



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
OFFICE OF LANGUAGE ACCESS

830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, SUITE 322
HONOLULU, HI 96813

SERAFIN P. COLMENARES, JR.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

To: Rep. Faye P. Hanohano, Chair
Rep. Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair
House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources & Hawaiian Affairs

Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair
House Committee on Health

From: Serafin Colmenares Jr.
Executive Director, Office of Language Access

Date: February 3, 2014, 8:30 a.m.
State Capitol, Room 325

Re: Testimony on H.B. 1616
Relating to Health Planning

The Office of Language Access (“OLA”) appreciates the opportunity to testify in support of H.B. 1616 Relating to Health Planning. My name is Serafin Colmenares, Jr. and I am the Executive Director of OLA.

H.B. 1616 aims to update the Hawaii State Planning Act’s objectives for health to include a commitment to eliminating health disparities by explicitly addressing social determinants of health in order to reflect the latest medical findings relating to the health needs of Native Hawaiians, other Pacific Islanders, and Filipinos.

The health needs of these population groups, particularly Pacific Islanders and Filipinos, are exacerbated by the language barriers that they face. Statistics show that the limited English proficient (LEP) groups most in need of language services in Hawaii are Pacific Islanders and Filipinos.

The social determinants of health – which include language access - have been recognized by national and international health organizations, including the World Health Organization, as major indicators of health status. As the “Health State”, it is imperative that Hawaii should make addressing the social determinants of health an integral part of the state’s health objectives. OLA strongly requests both committees to support this bill.

OLA appreciates the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Promoting Lifelong Health and Wellness

Promoting Lifelong Health and Wellness



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES
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February 3, 2014

To: The Honorable Faye P. Hanohano, Chair,
The Honorable Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair; and
Members of the House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, and Hawaiian
Affairs;

The Honorable Della Au Belatti, Chair,
The Honorable Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair; and
Members of the House Committee on Health

From: Office of Community Services (OCS),
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)
Mila Kaahanui, Executive Director

Subject: HB1616, Relating to Health Planning

Date: Monday, February 3, 2014

Time: 8:30 a.m.

Place: House Conference Room 325

POSITION: **Strongly Support**

The Office of Community Services (OCS), a State office administratively located in the DLIR, strongly supports this bill and respectfully offers comments.

I. OVERVIEW OF THIS PROPOSAL

This bill proposes to make changes to HRS §226-20, relating to health planning to add to the State's health planning objectives an additional focus on the disparities in health outcomes that adversely affect Hawaii's Native Hawaiian, Filipino, and other Pacific Islander communities.

II. CURRENT LAW

Chapter 226, HRS, sets forth comprehensive requirements for the State government with respect to planning for the future in a very broad range of considerations, including: population; the economy; the physical environment; facility systems such as water and waste management,

transportation, telecommunications, and housing; and objectives and policies for socio-cultural advancement in health, education, social services, individual rights and personal well-being, culture, public safety and government.

However, this comprehensive list of goals and objectives does not specifically direct the State's health planners to focus on the fact that our Native Hawaiian, Filipino, and other Pacific Islander communities have disparate health outcomes when compared to the overall general population of the State.

III. COMMENTS ON THE HOUSE BILL

The Office of Community Services is tasked by its foundational legislation, Chapter 371K, HRS, to provide services for multiple disadvantaged populations, including immigrants and others that suffer from socio-economic disadvantage.

OCS has conducted recent Needs Assessments that provide "on the ground" observations confirming the general commentary in the literature that Native Hawaiians, Filipinos, and other Pacific Islanders experience lower levels of health, and that their medical outcomes are lower, when contrasted to the health status and medical outcomes of the general population of our State.

Coming from this perspective, OCS believes that the addition of a specific focus on this disparity in health outcomes in Chapter 226 is long overdue. We are hopeful that this change, once enacted, will lead to actual enhancement of State government services in these areas. Accordingly, we look forward to passage of this bill as an important first step toward such improved goals.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our comments.



HB1616
RELATING TO HEALTH PLANNING

House Committees on Ocean, Marine Resources & Hawaiian Affairs and Health

February 3, 2014

8:30 a.m.

