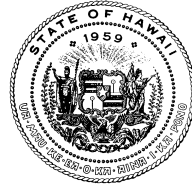


Testimony

HB2304



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

In reply, please refer to:
File:

Senate Committee on Health

H.B. 2304, H.D. 2, Relating to the Neurotrauma Advisory Board

**Testimony of Linda Rosen, M.D., M.P.H.
Director of Health**

March 12, 2014

1 **Department's Position:** The Department supports H.B. 2304, H.D. 2 relating to the Neurotrauma
2 Advisory Board.

3 **Fiscal Implications:** There are no fiscal implications.

4 **Purpose and Justification:** H.B. 2304, H.D. 2 proposes to amend HRS §321-3 to change the
5 minimum number of members on the Neurotrauma Advisory Board (NTAB) from 21 to 11 members
6 as appointed by the Director of Health. The smaller number of members will allow the board to
7 have quorum on a regular basis improve the effectiveness of its statewide advisory board's capacity
8 to assist the Department to meet its legislative charge. More importantly, of the 11 members of the
9 Board, the composition of the Board will be made up of three (3) survivors or family members of
10 individuals with neurotrauma appointed by the Director. This measure also proposes to delete
11 representation from the Spinal Cord Injury Association as this association is no longer in operation.
12 A spinal cord injury survivor or family member will continue to be represented on the NTAB. The
13 Department has discussed this measure with the Board and they are in support of reducing the
14 number of board members. Lastly, this measure will allow the Director to appoint up to three state
15 and county ex officio non-voting members to the NTAB. Partnerships and collaboration with such
16 entities will provide a more coordinated effort for NTAB initiatives.

17 Thank you for this opportunity to testify.