



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

In reply, please refer to:  
File:

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**  
**H.B. 1752, H.D. 1, RELATING TO HEALTH**

**Testimony of David Sakamoto, MD, MBA**  
**Deputy Director, Health Resources Administration**

**February 21, 2014**

1 **Department's Position:** The Department defers Sections 3, 4, 5, and 6 to the DHS and supports  
2 Sections 1, 2, and 7 of this measure, provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact  
3 priorities indicated in our Executive Supplemental Budget.

4 **Fiscal Implications:** This measure requests unspecified appropriations out of the general revenues of  
5 the State of Hawaii in reference to Sections 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7, and an unspecified sum of monies from the  
6 community health centers special fund in reference to Section 6.

7 **Purpose and Justification:** The purpose of this Act is to provide quality, cost-effective health care for  
8 Hawaii residents who are uninsured, newly uninsured, underinsured, potential Medicaid enrollees, or  
9 Medicaid enrollees. This measure seeks to synchronize the growth of community health centers with the  
10 State's implementation of the ACA and its health care transformation efforts.

11 The Department defers Sections 3, 4, 5, and 6 to the DHS and supports Sections 1, 2, and 7,  
12 provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in our Executive  
13 Supplemental Budget. For purposes of clarity, the intent of Section 2 is to restore State funds that was  
14 reduced by the Director of Health due to severe budgetary reductions in fiscal year 2010. As a result of  
15 the reductions, funding for contracts with thirteen (13) FQHCs for the provision of primary care services  
16 (medical, behavioral, dental treatment) and contracts with Hana Health (urgent/primary care services)

*Promoting Lifelong Health & Wellness*

1 and Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center (emergency room services) were switched to the  
2 community health centers special fund. If the State funds are restored to its original intended purpose  
3 which is to fund the aforementioned contracted services, the community health centers special fund will  
4 be used to provide capacity and infrastructure expansion for the FQHCs.

5 Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this measure.



**TESTIMONY OF  
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE, 2014**

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**ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:**

H.B. NO. 1752, H.D. 1, RELATING TO HEALTH.

**BEFORE THE:**

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

**DATE:** Friday, February 21, 2014

**TIME:** 11:00 a.m.

**LOCATION:** State Capitol, Room 308

**TESTIFIER(S):** David M. Louie, Attorney General, or  
Lili A. Young, Deputy Attorney General

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Chair Luke and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General provides the following comments.

This bill appropriates funds to the Department of Human Services and the Department of Health to provide services to qualified individuals. Two such appropriations are made to the Department of Human Services, the single state Medicaid agency, so that it can establish health homes in the State's Medicaid program pursuant to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010, as amended by the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 (collectively ACA). The term "health home" is specifically defined in section 2703(h) of ACA.

Section 5 on page 6, line 17, makes reference to the establishment of "health care homes" in Medicaid as provided in ACA. We propose amendments to section 5 on page 6, lines 14-18, as follows:

SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015 to establish health [eare] homes in medicaid as provided in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; . . . .

Section 6 on page 7, lines 3-14, seeks to appropriate moneys from the community health centers special fund. Section 321-1.65, Hawaii Revised Statutes, establishes the community health centers special fund and specifies that it is to "be administered and expended by the department of health." It is necessary to include wording in section 6 to authorize the transfer of moneys from this special fund from the Department of Health to the Department of Human

Services to establish health homes for Medicaid enrollees at community health centers pursuant to ACA. We propose amending section 6 on page 7, lines 3-14, as follows:

SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the community health centers special fund the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015 to the department of health and such moneys shall be transferred to the department of human services to establish health [~~care~~] homes for medicaid enrollees at federally qualified community health centers as provided in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; provided that no funds appropriated under this section shall be expended unless the department of human services obtains the maximum federal matching funds available for this appropriation.

The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of [~~human services~~] health for the purposes of this Act.

We respectfully request that the Committee consider our comments.



STATE OF HAWAII  
**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

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

February 21, 2014

TO: The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
House Committee on Finance

FROM: Barbara Yamashita, Deputy Director

SUBJECT: **H.B. 1752, H.D. 1 - RELATING TO HEALTH**  
Hearing: Friday, February 21, 2014; 11:00 a.m.  
Conference Room 308, State Capitol

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this bill is to appropriate funds to the Department of Health and the Department of Human Services to expand certain health care services to qualified individuals.