Room 325

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **STRONGLY SUPPORTS** HB1616, which is a part of OHA's 2014 legislative package. HB1616 would modernize our State Planning Act to ensure the most efficient use of resources, by targeting key services, interventions, programs and funding to address the social determinants of health of vulnerable communities, which include Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders and Filipinos.

Current best practices in health planning call for supporting policies that address the social determinants of health for vulnerable communities, which in turn provides for the health and well-being of the overall population. Data shows that Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders and Filipinos continue to have disparate health outcomes compared to the rest of the state population. These health disparities are correlated with social determinants of health such as housing, education, social services, leisure, individual rights, culture and public safety. OHA's primary concern is that Native Hawaiians are significantly represented in the areas of homelessness, poverty, and incarceration which have impacted health outcomes for the Native Hawaiian population. This bill updates our State Planning Act to codify a commitment to addressing these health disparities and the social determinants of health underlying them.

The Kānaka Maoli concept of maui ola considers the entirety of our well-being as contributing to the health of ourselves and the larger community. Maui Ola (Health) is also one of OHA's strategic priorities and represents our commitment to improve the health and well-being of Native Hawaiians, and to reduce the occurrence of chronic diseases within the Native Hawaiian community. Where we live and work has an impact our health, long before we ever see a doctor. It's time we expand the way we think about health, and ensure health planning takes a holistic and efficient approach that helps healthy people stay healthy, before the onset of health issues that are much more difficult and expensive to address. **Allowing state agencies to include the social determinants of health in their policy planning and discretionary use of resources ensures modernized health planning, effective use of resources and better health outcomes for all.** HB1616 is one step in this direction.

Therefore, OHA urges the committees to **PASS** HB1616. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.



Community Alliance *for* Mental Health

February, 3, 2013

Board of Directors

Anne Chipchase
President

Robert Scott Wall
Vice President

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Linda Takai

Randolph Hack

Gina Hungerford

To: House Ocean, Marine Resources, and Hawaiian Affairs, & Health Committees
Re: HB 1616

Aloha Representatives Hanohano, Belatti, and the members of their committees,

On behalf of the Community Alliance for Mental Health along with United Self Help we strongly support HB1616.

We feel that the understanding of the social determinants of health is critical to the successful transformation of Hawai'i's health care system.

Scott Wall
VP/Legislative Advocate
Community Alliance for Mental Health



HPCA

HAWAII PRIMARY CARE ASSOCIATION

House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, & Hawaiian Affairs

The Hon. Faye P. Hanohano, Chair

The Hon. Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair

House Committee on Health

The Hon. Della Au Belatti, Chair

The Hon. Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

Testimony in Support of House Bill 1616

Relating to Health Planning

Submitted by Robert Hirokawa, Chief Executive Officer

February 3, 2014, 8:30 am, Room 325

The Hawaii Primary Care Association (HPCA), which represents the federally qualified community health centers in Hawaii, supports House Bill 1616, calling for the identification of social determinants of health to reduce health disparities among Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders, and Filipinos.

The HPCA is a staunch believer in the social determinants of health, those economic and social conditions that influence an individual and a community's health status. These conditions serve as risk factors endemic to a person's living and working environment, rather than their behavioral or genetic histories. Factors such as income, education, access to recreation and healthy foods, housing, and employment, can and do have measurable impacts on a person and a community, both in health and financial outcomes.

House Bill 1616 seeks to identify those specific social determinants that adversely affect Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders, and Filipinos. As these populations make a sizeable percentage of patients seen by community health centers each year, the HPCA strongly supports this measure

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



KOKUA KALIHI VALLEY COMPREHENSIVE FAMIL

2239 N. SCHOOL STREET ♦ HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96819
♦ TEL: 808-791-9400 ♦ FAX: 808-848-0979 ♦ www.kkv.net

COMMITTEE ON OCEAN, MARINE RESOURCES, & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Rep. Faye P. Hanohano, Chair
Rep. Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

2/03/2014

Dear Leaders and Members of the Health and Ocean, Marine Resources and Hawaiian Affairs Committees,

Kokua Kalihi Valley (KKV) strongly supports HB1616, which modernizes the state planning act in important ways to strategically focus our policies to build a stronger, healthier Hawai'i.

