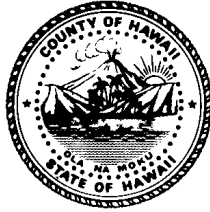


William P. Kenoi
Mayor



Walter K.M. Lau
Managing Director

Randall M. Kurohara
Deputy Managing Director

County of Hawai'i Office of the Mayor

25 Aupuni Street, Suite 2603 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720 • (808) 961-8211 • Fax (808) 961-6553
KONA: 74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Hwy., Bldg. C • Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740
(808) 323-4444 • Fax (808) 323-4440

February 3, 2014

The Honorable Josh Green, Chair
and Members of the Senate Committee
on Health
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 229
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

RE: Senate Bill 2107, RELATING TO HEALTH

Aloha, Chair Green and Committee Members

Mahalo for this opportunity to express our strong support for Senate Bill 2107, which appropriates funds for the Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation Primary Care Training Program at Hilo Medical Center.

The state and Hawai'i Island continue to face a severe physician shortage, with a recent study estimating that Hawai'i County needs 150 more doctors to provide an adequate level of access to health care for our residents. Projections by the John A. Burns School of Medicine suggest the physician shortage will dramatically worsen in the next five years as many doctors retire. An important piece of the solution for our communities is the Hawai'i Island Family Medicine Residency Program, which was recently notified that it has met the requirements for two-year accreditation. The program is actively recruiting, and will welcome its first class in July. The program will also offer training to advanced practice nurses from programs at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa and Hilo, and to students from the UH-Hilo College of Pharmacy. This program will produce inter-disciplinary teams that can care for four times as many patients as independent practitioners and will expand to serve rural communities across the state.

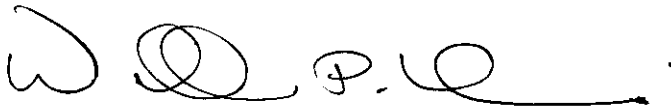
It is well documented throughout the nation that physicians attending rural training programs are much more likely to practice in a rural area. More than half of residents

The Honorable Josh Green
Page 2
February 3, 2014

trained at rural sites stay and practice in this setting after they completed their residency. The same can be expected for advanced practice nurses, psychologists, and clinical pharmacists. We believe know this program will help ease the physician shortage in our county and in rural areas across the state.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. P. Kenoi', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

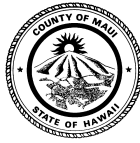
William P. Kenoi
MAYOR

Council Chair
Gladys C. Baisa

Vice-Chair
Robert Carroll

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore
Michael P. Victorino

Council Members
Elle Cochran
Donald G. Couch, Jr.
Stacy Crivello
Don S. Guzman
G. Riki Hokama
Mike White

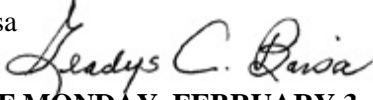


Director of Council Services
David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.maui-county.gov/council

February 1, 2014

TO: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair
Senate Committee on Health

FROM: Gladys C. Baisa
Council Chair 

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2014; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2107, RELATING TO HEALTH**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify **in support** of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation primary care training program at the Hilo Medical Center.

This measure is in the Hawaii State Association of Counties Legislative Package; therefore, I offer this testimony on behalf of the Maui County Council.

The Maui County Council supports this measure for the following reasons:

1. The primary care training program will help to address the shortage of primary healthcare providers in the State.
2. Although the program will be based in Hilo, physicians will be trained to provide medical assistance to rural areas across the State.
3. Access to health care is imperative for all residents of Maui County, and crucial to residents living in the remote areas of Hana, Lanai, and Molokai.

For the foregoing reasons, the Maui County Council **supports** this measure.

**Hawai'i State Association of Counties (HSAC)
Counties of Kaua'i, Maui, Hawai'i & City & County of Honolulu**

January 31, 2014

**TESTIMONY OF MEL RAPOZO
PRESIDENT, HAWAII STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES
ON
SB 2107, RELATING TO HEALTH
Committee on Health
Monday, February 3, 2014
1:30 P.M.
Conference Room 229**

Dear Chair Green and Committee Members:

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of SB 2107, relating to the Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation Primary Care Training Program. My testimony is submitted in my capacity as President of the Hawai'i State Association of Counties (HSAC).

SB 2107 is part of the 2014 HSAC Legislative Package and provides funding in the amount of \$2,800,000 for the Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation Primary Care Training Program. Although this program will be based in Hilo, physicians will be trained to provide medical assistance to critical rural underserved areas across the State.

Access to health care is a significant issue in Hawai'i, especially for residents living in rural areas. Recognizing the shortage of healthcare providers, particularly in primary care, the Hilo Medical Center in partnership with the Hawai'i Health System Corporation developed a Primary Care Training Program to address this shortage and improve access to healthcare for the residents of the State of Hawai'i. This may also encourage physicians to continue their practice here in our islands.