**DEPARTMENT'S POSITION:** The Department of Human Services (DHS) appreciates the intent of this measure.

The sections that apply to the DHS are sections 3, 4, and 5. Section 3 would fund the restoration of adult dental benefits; section 4 would fund out-stationed eligibility workers; and section 5 would fund a health home pilot. The appropriations for the purposes of sections 3, 4, and 5 of this bill are included in the Governor's Executive Supplemental Budget.

Section 3 requests an appropriation for basic adult dental benefits to Medicaid enrollees. The DHS has requested \$4,000,000 in State funds and \$7,664,103 in federal funds in the Supplemental Executive Budget to re-establish an adult dental program for Med-QUEST adults. The Department believes dental care is important to an individual's overall health and proposes to

provide dental benefits up to \$500 per person per benefit year and also provide medically needed dentures up to \$500 each for upper and lower dentures.

Section 4 of this measure requests an appropriation to provide outreach and eligibility services at Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs). The Governor's budget, in HMS 902 – General Support for Health Care Payments, includes \$320,000 to support out-stationed eligibility workers (OEWs). In addition to the requested \$320,000, the DHS will continue to fund 23 OEWs at FQHCs and hospitals with \$667,000 already included in the DHS base budget. The FQHCs also receive funding for outreach workers through the Hawaii Primary Care Association (HPCA) from the Hawaii Health Connector, federal agencies, or other sources.

For the additional OEW funding request, the Department will be able to obtain only a 50% match from the federal government. Previously the Department had been able to receive 90% federal match. The HPCA had a contract for OEWs that ended December 31, 2013, for which the last year of funding was \$800,000 (\$80,000 general funds and \$720,000 federal funds).

Section 5 of the bill requests an appropriation to establish health homes. The Governor's Executive Supplemental Budget includes requests for \$2,016,000 in State funds and \$18,144,000 in federal funds for HMS 401 (Health Care Payments) and \$1,000,000 in state funds and \$1,000,000 in federal funds for HMS 902 (General Support for Health Care Payments) to establish a Health Homes Program under the Medicaid program. The intent of the funding request in the Executive Supplemental Budget is for non-FQHC providers because a separate funding source appears to be available to fund a health homes initiative through the FQHC providers.

The DHS respectfully requests the Legislature to support the funding requests for dental services, out-stationed eligibility workers, and health homes included in the Executive Supplemental Budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
STATE COUNCIL  
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES  
919 ALA MOANA BOULEVARD, ROOM 113  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814  
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543  
February 21, 2014

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
House Committee on Finance  
Twenty-Seventh Legislature  
State Capitol  
State of Hawaii  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Representative Luke and Members of the Committee:

**SUBJECT: HB 1752 HD1 – RELATING HEALTH**

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD) **SUPPORTS HB 1752 HD1**. The bill appropriates funds to provide primary medical, dental, and behavioral health care to uninsured and underinsured patients and restores basic adult dental benefits to Medicaid enrollees. Additionally, the bill appropriates moneys to community health centers to provide outreach and eligibility services, as well as behavioral services, and to establish health care homes for Medicaid enrollees.

This bill represents a comprehensive package of medical, dental, and behavioral health care services with emphasis on obtaining the maximum Federal matching funds available for the appropriations. The Council is pleased with the appropriation of \$4,800,000 in Section 3 on Page 5 for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 to restore basic adult dental benefits to Medicaid enrollees. This provision would directly benefit adults with DD in providing oral health services that includes preventive, restorative, and prosthetic services.

The Council cannot emphasize enough the importance of comprehensive dental care services that include preventive, restorative, prosthetic, and emergency services for people with DD. We are all aware of how oral health, or the lack thereof, affects all aspects (emotional, psychological, and social) of our lives. Numerous individuals can share with you their experience of having a tooth or teeth extracted or acquiring serious health problems because necessary dental services were not available as a result of the termination of the Medicaid adult dental benefit coverage in 1996. Compounding the challenges is the limited number of dentists on the Neighbor Islands who are available and accessible to serve Medicaid and QUEST recipients.