This measure adds the social determinants of health to the State planning act and encourages all state agencies, not just the Department of Health, to consider these most powerful factors that influence health outcomes.

KKV is proud of its 40 plus years of medical, dental and behavioral health programs to the residents of Kalihi. We know that access to affordable, high quality patient centered care is a good thing. But we also know from our work in the community, that this care is neither the only thing, nor indeed the most important thing influencing whether or not our families are healthy. A tremendous amount of scientific research, as well as our own experience in the community shows that health begins where we live, work and play. Our connections to our family, our neighbors, the 'Aina; our sense of self-efficacy and control over the circumstances of our lives; our freedom from the toxic stress of racism and discrimination; our belief in our own unique gifts and the means to share them; these are the things that most matter to being healthy. Indeed, health literally means 'wholeness'. And so we are equally proud of our work on the land with our community at Ho'oulu 'Aina, our work with our Kapuna in our Elder programs, and many other ways we partner with our community to build a healthier Kalihi.

At present, Hawai'i State Planning Statutes do not explicitly recognize the social determinants of health as key policy considerations for planning. This is especially detrimental to our most vulnerable communities and racial and ethnic groups that continue to experience health disparities.

Racial and ethnic health disparity elimination is a national priority, and HB1616 makes it a state priority.

The State of Hawai'i deserves a measure like HB1616 to support a principled, comprehensive, and strategic plan for achieving health care equity.

Please PASS HB1616, and modernize the our State planning act to reflect current best practices. Please show your support for a healthier Hawai'i

--
David D Derauf MD MPH

Executive Director

Kokua Kalihi Valley





TO: Representative Faye P. Hanohano, Chair
Representative Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair
COMMITTEE ON OCEAN, MARINE RESOURCES, & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair
Representative Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

FR: Mary Oneha, APRN, PhD
Chief Executive Officer, Waimānalo Health Center
Member, Na Limahana o Lonopuha

Date: Monday, February 3, 2014

RE: **Support for HB 1616** - RELATING TO HEALTH PLANNING.

The Waimānalo Health Center (WHC) **supports HB 1616**, adding to the Hawaii State Planning Act's objectives and policies for health the identification of social determinants of health to reduce health disparities among Native Hawaiians, other Pacific Islanders, and Filipinos. The Waimānalo Health Center serves 47% Native Hawaiians primarily in the community of Waimānalo, experiencing significant physical, social, economic, educational, etc. challenges.

Native Hawaiians, other Pacific Islanders, and Filipinos continue to have life expectancies drastically lower than other groups and much higher rates of chronic disease. HB 1616 codifies a clear and unmistakable commitment to the health of this vulnerable population and to addressing the social determinants of health in general. HB 1616 is one step towards modernizing the way we address disparities, by providing support for state agencies that seek to include social determinants of health in their policy planning, leading to effective use of resources and better health outcomes for all, while ensuring communities hardest hit and most significantly affected by barriers to good health are not left behind.

The Waimānalo Health Center urges your support of **HB 1616**. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



HO'ŌLA LĀHUI HAWAI'I
P.O. Box 3990; Līhu'e, Hawai'i
Phone: 808.240.0100 Fax: 808.246.9551

January 27, 2014

COMMITTEE ON OCEAN, MARINE RESOURCES, & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Rep. Faye P. Hanohano, Chair
Rep. Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

Testimony in Support of HB 1616

Relating to Health

Thursday, January 30, 2014 10:30AM
Conference Room 329

Ho'ola Lahui Hawaii the only Federally Qualified Health Center and Native Hawaiian Health Care System on Kauai is strongly **SUPPORTING** this bill to support social determinants of health in the state health planning act, including Native Hawaiians.

According to Healthy People 2020 Preamble:

“Our health is also determined in part by access to social and economic opportunities; the resources and supports available in our homes, neighborhoods, and communities; the quality of our schooling; the safety of our workplaces; the cleanliness of our water, food, and air; and the nature of our social interactions and relationships.”

