

## Testimony of Phyllis Dendle

Before:  
Senate Committee on Health  
The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

April 15, 2014  
9:10 am  
Conference Room 229

**HCR 202 HD1      REQUESTING THE CONVENING OF A WORKING GROUP TO  
RECOMMEND WAYS TO REDUCE INCIDENTS OF SEPSIS AND  
SEPSIS DEATHS IN THE STATE**

Chair Green, and committee members, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on HCR202 HD1 regarding a working group regarding sepsis.

**Kaiser Permanente Hawaii supports the intent of this resolution.**

Sepsis is a severe infection that is spread through the bloodstream and any kind of infection – bacterial viral, parasitic, or fungal—can trigger it. The majority of sepsis cases are among elderly, immune-compromised and critically ill patients. Because the infection can develop quickly, immediate detection and treatment are critical.

In 2008, Kaiser Permanente developed a comprehensive approach to screen and provide effective treatments to hospital patients identified as at-risk for sepsis. Since implementing this program Kaiser Permanente has achieved a threefold increase in the rate of sepsis detection, a 60 percent reduction in mortality for patients with sepsis and a 25 percent drop in the risk-adjusted average length of stay for patients with sepsis.

Much of what is done at Kaiser Permanente can and is being done at other hospitals.

While we support the intent of the resolution to reduce the incidents of sepsis and the reduction of death from sepsis we suggest that this might be achieved through the sharing of best practices among hospitals rather than the creation of comprehensive plan

that will rapidly become obsolete as hospitals find new and better ways to fight infection, detect sepsis and improve rapid treatment.

We urge the legislature to endorse a cooperative sharing of best practices by hospitals that also includes opportunity for community concerns to be raised and discussed. The labor intensive study and collection of information is available from other clinical sources so would be less useful than the sharing of good ideas among health care professionals.

Thank you for your consideration..