The Honorable Sylvia Luke  
Page 2  
February 21, 2014

We applaud the Legislature's initiative in restoring basic adult dental benefits to Medicaid enrollees through HB 1752 HD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony **supporting HB 1752 HD1**.

Sincerely,



Waynette K.Y. Cabral, M.S.W.  
Executive Administrator



J. Curtis Tyler, III  
Chair





## THE BAY CLINIC, INC.

Network of Family Health Centers

February 20, 2014

Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
House Committee on Finance  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 306  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Luke:

I ask you to hear House Bill 1752 HD 1, Relating to Health. This bill passed out of the Joint House Human Services and Health Committees with no reservations and no members voting no. The measure then passed Second Reading on the House floor with no reservations, and again with no members opposing the bill.

The purpose of this bill is to provide quality medical, dental, and behavioral health care to uninsured and underinsured patients. This bill makes outreach, eligibility determination, and behavioral health services available at Hawaii's community health centers. For example, the outreach services provided by this bill mean that if I am a homeless single mother living on Iwilei Road, a community health center outreach worker could approach me and not only conduct a health assessment and point us to the health center, but they will also assist me in applying for food assistance, emergency shelter assistance, and educational and employment assistance. This outreach is much more than enrolling an individual in a health insurance program.

HB 1752 HD1 also provides important funding for health care for the uninsured at community health centers. In 2012, 24% of patients at health centers were uninsured. More people are being left uninsured as they wait for the challenges between the technology of the new exchange marketplace and new Medicaid IT system to work themselves out. There needs to be a quality and affordable alternative to the emergency room for uninsured children and adults in need of health care.

Finally, this measure establishes health care homes for Medicaid enrollees and restores a limited dental benefit to adult Medicaid enrollees. About half of Hawaii's health center patients are Medicaid members. Hawaii's health centers are leading the way as patient centered providers implementing the health home model of care. Five health centers are already accredited as health homes by the National Committee for Quality Assurance, and eight more (there are fourteen health centers in all) have submitted their applications and await their accreditation notice.

HB 1752 allowed health centers to use \$2 million dollars (in existing funds the State already provides them) to draw down \$18 million federal dollars for health homes. HB

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#### CORPORATE OFFICE

Ph: 808-961-8771 Fax: 808-961-6075 [help@bayclinic.org](mailto:help@bayclinic.org) [www.bayclinic.org](http://www.bayclinic.org) BayClinic.org Facebook @BayClinicInc Twitter

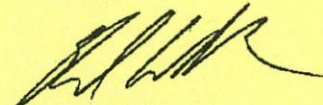
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*Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, House Committee on Finance  
House Bill 1752 HD 1, Relating to Health  
February 20, 2014  
Bay Clinic, Inc.*

1752 also provided \$2 million dollars in general funds for additional health homes (that will also draw down \$18 million federal dollars) in Medicaid. Please consider these amounts in your deliberations.

I think that this is an important bill. It will benefit the community at large by assisting in improving patient experiences, patient outcomes, and reducing costs. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,



Harold Wallace  
Chief Executive Officer



**MĀLAMA I KE OLA**  
HEALTH CENTER

Dana Alonzo-Howeth, Executive Director  
Community Clinic of Maui dba Mālama I Ke Ola Health Center  
1881 Nani Street  
Wailuku, HI 96761

**Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair**  
**House Committee on Finance**  
**Hawaii State Capitol, Room 306**  
**Honolulu, Hawaii 96813**

Dear Chair Luke:

I am writing to ask you to hear House Bill 1752 HD 1, Relating to Health. This bill passed out of the Joint House Human Services and Health Committees with no reservations and no members voting no. The measure then passed Second Reading on the House floor with no reservations, and again with no members opposing the bill.