We believe that for any health planning efforts, there must be a social determinants of health component, as this drives the overall environment for healthy lives.

Respectfully Requested,

David Peters
Chief Executive Officer



**H.B. 1616, Relating to Health Planning
House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources,
and Hawaiian Affairs
House Committee on Health
February 3, 2014; 8:30 a.m.**

Aloha Mai kakou!

Thank you for the opportunity to speak in support of H.B. 1616, Relating to Health Planning. My name is Diane Paloma, Director of the Native Hawaiian Health Program with The Queen's Health Systems.

My program that supports The Queens Medical Centers efforts in providing acute medical care oversees a variety of projects both within and external to health for Hawaiians. The various clinical initiatives within the hospital see a variety of chronic diseases; and by the time they arrive to the hospital, the individuals are extremely sick. Families must make quick decisions that are often guided by levels of insurance. While we will always continue to address their needs, we know that the root causes of these diseases begin years earlier. Part of our outreach and community building for Queens has recognized the need for evidence based preventive medicine that not just addresses illness, but health. OLA means health and it also means to live.

King Kamehameha IV and Queen Emma knew that in order for their lāhui to survive, they would need to allow their people to live on. They experienced the ravaging effects of infectious disease upon populations of people and established the Queens Hospital in 1859 to address the community need for healthcare. While the times and technologies have changed, Queens is once again responding to a need for healthcare outside of urban Honolulu. With the opening of a West Oahu campus and a North Hawaii campus, we are extending our reach to larger Native Hawaiian populations. Programs at these sites will incorporate social determinants of health such as socioeconomic power, availability of fresh produce and access to healthcare and other health resources in their neighborhoods.

As a part of the Native Hawaiian health consortium (Nā limahana o lonopūhā), various health based organizations from across varied disciplines, queens recognizes that combined efforts and a focus on the things that made us sick in the beginning are critical to our success in controlling disease later in life. The late Loretta Fuddy was a part of this consortium and she openly recognized this connection. Addressing the social determinants of health is preventive medicine.

Supporting HB1616 provides the opportunity for a broader definition of health and well-being, and a broader way of addressing health for those who need it most.



HEALTHYPACIFIC.ORG
restoringjusticehi@gmail.com

LEGISLATIVE TESTIMONY

HB1616
RELATING TO HEALTH PLANNING
House Committees on Ocean, Marine Resources & Hawaiian Affairs and
Health

February 3, 2014
8:30 A.M.
Capitol Room 325

Aloha mai kākou,

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify in **STRONG SUPPORT** of **HB1616**, which allows state agencies to plan and invest in programs that adopt a comprehensive, modern, cost- and life-saving approach to improving public health outcomes in both the short and long terms.

Addressing social determinants of health will save both money and lives in promoting the health and well-being of all our communities. Planning around the social determinants of health is a common-sense policy approach that recognizes how social circumstances can affect our ability to ensure our own health and well-being. Cultural, linguistic, economic and social barriers, among others, can often prevent individuals from meaningfully accessing the resources needed to achieve and maintain a healthy lifestyle, or avoid unnecessary complications that can lead to the costly exacerbation of existing medical conditions. By allowing state agencies to finally address such barriers to a healthy life, this bill will save the state both money and lives while also improving the conditions of Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders and Filipinos, as well as all those who may face similar barriers as these particularly health-vulnerable groups.

In contrast, cutting off Pacific Islanders and other immigrants from accessing critical healthcare services that they have and continue to pay into – as has been attempted by the previous administration – has thus far proven to be a failure in both cost savings and in the moral integrity and social fabric of our island community. **Had the previous administration taken a social determinants of health approach to planning and investment five years ago, it is highly likely that the state would have already realized a substantial cost savings**

in terms of reactive and emergency room care, and avoided the unnecessary illnesses and deaths that have since occurred.

