

SCR18

TESTIMONY

HTH-CPN HEARING

03-11-13



NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

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TO THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON HEALTH AND
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2013

Monday, March 11, 2013
4:10 p.m.

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

TESTIMONY ON SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 18 – URGING THE FORMATION OF A TASK FORCE TO DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVING THE PROVISION OF OBESITY PREVENTION-RELATED SERVICES AND COUNSELING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PATIENT PROTECTION AND AFFORDABLE CARE ACT.

TO THE HONORABLE JOSH GREEN AND ROSALYN BAKER, CHAIRS, AND MEMBERS OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE:

My name is Gordon Ito, State Insurance Commissioner (“Commissioner”), testifying on behalf of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (“Department”). The Department supports this Administration concurrent resolution.

The purpose of this concurrent resolution is to have the Department of Health establish a 25-member Obesity Prevention Healthcare Reimbursement Task Force (“Task Force”) that will develop recommendations for increasing the provision of obesity-related services and counseling by health care provider as mandated by the federal Affordable Care Act guidelines.

The Department is willing to participate in the proposed Task Force.

We thank this Committee for the opportunity to present testimony on this matter and ask for your favorable consideration.



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Monday, March 11, 2013 – 4:10 pm
Conference Room 229

The Senate Committee on Health

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

The Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

To: Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair

From: Virginia Pressler, MD, MBA

Re: **SCR 18 URGING THE FORMATION OF A TASK FORCE TO DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVING THE PROVISION OF OBESITY PREVENTION-RELATED SERVICES AND COUNSELING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PATIENT PROTECTION AND AFFORDABLE CARE ACT.**

Testimony in Strong Support

My name is Virginia Pressler, MD, MBA, Executive Vice President and Chief Strategic Officer for Hawaii 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 Hawaii 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 18, which urges the formation of a task force to develop recommendations for improving the provision of obesity prevention-related services and counseling in accordance with the implementation of the patient protection and affordable care act.

Obesity is a complex and multifaceted issue requiring the collaboration of stakeholders in government, non-profit, private and health care sectors to create systematic large-scale environmental changes. These stakeholders must be educated about the provisions of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and of the ongoing efforts of the Hawaii Healthcare Project and how these changes affect Hawaii's health care system. Health care providers must also be educated about reimbursable medical costs related to obesity prevention and treatment under the new ACA guidelines so that they may be compensated for the provision of these services and health care providers must be encouraged to provide services and counseling to overweight and obese patients.

This resolution provides a means through which the growing problem of obesity in our community may be addressed. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.



Affiliates of Hawaii Pacific Health

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SCR18 on Mar 11, 2013 16:10PM*
Date: Friday, March 08, 2013 2:00:05 PM

SCR18

Submitted on: 3/8/2013

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Mar 11, 2013 16:10PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	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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