The purpose of this bill is to provide quality medical, dental, and behavioral health care to uninsured and underinsured patients. This bill makes outreach, eligibility determination, and behavioral health services available at Hawaii's community health centers. This outreach is much more than enrolling an individual in a health insurance program. HB 1752 HD1 also provides important funding for health care for the uninsured at community health centers. In 2012, 24% of patients at health centers were uninsured. More people are being left uninsured as they wait for the challenges between the technology of the new exchange marketplace and new Medicaid IT system to work themselves out. There needs to be a quality and affordable alternative to the emergency room for uninsured children and adults in need of health care. Finally, this measure establishes health care homes for Medicaid enrollees and restores a limited dental benefit to adult Medicaid enrollees. About half of Hawaii's health center patients are Medicaid members. Hawaii's health centers are leading the way as patient centered providers implementing the health home model of care. Five health centers are already accredited as health homes by the National Committee for Quality Assurance, and eight more (there are fourteen health centers in all) have submitted their applications and await their accreditation notice. HB 1752 allowed health centers to use \$2 million dollars (in existing funds the State already provides them) to draw down \$18 million federal dollars for health homes. HB 1752 also provided \$2 million dollars in general funds for additional health homes (that will also draw down \$18 million federal dollars) in Medicaid. Please consider these amounts in your deliberations.

I think that this is an important bill. It will benefit the community at large by assisting in improving patient experiences, patient outcomes, and reducing costs.

Thank you for your support.



### **House Committee on Finance**

The Hon. Sylvia Luke, Chair

The Hon. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair

The Hon. Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair

## **Testimony on House Bill 1752 House Draft 1**

### **Relating to Health**

**Submitted by Robert Hirokawa, Chief Executive Officer**

**02/21/2014, 11:00 a.m., Room 308**

The Hawaii Primary Care Association (HPCA), which represents the federally qualified community health centers in Hawaii, also known as “community health centers,” supports House Bill 1752 House Draft 1, making appropriations to the Departments of Health and Human Services for services to qualified individuals and families. We offer the following comments, based on funding amounts contained in the original draft HB 1752, in addition to our overall support:

- Section 2 of this measure appropriates \$6 million dollars in general funds to provide direct health care for uninsured and underinsured individuals; we request the following amendment at page 5, line 1 “underinsured patients at community health centers, including but not limited to...”.
- Section 3 of this measure appropriates \$4.8 million dollars to restore an adult dental benefit in Medicaid. All fourteen of our community health centers provide dental services. Given the correlation between dental health with other health conditions, and the fact that 50% of community health centers patients are Medicaid enrollees, we have long advocated for the restoration of adult dental benefits (aside from emergency procedures) and see this as a start.
- Section 4 appropriates \$800,000 in funding for outreach and eligibility services at community health centers. Historically health centers have received funding for this important work from the State, however this ended in 2013. Outreach workers at community health centers provide an essential service to the State and communities by assisting individuals and families in applying for not just Medicaid, but other State assistance programs; we help identify services that may help the individual or family to stabilize their situation and improve the health of not only their person, but their circumstances...in other words this is one way in which we work to address the social determinants of health. At this time community health centers are not receiving any State funding to provide outreach or enrollment in Medicaid or other State assistance programs. We note that the KOKUA program administered by the Hawaii Health Connector only provides assistance in health insurance enrollment (Connector and Medicaid); in addition, not all fourteen health centers are participating in the Connector KOKUA program. Late last year there were some nominal funds provided to community health centers by the federal HRSA for outreach assistance with insurance exchange (HI: Connector) and Medicaid enrollment. The appropriation in Section 4

meets a need in our communities that is not provided by any other service or existing funding stream.

- Section 5 provides \$2 million dollars in general funds for health homes in Medicaid that would generate an \$18 million dollar federal match.
- Section 6 provides \$2 million dollars from the community health center special fund as an interdepartmental transfer from the Department of Health, to the Department of Human Services, to be used as an additional state match for a Medicaid health home state plan amendment to provide health home services to qualified patients at community health centers. Community health centers have been involved in health homes for over six years and completed our own health home pilot project last year with positive results. Thirteen of our fourteen health centers have applied for NCQA recognition as patient centered medical homes and six have been awarded Level 1, 2, or 3 (3 being the highest) recognition in the past few months. Health centers are ready to implement health homes and welcome the opportunity to leverage \$2 million dollars from the community health center special fund to draw down a federal match of \$18 million dollars.
- Section 7 provides funding for behavioral health services at community health centers. We recognize the critical need for these services in our communities; we are in crisis. Community health centers provide integrated primary care and behavioral health services and appreciate the support offered by Section 7. Behavioral health and its integration with primary care are key elements of the Governor's healthcare transformation plan and we look forward to continuing the discussion on how community health centers can support that effort.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



