

# SB 2009

**Measure Title:** RELATING TO HEALTH.

**Report Title:** Community Health Centers; Appropriations (\$)

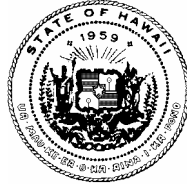
**Description:** Appropriate funds to the Department of Health and the Department of Human Services to expand certain health care services to qualified individuals.

**Companion:** [HB1751](#)

**Package:** None

**Current Referral:** HMS/HTH, WAM

**Introducer(s):** CHUN OAKLAND, BAKER, GREEN, RUDERMAN, Espero, Ihara, L. Thielen



**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

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

January 28, 2014

TO: The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair  
Senate Committee on Human Services

The Honorable Josh Green, M.D., Chair  
Senate Committee on Health

FROM: Patricia McManaman, Director

SUBJECT: **S.B. 2009 - RELATING TO HEALTH**

Hearing: Tuesday, January 28, 2014; 1:15 p.m.  
Conference Room 016, 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. Funding requests for these services and programs are included in the Governor's Executive Supplemental Budget.

Section 3 requests an appropriation of \$4,800,000 million 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. While \$4,800,000 would be needed to fund a full year of services, the DHS anticipates a partial year the first year due to the need to execute administrative rules and obtain federal approval. 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 of \$800,000 to provide outreach and eligibility services at Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs). The Governor's budget, under HMS 902 –General Support for Health Care Payments, includes \$320,000 to support out-stationed eligibility workers (OEWs) while waiting confirmation from the Hawaii Primary Care Association (HPCA) on the funding received by community health from the Hawaii Health Connector, federal agencies, or other sources centers for outreach. The appropriation would allow the OEWs, employed at FQHCs, to assist residents to complete applications for Med-QUEST benefits. The Department will be able to obtain only a 50% match from the federal government if funded. 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). Separate from this contract and requested funding, the DHS will continue to fund 23 OEWs at FQHCs through direct payments.

Section 5 of the bill requests an appropriation of \$2,000,000 to establish health homes. In the Governor's Executive Supplemental Budget, \$2,016,000 in State funds and \$18,144,000 in federal funds is requested for HMS 401 and \$1,000,000 in state funds and \$1,000,000 in federal funds for HMS 902 are requested to establish a Health Homes Program

under the Medicaid program. The DHS model aims to improve health care quality and clinical outcomes as well as the patient care experience while reducing per capita costs through more cost effective delivery of care. The appropriation will allow all qualified providers to participate in the program.

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.



**HPCA**

HAWAII PRIMARY CARE ASSOCIATION

**Senate Committee on Human Services**

The Hon. Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair

The Hon. Josh Green, Vice Chair

**Senate Committee on Health**

The Hon. Josh Green, Chair

The Hon. Rosalyn Baker, Vice Chair

**Testimony in Support of SB 2009**

**Relating to Health**

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

**January 28, 2014, 1:15 P.M., Room 016**

The Hawaii Primary Care Association (HPCA), which represents the federally qualified community health centers in Hawaii, also known as “community health centers,” supports Senate Bill 2009, making appropriations to the Departments of Health and Human Services for services to qualified individuals and families. We offer the following comments 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 would also 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 provides for a need in our communities that is not provided by any other service or existing funding stream.

- 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 the 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 five have been awarded Level 2 or 3 (3 being the highest) recognition in the past few months. Health centers are ready to implement health homes and appreciate 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.