Therefore, HealthyPacific.Org respectfully urges the Committees to **PASS** HB1616, and make Hawai'i a healthier and happier place for all people who call these islands home.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB1616
Relating to Health Planning

February 3, 2014

Honorable Chair Hanohano, Vice Chair Cullen and members of the committee, my name is Dr. Joseph Keawe‘aimoku Kaholokula. As a Behavioral Scientist and Chair of the Department of Native Hawaiian Health at the John A. Burns School of Medicine, I am well aware of the importance of addressing the social determinants of health in eliminating the health inequities in Hawai‘i. Thus, I would like to provide testimony in support of House Bill 1616 that would update the Hawai‘i State Planning Act's objectives for health.

Eliminating health disparities is a national public health priority in the United States. Health disparities exist when a particular population has significantly higher rates of disease incidence, prevalence, morbidity, or mortality than the general population. In Hawai‘i, social and health inequities parallel each other, and certain ethnic groups in Hawai‘i bear a disproportionate burden of these inequities. Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders, and Filipinos are more likely to be undereducated, to be working in low paying jobs, to be incarcerated, and to be living in poorer conditions than other ethnic groups. They are also the highest-ranking ethnic groups in terms of diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and certain cancers. Their risk factors for chronic diseases such as obesity, hypertension, and tobacco use, are also high compared to the general population. People from these groups are more likely to develop diabetes and cardiovascular disease at younger ages. Depression, anxiety and substance abuse are also higher among these groups. Consequently, these Hawai‘i peoples live an average of a decade less than people of other ethnic groups in Hawai‘i. The CDC states that “health equity is achieved when every person has the opportunity to attain his or her full health potential and no one is disadvantaged from achieving this potential because of social position or other socially determined circumstances.”

House Bill 1616 is one step towards modernizing the way we address health disparities, by providing support for state agencies that seek to include social determinants of health in their policy planning, which ultimately may lead to effective use of resources and better health outcomes for all, while ensuring communities hardest hit and most significantly affected by barriers to good health are not left behind.

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony in support of HB 1616.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Keawe‘aimoku Kaholokula, Ph.D.
Chair and Associate Professor
Department of Native Hawaiian Health
John A. Burns School of Medicine
University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa

ROBIN E. S. MIYAMOTO, PSY.D.
677 ALA MOANA BOULEVARD SUITE 1016
HONOLULU, HI 96813
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TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB1616
Relating to Health Planning

February 2, 2014

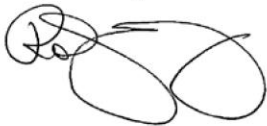
Honorable Chair Hanohano, Vice Chair Cullen and members of the committee, my name is Dr. Robin Miyamoto. As a Clinical Psychologist and Assistant Professor in the Departments of Native Hawaiian Health and Family Medicine and Community Health at the John A. Burns School of Medicine, I am well aware of the importance of addressing the social determinants of health in eliminating health equity in Hawai'i. Thus, I would like to provide testimony in support of House Bill 1616 that would update the Hawai'i State Planning Act's objectives for health.

Eliminating health disparities is a national public health priority in the United States. Health disparities exist when a particular population has significantly higher rates of disease incidence, prevalence, morbidity, or mortality than the general population. In Hawai'i, social and health inequities parallel each other, and certain ethnic groups in Hawai'i bear a disproportionate burden of these inequities. Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders, and Filipinos are more likely to be undereducated, to be working in low paying jobs, to be incarcerated, and to be living in poorer conditions than other ethnic groups. They are also the highest-ranking ethnic groups in terms of diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and certain cancers, and their risk factors, such as obesity, hypertension, and tobacco use, compared to the general population. People from these groups are more likely to develop diabetes and cardiovascular disease at younger ages. Depression, anxiety and substance abuse are also higher among these groups. Consequently, they live an average of a decade less than people of other ethnic groups in Hawai'i. The CDC states that "health equity is achieved when every person has the opportunity to attain his or her full health potential and no one is disadvantaged from achieving this potential because of social position or other socially determined circumstances."

This bill represents thoughtful deliberation amongst the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, the Department of Native Hawaiian Health and the state Department of Health. HB 1616 is one step towards modernizing the way we address health disparities, by providing support for state agencies that seek to include social determinants of health in their policy planning, which ultimately may lead to effective use of resources and better health outcomes for all, while ensuring communities hardest hit and most significantly affected by barriers to good health are not left behind.