For the reason stated above, HSAC is in strong support of SB 2107 and asks for your favorable support. Again, thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony.

Sincerely,



MEL RAPOZO
President, HSAC

AB:aa

Council Chair
Gladys C. Baisa

Vice-Chair
Robert Carroll

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore
Michael P. Victorino

Council Members
Elle Cochran
Donald G. Couch, Jr.
Stacy Crivello
Don S. Guzman
G. Riki Hokama
Mike White

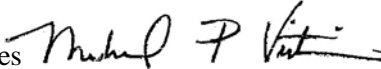


Director of Council Services
David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.mauicounty.gov/council

February 1, 2014

TO: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair
Senate Committee on Health

FROM: Michael P. Victorino, Treasurer
Hawaii State Association of Counties 

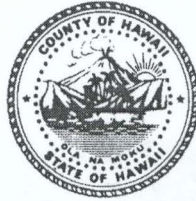
SUBJECT: **HEARING OF MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2014; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2107, RELATING TO HEALTH**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation primary care training program at the Hilo Medical Center.

I am aware that the President of the Hawaii State Association of Counties ("HSAC") has submitted testimony, on behalf of HSAC, in support of this measure, which is in the HSAC Legislative Package. As the Treasurer of HSAC, I concur with the testimony submitted by the President, and urge you to support this measure.

ocs:proj:legis:14legis:14testimony:sb2107_paf14-036_kcw

DENNIS "FRESH" ONISHI
Council Member
District 3



PHONE: (808) 961-8396
FAX: (808) 961-8912
EMAIL: donishi@co.hawaii.hi.us

HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL
25 Aupuni Street, Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

January 31, 2014

The Honorable Josh Green, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Health

Dear Senator Green and Members of the Committee,

Thank you very much for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 2107.

By continuing the funding for a program to train primary care physicians, this bill will help to relieve the acute physician shortage in rural areas across the State. The program has received a two-year accreditation and will begin its first class this summer.

There is a critical need for more physicians statewide, and especially on our Neighbor Islands.

This bill has received the unanimous support from the Hawai'i County Council, the Maui County Council, the Kaua'i County Council and the Council of the City and County of Honolulu, all of which have voted to include it in the Hawai'i State Association of Counties Legislative Package.

Approval of this bill will improve health care options for thousands of patients, and will provide a model to tackle the growing need for physicians in underserved areas. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dennis "Fresh" Onishi
Vice President, Hawai'i State Association of Counties
Hawai'i County Council Member

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Cc: jlakin@hah.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2107 on Feb 3, 2014 13:30PM
Date: Sunday, February 02, 2014 12:17:46 PM
Attachments: [SB 2107 Primary Care Training \(Hilo\).pdf](#)

SB2107

Submitted on: 2/2/2014

Testimony for HTH on Feb 3, 2014 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeremy Lakin	Healthcare Association of Hawaii	Support	Yes

Comments: Testifying in person in support: George Greene President & CEO
Healthcare Association of Hawaii

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Monday – February 3, 2014 – 1:30pm
Conference Room 229

The Senate Committee on Health

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

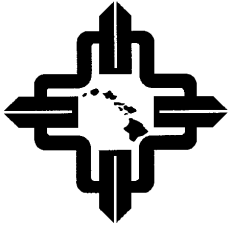
From: George Greene
President & CEO
Healthcare Association of Hawaii

Re: **Testimony in Support**
SB 2107 — Relating to Health

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii (HAH) is a 116 member organization that includes all of the acute care hospitals in Hawaii, the majority of long term care facilities, all the Medicare-certified home health agencies, all hospice programs, as well as other healthcare organizations including durable medical equipment, air and ground ambulance, blood bank and respiratory therapy. In addition to providing quality care to all of Hawaii's residents, our members contribute significantly to Hawaii's economy by employing nearly 20,000 people statewide.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 2107, which appropriates funds for the interdisciplinary Hawaii Health Systems Corporation primary care training program at Hilo Medical Center, centered at the Hawaii Island Family Health Center—which serves as a training site for family medicine physicians and medical students through the Hawaii Island Family Medicine Residency. HAH supports SB 2107, which addresses the severe shortage of primary care providers in the State by training interdisciplinary teams capable of caring for four times as many patients as independent practicing physicians. SB 2107 furthers HAH's vision of a healthy Hawaii where every resident has convenient access to appropriate, affordable, and high quality healthcare.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 2107.



HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS

C O R P O R A T I O N

Quality Healthcare For All

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

Monday, February 3, 2014

1:30 p.m.