TO: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice Chair  
Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair  
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

FR: Mary Oneha, APRN, PhD  
Chief Executive Officer, Waimānalo Health Center

Christina Lee, MD  
Chief Medical Officer, Waimānalo Health Center

Date: Friday, February 21, 2014, 11:00am, Conference Room 308

RE: **Support for HB 1752 HD1** - RELATING TO HEALTH.

The Waimānalo Health Center (WHC) strongly **supports HB 1752 HD1**, appropriating funds to:

- Provide primary medical, dental, and behavioral healthcare to uninsured and underinsured patients;
- Restore basic adult dental benefits to medicaid enrollees;
- Community health centers to provide outreach and eligibility services. Historically, health centers have received funding for this important work from the State, however this ended in December 2013. Outreach workers at community health centers provide an essential service to the State and communities by assisting individuals and families in applying for not just Medicaid, but other State assistance programs which help to address the social determinants of health.
- Community health centers to support an integrated primary care and behavioral health services;
- Section 6 of HB1752 allocates \$2 Million in Community Health Center (CHC) funds to be used specifically for a Patient-Centered Health Care Home initiative in Medicaid. This funding to seed the project is CHC-specific, money already committed to CHCs for patient care that we will invest in this vital project. This \$2 million will draw down \$18 million in Federal matching funds, for a total of \$20 million for advanced, coordinated patient care. These monies will be used to create a health home pilot in the Medicaid system targeted to patients who have a specific set of chronic illnesses. CHCs are the group to lead this effort, as they have demonstrated their focus on patient-centered care and have taken the lead in receiving NCQA recognition as patient centered medical homes.

The Waimānalo Health Center urges your support of HB1752 HD1. 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*

February 19, 2014

**COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair  
Rep. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair  
Rep. Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair

**Testimony in Support of HB 1752, HB1**  
**Relating to Health**

**Friday, February 21, 2014, 11:00AM**  
**Conference Room 308**

Ho'ola Lahui Hawaii the only Federally Qualified Health Center and Native Hawaiian Health Care System on Kauai is strongly **SUPPORTING** this bill to provide community health centers additional resources to care for the underserved, uninsured, and residents without dental coverage.

We are encouraged that there are dental funds in this bill to restore to the adult dental benefit. It is very important that oral health be at the forefront of health care as many dental problems lead to more serious health deficits and basic dental is not just for cosmetic effect. It is vital to support the dental benefit restoration to Medicaid to those who are most in need. Prevention will save millions in restorative care services in the long term.

Given the critical need to address health care disparities, it is vital that the state maximize its resources by transferring \$2 million out of the community health center fund to bring in additional revenue from the federal government for Patient Centered Health Care Homes. This is a win as no additional funds from the state are required to support this effort.

Lastly, we believe that expanded outreach services are critical to bring people into care earlier rather than later. It is extremely important to assure that this occurs as it saves lives and money.

Respectfully Requested,

David Peters  
Chief Executive Officer

## LĀNA'Ī COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

P. O. Box 630142  
Lāna'ī City, HI 96763-0142



Phone: 808-565-6919 x114  
Fax: 808-565-9111  
dshaw@lanaicommunityhealthcenter.org

*The Community is our Patient -- men, women, children, uninsured, insured!*

### **House Committee on Human Services**

The Hon. Mele Carroll, Chair  
The Hon. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

### **House Committee on Health**

The Hon. Della Au Belatti, Chair  
The Hon. Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

## **Testimony on House Bill 1752**

### **Relating to Health**

**Submitted by Diana M V Shaw, PhD, MPH, MBA, FACMPE**  
**Executive Director, Lana'ī Community Health Center**

Lana'ī Community Health Center supports House Bill 1752, making appropriations to the Departments of Health and Human Services for services to qualified individuals and families.