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony in support of HB 1616.

Respectfully submitted,



Robin E. S. Miyamoto, Psy.D.
Clinical Psychologist

cullen2

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, January 30, 2014 1:44 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: mkhan@hawaiiantel.net
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HB1616

Submitted on: 1/30/2014

Testimony for OMH/HLT on Feb 3, 2014 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leimomi Khan	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As indicated in the bill, social determinants of health is the single most important factor in individual and population health outcomes. While medical care can prolong survival and improve prognosis after some serious diseases, more important for the health of the population are the social and economic conditions that make people ill and in need of medical care in the first place. An assessment made by the John A. Burns School of Medicine indicated that Native Hawaiians, other Pacific Islanders, and Filipinos, as a collective, continue to have disparate health outcomes compared to the rest of the state. Inclusion of a commitment to social determinants of health as a priority in the Hawaii State Planning Act acknowledges this disparity and reflects positively on the legislature for recognizing this situation and attempting to do something about it.

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cullen2

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Cc: wctanaka@gmail.com
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HB1616

Submitted on: 1/30/2014

Testimony for OMH/HLT on Feb 3, 2014 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Wayne	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support the modernization of our health planning statute to allow the state to plan around social determinants of health. This would encourage a proactive and much more cost-effective approach to promoting the health and well-being of our entire society, that has been recognized as a priority on the national and international levels. This bill will allow the state to more effectively and efficiently invest resources to address health gaps for both health-vulnerable communities as well as the larger population. Mahalo for your consideration of this matter!

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To: omhtestimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
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HB1616

Submitted on: 1/31/2014

Testimony for OMH/HLT on Feb 3, 2014 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: kaimomuhlestein@yahoo.com
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HB1616

Submitted on: 1/31/2014

Testimony for OMH/HLT on Feb 3, 2014 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kaimo Muhlestein	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: rbkarasuda@hotmail.com
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HB1616

Submitted on: 1/31/2014

Testimony for OMH/HLT on Feb 3, 2014 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
RaeDeen Karasuda	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: Awai76@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1616 on Feb 3, 2014 08:30AM

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HB1616

Submitted on: 2/2/2014

Testimony for OMH/HLT on Feb 3, 2014 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ellen Awai	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: With a masters of science in Criminal Justice Administration, Native Hawaiian representative in national organizations for Asian American Pacific Islanders, and an advocate for social services, I support HB1616. Social determinants of health, which includes an understanding of all cultures, gives us an understanding of the great disparities in the quality of life for Hawaii residents. Eliminating health disparities with better access and medical and behavioral health services are important factors, as described in the Affordable Care Act. Please support this bill!

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Cc: veronika.geronimo@gmail.com
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HB1616

Submitted on: 2/2/2014

Testimony for OMH/HLT on Feb 3, 2014 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Veronika Geronimo	Individual	Support	No

Comments: By modernizing our state planning act to take into account the social determinants of health (an approach that has been recognized as a priority on the national and international levels), we will be able to more effectively and efficiently address health gaps for both health-vulnerable communities as well as the larger population. Thank you for your consideration of this measure.

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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cullen2

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Cc: unmanib@maui.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1616 on Feb 3, 2014 08:30AM

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HB1616

Submitted on: 2/2/2014

Testimony for OMH/HLT on Feb 3, 2014 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Unmani Cynthia Groves	Individual	Support	No

Comments: MAHALO FOR THIS BILL

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cullen2

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 03, 2014 12:43 AM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: kamakajingao@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1616 on Feb 3, 2014 08:30AM

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HB1616

Submitted on: 2/3/2014

Testimony for OMH/HLT on Feb 3, 2014 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kamaka Jingao	Individual	Support	No

Comments: By taking time and opening our eyes, we can see the health disparities amongst our hawaiian and pacific islands people. It is important in the planning and policy process that we focus on the importance of our health and the different aspect regarding health, not just the physical. Native Hawaiian Health is an important topic moving forward and we MUST improve the current health disparities. IMUA!