## LĀNA‘I COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

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

### **Senate Committee on Human Services**

The Hon. Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair  
The Hon. Josh Green, Vice Chair

### **Senate Committee on Health**

The Hon. Josh Green, Chair  
The Hon. Rosalyn Baker, Vice Chair

## **Testimony in Support of SB 2009**

### **Relating to Health**

**Submitted by**

**Diana M V Shaw, PhD, MPH, MBA, FACMPE**  
**Executive Director, Lāna‘i Community Health Center**  
**January 28, 2014, 1:15 P.M., Room 016**

Lāna‘i Community Health Center (LCHC), a federally qualified community health center, supports Senate Bill 2009, making appropriations to the Departments of Health and Human Services for services to qualified individuals and families. We offer the following comments:

Section 2 of this measure appropriates \$6 million dollars in general funds to provide direct health care for uninsured and underinsured individuals; we support the requested 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. Given the correlation between dental health with other health conditions, LCHC had continued to ensure that our uninsured and underinsured patients (including Medicaid adult patients) have access to these services — contributing to the financial stresses our organization experiences in providing services to our patients and community. We support the request to restore this benefit to the Medicaid adult patients.

*E Ola nō Lāna‘i*

**LIFE, HEALTH, and WELL-BEING FOR LĀNA ‘I**

Section 4 appropriates \$800,000 in funding for outreach and eligibility services at community health centers. Historically LCHC has received funding for this important work from the State, however this contract ended in 2013. Our outreach workers provide an essential service to the State and to our community 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...this is one way in which we work to address the social determinants of health. At this time LCHC is not receiving any State funding to provide outreach or enrollment in Medicaid or other State assistance programs. It is also important to note that the KOKUA program administered by the Hawaii Health Connector limits assistance to health insurance enrollment (Connector and Medicaid). In addition, late last year LCHC also received a small amount of federal funding from HRSA for outreach assistance — again limited to health insurance enrollment only. As both the Connector and HRSA funding also required LCHC to hire new staff members for the insurance enrollment activities, without State funding for broader outreach and eligibility services, our ability to continue helping our community and our patients with other assistance programs is limited at best. LCHC supports the appropriation in Section 4 which provides funding for a need in our community that is not provided by any other service or existing funding stream.

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 the state match for a Medicaid health home state plan amendment to provide health home services to qualified patients at community health centers. LCHC has been involved in health homes for a number of years and recently applied for NCQA recognition as patient centered medical homes (result of our application is pending receipt of response from NCQA). We are ready to implement health homes and appreciate 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. LCHC is the only health care provider on our island to provide behavioral health services to the general public. We are also the only provider to provide integrated primary care and behavioral health services. We have seen the difference that integrated care makes in addressing the needs of especially our chronically ill patients, and definitely need and strongly support the funding 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.



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



Aloha,

I am writing in **strong support for SB 2009**. Community Health Centers in Hawaii serve a vital role in delivering high quality health care to our communities and this bill, particularly Section 6, helps move our Medicaid system forward with comprehensive and patient-centered reform.

I am a licensed psychologist working as a Behavioral Health Specialist at a small, rural, Federally-Qualified Community Health Center on the island of Lana'i. Here, we have been integrating behavioral and medical health along with community outreach services for the last few years and we are pleased to see greatly improved management of chronic diseases such as diabetes and hypertension, as well as for behavioral health issues such as depression, anxiety and bipolar disorders. We are committed to continuing to streamline our services along with PCMH. We are also the only health care center on island to offer integrated primary care and behavioral health services and the only center on island to offer behavioral health services to the general public. Hence, I especially support the funding offered by Section 7 of this bill. Behavioral health and its integrations with primary care services are some of the key elements of the Governor's healthcare transformation plan and we are invested in continuing to implement this plan at our Community Health Center.,

In short, **please vote in favor of SB 2009**, permitting health centers to invest \$2 million of their own funding to create patient-centered health care homes for our vulnerable Medicaid populations.

Mahalo.

Serenity Chambers



**Lāna'i Community  
Health Center**

**Serenity Chambers, Ph.D.** | Behavioral Health Specialist, Licensed Psychologist

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**Senate Committee on Human Services**

The Hon. Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair

The Hon. Josh Green, Vice Chair

**Senate Committee on Health**

The Hon. Josh Green, Chair

The Hon. Rosalyn Baker, Vice Chair

**Testimony in Support of SB 2009**

**Relating to Health**

**Submitted by Dana Alonzo-Howeth, Executive Director**

**January 28, 2014, 1:15 P.M., Room 016**

Mālama I Ke Ola Health Center formerly Community Clinic of Maui supports Senate Bill 2009, making appropriations to the Departments of Health and Human Services for services to qualified individuals and families. We offer the following comments:

Mālama I Ke Ola serves as the primary safety net provider on Maui with the exception of the Hana Community Health Center in Hana. As such, at least 30% of our patients are uninsured or underinsured because they have nowhere else to go for care.