Conference Room 229

Hawaii State Capitol

Testimony Supporting Senate Bill 2107, Relating to Health. Appropriates funds for the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation Primary Care Training Program at the Hilo Medical Center.

Alice M. Hall

Acting President and Chief Executive Officer

Hawaii Health Systems Corporation

Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) fully supports SB 2107 to appropriate funds to sustain our primary care training program. This program will be based at the Hilo Medical Center and will support primary care training throughout the State.

The purpose of the program is to recruit, train, and retain family practice physicians and primary care teams to meet the State-wide shortages. Primary care physicians and family practice physicians, advanced practice nurses, pharmacists and others are integral to the delivery of quality care in Hawaii. As they promote healthy lifestyles and identify and treat chronic and acute conditions, like severe flu and pneumonia, they are the front-line in supporting the delivery of quality care in any health care system. They prevent more serious illnesses, which are costly and much more difficult to manage. Primary care is the foundation of any efficient health care system.

The recruitment and retention of physicians, advanced practice nurses and support teams in Hawaii's rural areas is an on-going challenge. An interdisciplinary residency program is not a panacea to our recruitment problem. However, it is an important step toward alleviating our physician and nursing shortages. We respectfully request funds to support the program.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak in support of this measure.

3675 KILAUEA AVENUE • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96816 • PHONE: (808) 733-4020 • FAX: (808) 733-4028

HILO • HONOKAA • KAU • KONA • KOHALA • WAIMEA • KAPAA • WAILUKU • KULA • LANAI • HONOLULU
www.hhsc.org <<http://www.hhsc.org>>

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Cc: alibaba@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2107 on Feb 3, 2014 13:30PM
Date: Sunday, February 02, 2014 11:25:15 AM

SB2107

Submitted on: 2/2/2014

Testimony for HTH on Feb 3, 2014 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alistair Bairos	West Hawai'i Regional Board, HHSC	Comments Only	No

Comments: Dear Chair Green, Vice Chair Baker and Members of the Committee: The West Hawai'i Regional Board of HHSC supports SB 2107 that appropriates funds to the interdisciplinary HHSC Primary Care Training Program administered by Hilo Medical Center. There is ample evidence that primary care physicians serve as a strong foundation for a more efficient and effective health care system. The team care model that this training center supports is the bedrock upon which sits the future of healthcare on the outer islands and, indeed, the state and nation. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony. Yours truly and aloha, Alistair Bairos, MD Chair, West Hawai'i Regional Board, HHSC

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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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Cc: cvancamp3@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2107 on Feb 3, 2014 13:30PM
Date: Friday, January 31, 2014 4:19:51 PM

SB2107

Submitted on: 1/31/2014

Testimony for HTH on Feb 3, 2014 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carol A. VanCamp	Japanese Chamber of Commerce & Industry	Support	No

Comments: Our state has a serious shortage of primary care physicians and funding is needed to continue the HHSC Primary Care program aimed at recruiting more doctors for our state.

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**HILO MEDICAL CENTER
FOUNDATION**

**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Health
Monday, February 3, 2014
Conference Room 229
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street**

RE: Senate Bill 2107 Relating to Health

Dear Chair Green, Vice Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

The Hilo Medical Foundation Board supports **SB 2107 that appropriates funds to the interdisciplinary HHSC Primary Care Training Program** administered by Hilo Medical Center. There is ample evidence that primary care physicians serve as a strong foundation for a more efficient and effective health care system. **State investment** would help to guide health system change to achieve optimal, cost-efficient health for everyone, and support primary care medical training.

The interdisciplinary HHSC Primary Care Training Program administered by Hilo Medical Center includes the Hawai'i Island Family Medicine Residency Program and training for advanced practice nurses from UH Manoa, nursing students from School of Nursing at UHH, clinical pharmacists from UHH College of Pharmacy, and post-doctoral psychology fellow from I Ola Lahui. This team care model is a transition from being soloists to being a member of an orchestra in providing health care. The team care approach is now recognized as an essential tool for constructing a more patient-centered, coordinated, and effective health care delivery system.

We, the Hilo Medical Center Foundation, believe that good health care starts with the individual and their Primary Care Physician and health care team. It is with the voice of the people from rural communities like ours that we support SB 2107 that authorizes appropriation of funds for the HHSC Primary Care Training Program administered by the Hilo Medical Center in coordination with Hawaii Health Care Systems.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Respectfully Submitted,
Julie Tulang
President, Hilo Medical Center Foundation
1190 Waiianuenue Avenue #629
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
Phone: 808-935-2957
Fax: 808-974-4746



HAWAII MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

1360 S. Beretania Street, Suite 200, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814
Phone (808) 536-7702 Fax (808) 528-2376 www.hmaonline.net

DATE: Monday, February 03, 2014
TIME: 1:30PM
PLACE: Conference Room 229

TO:

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

FROM:

Hawaii Medical Association
Dr. Walton Shim, MD, President
Dr. Linda Rasmussen, MD, Legislative Co-Chair
Dr. Ron Keinitz, MD, Legislative Co-Chair
Dr. Christopher Flanders, DO, Executive Director
Lauren Zirbel, Community and Government Relations

Re: SB 2107 RELATING TO HEALTH

Position: Strongly Support

The Hawaii Medical Association is submitting testimony in strong support of SB 2107.