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:: Leanne Kealoha Fox ::

94-1118 Ho'ohale Street
Waipahu, Hawai'i 96797

Email:
kealohafox@gmail.com

January 31, 2014

HB 1616

Relating to Health Planning

House Ocean, Marine Resources and Hawaiian Affairs and Health Committees

Aloha a welina mai nei e nā alaka'i:

It is with great enthusiasm that I write testimony to **SUPPORT** HB1616 relating to health planning.

Here in our own homeland, Native Hawaiians are among the hardest hit by social determinants of health, resulting in our state's first people ranking last in many wellness indicators. Other Pacific Islanders and Filipinos face similar challenges.

The best way to address Native Hawaiian health in particular and our state's challenges overall is through a dual commitment to Native Hawaiian health as well as the broader social determinants of health that affect us all.

Incorporating a holistic understanding of health and wellbeing into health planning is consistent with the Kānaka Maoli concept of maui ola, which considers the entirety of our well-being as contributing to the health of ourselves and the larger community.

Though some segments of Hawai'i's population may rank high in national health outcomes, Native Hawaiian, other Pacific Islanders, and Filipinos continue to have life expectancies drastically lower than others groups and much higher rates of chronic disease. This bill implements policy changes to allow state agencies discretion to implement best practices in health planning and support targeted services, interventions, and programs that are proven successes in improving health outcomes for Native Hawaiians, other Pacific Islanders, and Filipinos.

Updating the state planning act to include social determinants provides support for state agencies that decided to address unequal conditions in housing, education, social services, leisure, individual rights, and public safety are created, influenced and shaped by social policies and politics.

Implementing policy that allows state agencies to address the social determinants of health simply makes our approach to healthcare more efficient, and benefits our entire population. Targeting preventative resources to communities most significantly affected by barriers to good health can provide greater overall access to health facilities in rural areas, affordable and safe housing, affordable fresh fruits and vegetables and preventative healthcare for all the people of Hawai'i.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to provide testimony in **SUPPORT** HB1616 relating to health planning.

Respectfully, me ka `oia`i`o.

Letter of Support for HB 1616

LATE



TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HB 1616

House Committee Ocean, Marine Resources & Hawaiian Affairs
and House Committee on Health

Report Title: OHA Package; State Planning Act; Health Disparities
February 3, 2014, 8:30 a.m. | Hawai'i State Capital | Senate Conference Rm. 325

To: Honorable Rep. Faye P. Hanohano, Chair and Honorable Rep. Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair
Honorable Members of the House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources & Hawaiian Affairs
Honorable Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair and Honorable Rep. Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair
Honorable Members of the House Committee on Health

From: Charlene Cuaresma, MPH, AANCART Hawai'i Principal Investigator
Asian American Network for Cancer Awareness, Research and Training
UH Student Equity, Excellence and Diversity, 2600 Campus Rd. QLCSS Rm. 413, Honolulu, HI 96822

Dear Chair Hanohano, Vice Chair Cullen, Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Morikawa, and Respective Committee Members:

My name is Charlene Cuaresma, Principal Investigator for the Asian American Network for Cancer Awareness Research and Training (AANCART), which is a Community Network Program of the National Cancer Institute. AANCART was established to reduce cancer health disparities among Asian Americans through research, education and training. AANCART Hawai'i is an integral part of a consortium of universities through sub-awards from parent institution University of California-Davis Cancer Center.

AANCART mentors McNair scholars at the University of Hawai'i to gain experience in the field of translational research, utilizing community-based participatory research. We worked with DOH epidemiologist Ann Pobutsky to document social determinants to health among Filipinos in Hawai'i. This cutting edge field of research is a pivotal, lifesaving alternative, because the National Institute of Health found that it takes an average of 17 years for only 14% of bench research results to reach the bedside of patients with evidence-based healthcare practices. But in spite of that small return from a long term investment, Filipinos, Native Hawaiians, and other vulnerable populations were still not benefitting equally from medical advances, as they disproportionately bear some of the greatest cancer burdens in the nation. Furthermore, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention notes that while heart disease is the greatest killer in the U.S., for Asians, cancer is the number one cause of death. We also know today that the cost of prohibitive catastrophic illnesses can be mitigated with prevention, education and early detection. If we had more sound evidence on social determinants of health, policy makers, health care providers, educators, employers, unions, and families themselves will be more informed stakeholders in Hawai'i, touted as the "Healthy State".