The purpose of this bill is to provide quality medical, dental, and behavioral health care to uninsured and underinsured patients. This bill makes outreach, eligibility determination, and behavioral health services available at Hawaii's community health centers. For example, the outreach services provided by this bill mean that if I am a homeless single mother living on Lana'ī, our community health center outreach worker could approach me and not only conduct a health assessment and point this mother to our health center, but she would also assist me in applying for food assistance, emergency shelter assistance, and educational and employment assistance. This outreach is much more than enrolling an individual in a health insurance program. HB 1752 HD1 also provides important funding for health care for the uninsured at community health centers. In 2012, 24% of patients at Hawaii health centers were uninsured — 27% of LCHC patients were uninsured. More people are being left uninsured as they wait for the challenges between the technology of the new exchange marketplace and new Medicaid IT system to work themselves out. There needs to be a quality and affordable alternative to the emergency room for uninsured children and adults in need of health care. Finally, this measure establishes health care homes for Medicaid enrollees and restores a limited dental benefit to adult Medicaid enrollees. About half of Hawaii's health center patients are Medicaid members. Hawaii's health centers are leading the way as patient centered providers implementing the health home model of care. Five health centers are already accredited as health homes by the

*E Ola nō Lāna'ī*

**LIFE, HEALTH, and WELL-BEING FOR LĀNA'Ī**



National Committee for Quality Assurance, and eight more (there are fourteen health centers in all) have submitted their applications and await their accreditation notice. HB 1752 allowed health centers to use \$2 million dollars (in existing funds the State already provides them) to draw down \$18 million federal dollars for health homes. HB 1752 also provided \$2 million dollars in general funds for additional health homes (that will also draw down \$18 million federal dollars) in Medicaid. Please consider these amounts in your deliberations.

I think that this is an important bill. It will benefit the community at large by assisting in improving patient experiences, patient outcomes, and reducing costs. Addressing social, economic and health disparity is much, much more than making health insurance available to all — it takes dedication, culturally sensitive attention to serving individuals and that is what Community Health Centers do best. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'D V Shaw', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Diana M V Shaw, PhD, MPH, MBA, FACMPE  
Executive Director

# Community Alliance for Mental Health

February, 20, 2014

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To: House Committee on Finance  
Re: HB1752, HD1

Aloha Chair Luke and the members of the committee,

On behalf of the Community Alliance for Mental Health along with United Self Help we support the passage of HB1752, HD1.

The passage of HN1752, HD1 is necessary to establish coverage for the uninsured before they can be registered into the Hawai'i Health Connector.

The bill will also reinstate dental coverage to the Medicaid population. If we want to see this population return to the workforce dental coverage is necessary. Hawai'i is a service economy and it is virtually impossible to find a job in the service sector with gaps in your smile. It's a simple as that.

Beyond that dental hygiene is necessary to maintain overall health and ultimately staves of increased Medicaid cost to the taxpayer.

Therefore we strongly support the passage of HB1752, HD1.

Scott Wall  
VP/ Legislative Advocate  
Community Alliance for Mental Health

House Committee on Finance  
Feb. 21, 2014 11am room 308  
HB1752 HD1

Honorable Chair, Vice Chairs and members of the committee:

Thank you for receiving my testimony in support of HB1752 HD1. As a longtime resident of Kalihi valley and the current Board Chair of Kokua Kalihi Valley (KKV) Community Health Center I strongly encourage your support of this bill that will provide cost effective primary medical, dental and behavioral healthcare to the uninsured and underinsured.

For 41 years, KKV center has outreached into the community and provided the much needed quality centered care in a culturally and linguistically appropriate setting to an underserved area. We try to provide cost effective healthcare that through the long term reduces unnecessary emergency room, in-patient visits and speciality care services. By providing health and wellness programs that encourages prevention and healthy initiatives we are creating a healthier population that overall saves the state money. In particular, I want the committee to pay particular attention to Section 1 (b) dental benefits for adults. We firmly believe that oral health is just as important as physical and mental health. Unaddressed dental care in adults affect the ability of individuals to obtain and keep employment which we know provides stress on families if they are unable to work.