The need for dental services for the underserved on Maui continues to grow with the vast majority of patients we serve presenting without dental insurance coverage. Since we opened our new dental clinic June 2011, the number of adults served without dental insurance coverage has more than doubled.

We also support the opportunity for health centers to provide outreach and eligibility services given the significant number of patients served by health centers that require some sort of assistance with Medicaid enrollment or other State assistance.

We strongly support the ability for an interdepartmental transfer from the Department of Health, to the Department of Human Services to be used as the state match for Medicaid health home state plan amendment to provide health home services to qualified patients at community health centers. As a community health center who recently received level 2 recognition as a Patient Centered Medical Home from the National Committee for Quality Assurance, we know firsthand the level of time, energy and work it takes to become a patient centered medical home and have positioned ourselves to serve as medical home for our most vulnerable patients to not only improve their quality of life but reduce health care costs at the same time.

Lastly, we strongly support funding for behavioral health services at community health centers. Mental health services for many of our most needy patients are severely lacking or non-existent on Maui. Given that our health center has already integrated behavioral health services within our existing primary care model of care, this funding will continue to help us meet an ongoing need that many patients are currently going without.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Aloha,

I am writing in strong support for SB 2009. Community Health Centers in Hawaii serve a vital role in delivering high quality health care to our communities and this bill, particularly Section 6, helps move our Medicaid system forward with comprehensive and patient-centered reform.

Please vote in favor of permitting health centers to invest \$2 million of their own funding to create patient-centered health care homes for our vulnerable Medicaid populations.

Mahalo.

*Janay Cunningham*  
Human Resources Representative  
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January 27, 2014

**TO:** Senate Committee on Human Services  
Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair and Senator Josh Green, MD, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Health  
Senator Josh Green, MD, Chair and Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

**FROM:** Dr. Vija Sehgal, Director of Quality Assurance and Associate Medical Officer  
Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center / 697-3457 or wcchc@wcchc.com

**RE:** **Support for SB2009: Relating to Health**

The Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center (WCCHC) strongly supports SB 2009: 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 SB2009 (Section 6) 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.



TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair  
Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair  
COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

Senator Josh Green, Chair  
Senator Rosalyn Baker, Vice-Chair  
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

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

Date: Monday, January 27, 2014

RE: **Support for SB2009** - RELATING TO HEALTH.  
Appropriate funds to the Department of Health and the Department of Human Services to expand certain health care services to qualified individuals.

The Waimānalo Health Center (WHC) **supports SB2009**, appropriating funds to the Department of Health and the Department of Human Services to expand specific health care services to qualified individuals. Resources to provide health services to specific populations as the uninsured and those seeking behavioral health services are critical to creating healthy communities. Similarly, critical resources are needed to support adult dental care, resources that have been severely limited. Poor oral health can quickly escalate to poor physical health. Prevention, education, and routine oral health care can impact this trajectory. Providing resources to restore basic adult dental benefits to Medicaid enrollees would increase the number of Medicaid adults who seek basic and preventative dental care.

Funding for outreach and eligibility services needs to be restored 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 which help to address the social determinants of health. It would be in the best interest of the community to continue having these resources and services available to assist individuals with navigating through their insurance and entitlement options.