Given that, because Hawai'i has the largest percentage of Asians in the country, and many of the McNair scholars come from the same Asian Pacific Islander cultural and linguistic heritage of the communities at greatest risk for health disparities in Hawai'i, their research is groundbreaking. You will be proud to know that UH McNair scholars, who are first generation college students, and from marginal backgrounds, are demonstrating that they are our nation's greatest assets to add to the body of knowledge of social determinants of health.

Thank you for hearing this bill, and for the opportunity to strongly support the direction of investing in generating social determinants data for policy making and planning to address health disparities. Good public health is good business. Good public health is everybody's business. Everyone will benefit.

Sincerely,
Charlene Cuaresma, MPH, AANCART Hawai'i Principal Investigator

LATE



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House Committee Ocean, Marine Resources & Hawaiian Affairs
and House Committee on Health

Report Title: OHA Package; State Planning Act; Health Disparities
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Sincerely,
Charlene Cuaresma, MPH, AANCART Hawai'i Principal Investigator

cullen3

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 03, 2014 8:01 AM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: drodrigues2001@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1616 on Feb 3, 2014 08:30AM

HB1616

Submitted on: 2/3/2014

Testimony for OMH/HLT on Feb 3, 2014 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Darlene Rodrigues	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I write in strong support of HB1616. Please modernize the state planning act by including social determinants of health in policy considerations. Public health assessments must include societal factors such as exposure to violence and crime and/or housing conditions. Ensuring these best practices helps communities with the greatest health disparities, Filipinos, Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

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cullen3

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 03, 2014 8:14 AM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: sd3@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1616 on Feb 3, 2014 08:30AM*

HB1616

Submitted on: 2/3/2014

Testimony for OMH/HLT on Feb 3, 2014 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan Douglas	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Testimony of Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice
Supporting HB 1616 Relating to Health Planning
House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources & Hawaiian Affairs
House Committee on Health
Scheduled for Hearing Monday, February 3, 2014, 8:30 AM, Room 325

Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) law firm created to advocate on behalf of low-income individuals and families in Hawai'i on civil legal issues of statewide importance. Our core mission is to help our clients gain access to the resources, services, and fair treatment that they need to realize their opportunities for self-achievement and economic security.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of House Bill 1616, which would add the identification of social determinants of health to reduce health disparities among Native Hawaiians, other Pacific Islanders, and Filipinos to the Hawai'i State Planning Act's objectives and policies.

As advocates on a variety of issues affecting low-income people, we recognize that many of these problems have a disproportionate impact on Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders. For example, looking at housing as a social determinant of health illustrates the complicated nature and disparate impact faced by Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders. We face the highest overall rate of homelessness among the states and the highest housing costs. Digging deeper, neighborhoods with high populations of Native Hawaiians pay a dramatically higher amount of their income toward housing and transportation than other areas. We know that Native Hawaiians form a much higher percent of the homeless population. What are the implications of these troubling facts? Studies indicate that families who are cost-burdened by housing expenses reduce spending on food and medical care because they cannot make ends meet. Children face greater educational challenges and have poorer health indicators. These issues and many others require greater emphasis on social determinants of health to understand health outcomes and where to target our resources to address the most vulnerable populations.

An emphasis on social determinants of health for Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders will help us address these social issues such as housing that affect our entire community. We need a dual commitment to the health of these communities and a focus on broader social determinants that affect all of us. The federal government has long recognized the need to specifically address Native Hawaiian health, but Hawai'i itself is yet to do so. It's time to follow suit, and this bill will move us in the right direction. Again, thank you for an opportunity to testify in **support** of HB 1616.

cullen3

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 03, 2014 9:29 AM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: fconde@queens.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1616 on Feb 3, 2014 08:30AM

HB1616

Submitted on: 2/3/2014

Testimony for OMH/HLT on Feb 3, 2014 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Francisco Conde	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill.

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