In the best interest of the state, I encourage an increase in their investment of resources to grow community health centers. A 26% increase in uninsured patients has placed a burden on our community health centers. Without your support, we are severely limited to carry out our work which is driven by our mission to facilitate healing and

reconciliation in our neighborhood. I strongly ask for your support of HB  
1752 HD1

Mahalo for your consideration

Pua Auyong-White, Board Chair KKV

3432 Kalihi Street

Honolulu, Hawaii 96819

pua888@yahoo.com

February 18, 2014

Representative Sylvia Luke, chair  
House Committee on Finance  
Hawaii State Capitol, Rm 306  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Luke:

I am asking for your support of HB1752 HD1. .

The purpose of this bill is to provide quality medical, dental, and behavioral health care to uninsured and underinsured patients. This bill makes outreach, eligibility determination, and behavioral health services available at Hawaii's community health centers. This outreach is much more than enrolling an individual in a health insurance program. SB 2009 SD1 also provides important funding for health care for the uninsured at community health centers.

In 2012, 34% of patients at Waikiki Health were uninsured. This was over 3000 patients in 2012. More people are being left uninsured as they wait for the challenges between the technology of the new exchange marketplace and new Medicaid IT system to work themselves out. There needs to be a quality and affordable alternative to the emergency room for uninsured children and adults in need of health care.

Finally, this measure establishes health care homes for Medicaid enrollees and restores a limited dental benefit to adult Medicaid enrollees. 51% of Waikiki Health's patients were Medicaid members in 2012. Hawaii's health centers are leading the way as patient centered providers implementing the health home model of care. Five health centers are already accredited as health homes by the National Committee for Quality Assurance, and eight more (there are fourteen health centers in all) have submitted their applications and await their accreditation notice. SB 2009 SD1 allows health centers to use \$2 million dollars (in existing funds the State already provides them) to draw down \$18 million federal dollars for health homes. SB 2009 SD1 also provides \$2.016 million dollars in general funds for additional health homes (that will also draw down \$18 million federal dollars) in Medicaid. Please consider these amounts in your deliberations.

I think that this is an important bill. It will benefit the community at large by assisting in improving patient experiences, patient outcomes, and reducing costs. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Sheila Beckham, RD, MPH  
Chief Executive Officer

**finance1**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2014 7:52 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** anahakirecords@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1752 on Feb 21, 2014 11:00AM\*

**HB1752**

Submitted on: 2/20/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 11:00AM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kanohowailuku	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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**finance8-Danyl**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2014 6:33 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** toolohana@hawaiiantel.net  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1752 on Feb 21, 2014 11:00AM

**HB1752**

Submitted on: 2/20/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 11:00AM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Laurence Tool	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Committee Members, As a senior who just became eligible for Medicare, I am very aware, and very appreciative, that Hawaii has been and remains a national leader in providing affordable care for all. This bill helps to maintain that leadership and insure that our less fortunate citizens do not fall through the cracks. I urge your support for this measure. Mahalo.

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**KOKUA KALIHI VALLEY COMPREHENSIVE FAMILY SERVICES**

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

**LATE**

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair

Rep. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair

Rep. Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair

2/21/2014

Dear Leaders and Members of the House Finance Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf of HB 1752. I would in particular like you to know the following things about the care we provide to the members of our community. Last year we provided high quality oral health services to over well over 1000 adults who were on Medicaid and for whom we were (with only emergency exceptions) unable to receive Medicaid payments for those services. These are not folks coming to us for cosmetic reasons, but our neighbors with both acute and chronic oral health conditions that cause them tremendous suffering, loss of work, poor prospects for finding employment and put them at risk for other chronic health conditions. Frankly, it is inconceivable to me that just because we through historical accident separated the mouth from the body, we should tolerate a system in which someone can get emergency care for a paper cut but not be able seek care for serious conditions in one of the most important organs in the body, the mouth! Please find a way to restore a Medicaid Dental benefit.

The second portion of the bill I would highlight is the need for the health centers of Hawaii to be able to move ahead with the provisions of the ACA around establishing Health Care Homes for patients with serious disabling chronic diseases. These funds will go a long way to bolstering critically needed changes in the way we help to manage chronic disease outside of our offices, which is where real care happens. The opportunity exists to not only improve health outcomes for these people but to save the State money on unnecessary hospital and Emergency room costs by better patient engagement, better care coordination and care management, and novel strategies to involve patients, their families and the larger community in addressing the cause of poor health. As just one example, we are currently researching involving local ministers in the delivery of patient coaching to patients suffering from diabetes.