Lastly, the Waimānalo Health Center strongly supports a CHC SPA. Section 6 of SB 2009 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, already allocated for health centers, will draw down \$18 Million in Federal matching funds, for a total of \$20 million for advanced, coordinated patient care with zero dollars from Hawaii's Medicaid program. 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 SB2009. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair Committee on Human Services  
Senator Josh Green, Chair Committee on Health

FROM: Sheila Beckham  
CEO, Waikiki Health

RE: SB2009 Relating to Health

DATE: January 27, 2014

We respectfully ask for your support of SB2009 which establishes a CHC specific patient-centered health care home initiative within Medicaid. To fund this initiative the *CHC's will place \$2 million of our own funding to be matched with federal funds (in a 9:1 funding match) to generate \$20 million for this endeavor.*

Community Health Centers, have extensive experience providing primary and preventive care, behavioral health, care coordination, and social/enabling services among those on Medicaid-- those who are homeless, those with low incomes, individuals and families who are marginalized by society, and those with a high prevalence of behavioral health conditions and substance abuse.

With populations exceeding 50% of the patient population at each of the 14 CHC throughout Hawaii, we are in a unique position to implement this intervention. An extensive one year pilot project, among patients with diabetes and other co-morbidities at five CHC, demonstrated a cost savings of 6%.

We urge your support for a CHC patient centered health care home and look forward to improving the health of our patients.



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

January 27, 2014

**Senate Committee on Human Services**

The Hon. Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair  
The Hon. Josh Green, Vice Chair

**Senate Committee on Health**

The Hon. Josh Green, Chair  
The Hon. Rosalyn Baker, Vice Chair

**Testimony in Support of SB 2009**

**Relating to Health**

**January 28, 2014, 1:15 P.M., Room 016**

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

**SB2009**

Submitted on: 1/27/2014

Testimony for HMS/HTH on Jan 28, 2014 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b>                  | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Scott Wall          | Community Alliance for Mental Health | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: Aloha Sen. Chun-Oakland and members of the committee. On behalf of the Community Alliance for Mental Health along with United Self Help we most strongly support SB2009. This bill is critical in leveraging \$18,000,000 in federal support for the Community Health Centers. This will do more for the transformation of the way health care is delivered to our most vulnerable populations. Again we most strongly support SB2009. Scott Wall VP/Legislative Advocate Community Alliance for Mental Health



Aloha,

I am writing in strong support for SB 2009. Community Health Centers in Hawaii serve a vital role in delivering high quality health care to our communities and this bill, particularly Section 6, helps move our Medicaid system forward with comprehensive and patient-centered reform. Please vote in favor of permitting health centers to invest \$2 million of their own funding to create patient-centered health care homes for our vulnerable Medicaid populations.

Mahalo.

Dianne Higgins

Board Member of the Hamakua Health Center

January 25, 2014

Ellen K. Awai  
3329 Kanaina Ave. #304  
Honolulu, HI 96815  
Cell: (808) 551-7676  
[Awai76@aol.com](mailto:Awai76@aol.com)

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair of the Human Services Committee & Members  
Senator Josh Green, Chair, Roslyn Baker, Vice Chair of the Health Committee & Members  
Hearing on Tuesday, January 28, 2014 at 1:15 p.m. Room #016

SUBJECT: SB2009 for Community Health Centers – Please support!

I have been a mental health advocate for over a decade, assisting individuals with disabilities for over 20 years and I strongly support SB2009. As a member of Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Center for Mental Health Services, National Advisory Council's Subcommittee since 2005, I have been a strong supporter of integrated, person-centered health care. The person has choices in making informed decisions on his own treatment in both primary and behavioral health. With the U.S. Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association, which has recently gone international as Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association (PRA), I am a Certified Psychiatric Rehabilitation Practitioner (CPRP). PRA trains professionals on the integrated, person-centered recovery model.

Working with the state's Adult Mental Health Division, former chief Thomas Hester, M.D. tried to implement the recovery model. Eventually he advised me that a recovery model probably would not replace the medical treatment model in our lifetime. But as the trainer for Hawaii Certified Peer Specialist (HCPS), I along with other advocates tried to make it happen. HCPS had lived experiences, which made us role models for others in directing their own personal lives and that recovery from a disability was possible. I experienced going to various centers for treatment, including Community Health Centers (CHC) because I had difficulty getting access to other affordable, culturally appropriate providers, but getting to the CHC was a problem.

