelve recommended policies from the Task
14 Force.

1 State government has a large daily influence on the food options that are available for state
2 employees and the public. Decisions on food intake are also influenced by availability and accessibility;
3 when unhealthy foods are the dominant offering, this can have a detrimental effect on those already
4 struggling to manage chronic health conditions like obesity, diabetes, and heart disease. State agencies
5 can be critical players in transforming the food environment and establishing a culture of healthy living.
6 Healthy food policies and practices in the work place and where the public congregate is one strategy of
7 a comprehensive effort needed to make the healthy choice the easy choice for people in Hawaii.

8 The Department supports passage of SCR15 SD1 as a method to create and model a healthy
9 work and food environment in state agencies. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

10

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



LATE

PATRICIA MCMANAMAN
DIRECTOR

BARBARA A. YAMASHITA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

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

April 4, 2013

TO: The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Patricia McManaman, Director

SUBJECT: **S.C.R. 15, S.D. 1 – URGING THE FORMATION OF A WORK GROUP
TO DEVELOP NUTRITION GUIDELINES FOR GOVERNMENT
AGENCIES.**

Hearing: Thursday, April 4, 2013; 9:50 a.m.
Conference Room 211, State Capitol

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to form a working group to develop nutrition guidelines for government agencies.

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) would like to provide the following comments on S.C.R. 15, S.D. 1. This resolution is one of 14 bills and resolutions being considered by the Legislature that requires the Med-QUEST Division (MQD) of the Department of Human Services to conduct a study or participate in a working group, task force or other groups on various subjects not only Medicaid. Participating in all of the required studies and groups will necessitate that MQD resources be redirected from implementing the new Medicaid eligibility criteria and methodology requirements under the Affordable Care Act by January 1, 2014, from completing the section 1115 demonstration waiver renewal, from procuring QUEST Integration and its focus on improving transition of care for vulnerable individuals, from transforming behavioral health services delivery, and

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from the ability to support other healthcare transformation activities, including the planned activities lead by the Health Care Transformation Coordinator.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Thursday, April 4, 2013 – 9:50 am
Conference Room 211

The Senate Committee on Ways and Means

To: Senator David Ige, Chair
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

From: From: Virginia Pressler, MD, MBA

Re: **SCR 15, SD1 Urging The Formation Of A Work Group To Develop Nutrition Guidelines For Government Agencies**
Comments in Strong Support

My name is Virginia Pressler, MD, MBA, Executive Vice President and Chief Strategic Officer for Hawai'i Pacific Health (HPH). HPH is a nonprofit health care system and the state's largest health care provider anchored by its four nonprofit hospitals: Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children, Pali Momi Medical Center, Straub Clinic & Hospital and Wilcox Memorial Hospital on Kauai. HPH is committed to providing the highest quality medical care and service to the people of Hawai'i and the Pacific Region through its four affiliated hospitals, 49 outpatient clinics and service sites, more than 5,400 employees and 1,300 physicians on staff,

I am writing in strong support of SCR 15, SD1 which urges the formation of a work group to develop nutrition guidelines for government agencies. The purpose of this resolution is to encourage interagency dialogue and action to coordinate and align state procurement policies to prevent childhood obesity.

Obesity is a major health and economic concern for Hawaii and the nation, causing higher medical costs and lower quality of life. In Hawaii adult obesity has more than doubled between 1995 and 2009 and childhood obesity has increased by 38% in the ten years between 1999 and 2009. The development and adoption of nutritional guidelines to prevent obesity in government-run facilities and functions would help to create work environments that support a healthy and productive workforce which is important to Hawaii's economy, and at the same time demonstrates state leadership toward decreasing the incidences of obesity.

This measure thus provides a vital step toward lessening the problem of obesity and the resulting health problems. We ask that this Committee pass the measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this matter.