Thank you for your support for the many thousands of Medicaid recipients whose health will benefit from this bill.

--

David D Derauf MD MPH

Executive Director

Kokua Kalihi Valley





**LATE**

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

HONOLULU

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**  
**The Hon. Sylvia Luke, Chair**  
**The Hon. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair**

**February 21, 2014, 11:00 a.m., Room 308**

**Testimony in Support: HOUSE BILL 1752, HD 1, RELATING TO HEALTH**

**Presented by Beth Giesting, Healthcare Transformation Coordinator, Office of the Governor**

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Thank you for the opportunity to provide strong support for HB 1752, HD 1, Relating to Health. Our network of Federally Qualified Health Centers is a significant part of our plan for transforming Hawaii's health care system. Their comprehensive approach to health care delivery is a model for patient-centered care since they feature an integrated care experience offering primary care, behavioral health, and dental care, plus a wide variety of access, care coordination, and case management services. They have long experience in chronic disease management strategies and have adopted electronic health records to support their practices. Laudably, FQHCs are going beyond clinical and support services and also breaking ground in addressing social determinants and improving the health of their communities.

We ask your support especially for restoring funds to provide primary dental services for adults covered by Medicaid and for the Medicaid Health Home State Plan Amendment. The latter will enable us to bring in significant federal resources to build critical care coordination, case management, and other services needed by Medicaid patients with especially complex medical and socio-economic conditions. This is a significant step toward understanding and better meeting needs that will improve lives and save substantial dollars in our health care system.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



**LATE**

February 20, 2014

**TO:** House Committee on Finance  
Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair

**FROM:** Dr. Vija Sehgal, Pediatrician, Chief Quality Officer and Associate Medical Officer  
Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center / 697-3457 or [wcchc@wcchc.com](mailto:wcchc@wcchc.com)

**RE:** **Support for HB1752: Relating to Health**

The Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center (WCCHC) strongly supports HB1752: Relating to Health. Of WCCHC's 31,152 patients, 67% are at 100% of the federal poverty level or below, 11% are uninsured, and 58% are receiving coverage under QUEST, the State's Medicaid program. Morbidity and mortality indicators show that the Waianae coast ranks highest in the City and County of Honolulu, as well as the state, for obesity (43.5%), adults who smoke (26%), adults with diabetes (13.7%), diseases of the heart (260.4 deaths per 100,000), and cancer (197 deaths per 100,000).

The WCCHC has found from its own experience that an effective means of improving these dire statistics is through implementing the Patient-Centered Health Care Home (PCHCH) model, which has been shown to improve health outcomes, reduce long-term cost, and enhance the patient experience.

There are multiple and important components of this bill, all critical to improving the health and well-being of patients we serve throughout Leeward Oahu.

Related to the uninsured, 13.3% of the population on the Waianae coast is uninsured, which is the highest in the City & County of Honolulu.

Related to adult dental health services, 44% of the adult population on the Waianae Coast has not had a dental visit, which is the highest in the state. It is critical to restore adult dental benefits to address dental health needs and its relationship to other health conditions.

Outreach and eligibility is an essential component of the PCHCH. Restoration of state funding is needed to support our patients and families to stabilize not only their health care needs but also their life circumstances that often negatively impact their health.

With the dramatic reduction of state behavioral health services over the past years, WCCHC is the critical safety net on the Waianae coast for individuals suffering from a broad scope of behavioral health conditions.

One key feature of HB1752 is the allocation of \$2 million dollars from the Community Health Center Special Fund as a interdepartmental transfer from the Department of Health to the Department of Human Services to be used as the state match for a Medicaid health care home state plan amendment to provide health care home services to qualified patients at community health centers. This \$2 million dollars (already allocated for community health centers) will be drawn down for a federal match of \$18 million dollar, for a total of \$20 Million for advanced, coordinated patient care for those with the most complex and severe illnesses – all with \$0 dollars from Hawaii's Medicaid program.

This is a tremendous opportunity that comes along very rarely. We appreciate your consideration.