In 2012, the Patient-Centered Medical Home was presented at the Hawaii Primary Care Association annual conference. But we weren't always patients, so the "person-centered model," which had been so difficult to implement in the state system, was finally making an impact in Hawaii through the CHC, including dental services. CHC provide culturally appropriate health care to our diverse, multi-lingual population, where individuals say in Waianae and Waimanalo have a choice of getting western or alternative treatment. But most importantly, SB2009 will save the entire state money! With the significant increase in Medicaid enrollment, the use of community health centers will also increase. Please support SB2009 and companion HB1751!

Mahalo and Aloha!

Ellen K. Awai, MSCJA, BBA, CPRP, HCPS  
Behavioral Health Advocate

Aloha,

I am writing in strong support for SB 2009. Community Health Centers in Hawaii serve a vital role in delivering high quality health care to our communities and this bill, particularly Section 6, helps move our Medicaid system forward with comprehensive and patient-centered reform.

Please vote in favor of permitting health centers to invest \$2 million of their own funding to create patient-centered health care homes for our vulnerable Medicaid populations.

Mahalo.

Karen Fox

**SB2009**

Submitted on: 1/27/2014

Testimony for HMS/HTH on Jan 28, 2014 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Matt Okahata        | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: Please allow the health centers to spend the funds to improve lives of patients, reduce the cost of care, improve the health of communities, and improve the U.S. health care.

**SB2009**

Submitted on: 1/27/2014

Testimony for HMS/HTH on Jan 28, 2014 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Phil Kinnicutt      | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: I strongly support this bill. Aloha, Phil Kinnicutt Former Board Chair Waikiki Health Center

**SB2009**

Submitted on: 1/27/2014

Testimony for HMS/HTH on Jan 28, 2014 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

| <b>Submitted By</b>   | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Unmani Cynthia Groves | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

**SB2009**

Submitted on: 1/26/2014

Testimony for HMS/HTH on Jan 28, 2014 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Wailua Brandman     | Individual          | Comments Only             | No                        |

Comments: Aloha Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair, Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair, members of the Senate Committee on Human Services, Senator Josh Green, Chair, and Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair of Senate Committee on Health, Mahalo for the opportunity to comment on SB 2009, appropriating funds to the Department of Health and the Department of Human Services to expand certain health care services to qualified individuals. While the DHS certainly needs to better focus its Medicaid programs, this bill will certainly help. The monetary amounts, however, do not add up to a total of \$6M. Section 5 is duplicated in Section 6, and the amount to Behavioral/Mental Health is missing entirely. The total designated to medical home and dental programs exceeds the \$6M stated in the proposal by \$1.6M. It appears that this bill is not ready to be heard in Committee. I fully support providing these programs with financial support, but let's get our numbers straight and be serious about the priorities in health care for Medicaid members. Again, mahalo for the opportunity to comment on SB2009. Wailua Brandman APRN FAANP

**SB2009**

Submitted on: 1/27/2014

Testimony for HMS/HTH on Jan 28, 2014 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Lynda Hiramami      | Individual          | Comments Only             | No                        |

Comments: Aloha Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair, Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair, members of the Senate Committee on Human Services, Senator Josh Green, Chair, and Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair of Senate Committee on Health, Mahalo for the opportunity to comment on SB 2009, appropriating funds to the Department of Health and the Department of Human Services to expand certain health care services to qualified individuals. While the DHS certainly needs to better focus its Medicaid programs, this bill will certainly help. The monetary amounts, however, do not add up to a total of \$6M. Section 5 is duplicated in Section 6, and the amount to Behavioral/Mental Health is missing entirely. The total designated to medical home and dental programs exceeds the \$6M stated in the proposal by \$1.6M. It appears that this bill is not ready to be heard in Committee. I fully support providing these programs with financial support, but let's get our numbers straight and be serious about the priorities in health care for Medicaid members. Again, mahalo for the opportunity to comment on SB2009.

**Lynda Hiramami**APRN-RX Family Nurse Practitioner  
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