This measure addresses primary care physician shortages by appropriating funds for the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation Primary Care Training Program at Hilo Medical Center.

HMA believes that increasing the potential pool of physicians and other health care providers is an important step forward in addressing Hawaii's worsening catastrophic shortage of health care providers. Data shows that Hawaii will have at least a 50% shortage of physicians in the next decade.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony on this important issue.

Officers

*President - Walton Shim, MD President-Elect – Robert Sloan
Secretary - Thomas Kosasa, MD Immediate Past President – Stephen Kemble, MD
Treasurer – Brandon Lee, MD Executive Director – Christopher Flanders, DO*



Community Alliance for Mental Health

February, 3, 2014

Board of Directors

Anne Chipchase
President

Robert Scott Wall
Vice President

Brenda Kosky
Secretary

William Lennox
Treasurer

Susan King

Linda Takai

Randolph Hack

Gina Hungerford

To: Senate Health Committee
Re: SB 2107

Aloha Chair Green and the members of the committee,

On behalf of the Community Alliance for Mental Health along with United Self Help we strongly support the passage of SB 2107.

We believe that the community of Hilo deserves our support and recognition. The development of the Neighbor Island communities is also a necessary part of our states health care transformation.

Scott Wall
VP/Legislative Advocate
Community Alliance for Mental Health

February 2, 2014

**To: Senate Committee on Health
Senator Josh Green, Chair
Conference Room 229
State Capitol**

Re: Senate Bill 2107 Relating to Health

Dear Chair Green and Members of the Committee:

As a business with offices on both Oahu and Hawaii Islands, we want a healthy workforce with access to the best care no matter where our employees and their families live.

The residency program will help alleviate shortage and this team approach makes sense, from both health and business points of view.

I am guessing we don't need to give you all the reasons. You have them at your fingertips. Our purpose here is to offer public support. We are sending a similar letter of support for SB 3091.

Thank you for your service to our State.

Sincerely,



Barbara A. Hastings

1109 Bethel St. • Ste. 410
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

730 Kilauea St. • Hoku Ste.
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

www.hastingsandpleadwell.com

Mary K. Nordling, MD
Hawaii Island Family Health Center
Mohouli Street
Hilo, HI 96720
(808) 932-4215
FAX (808) 933-9291

THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2014

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

February 3, 2014
Conference Room 229
State Capitol

Support of SB 2107
Hawaii Health Systems Corporation – Primary Care Training Program
Mary K. Nordling, MD FAAFP

As a member of Hawaii Island Family Medicine Residency, I resolve to strengthen the state's provider workforce through the HHSC Primary Care Training Program (HHSCPCTP).

Support of this program and of family medicine graduate education will generate greater numbers of providers practicing throughout the islands. I Endorse the HHSCPCTP as a Means of Closing the Provider Gap in Hawaii.

Investing in training family practice residents in the neighbor islands is expected to yield a meaningful return on investment.

- Increasing the number of family practice physicians is expected to decrease the number and rate of "potentially avoidable hospitalizations," which the state now pays for through both its Medicaid program and unreimbursed care by state's public hospital system, Hawaii Health Systems Corporation.
- In rural areas of the state the impact of the Residency Program and greater access to family medicine physicians is projected to have a profound impact on lowering the costs of treating expensive and debilitating conditions. For example, diabetes and coronary heart disease have reached epidemic proportions in Hawaii County compared to Oahu and other areas of the state where there is greater access to primary care.
- The known economic multiplier effect of additional physicians in Hawaii means each additional physician is expected to generate 5 new jobs and new tax revenue. (Source: The Lewin Group).

I recognize that the HHSCPCTP uses an advanced model of care delivery that eliminates the need to train or attract unrealistically high numbers of physicians. The current predominant model of care throughout the country involves one primary care physician caring for 2,000-2,500 individuals with a small staff, usually including a medical assistant and receptionist. The team model of care in which the HHSCPCTP is training Hawaii's future providers allows one physician and their team to care for up to 10,000 patients. Critical team components include a nurse practitioner or physician assistant and specialists in chronic disease management such as pharmacists, certified diabetes educators, behavioral health providers, licensed nurses, and well trained non-licensed staff.

I recognize that it is well documented throughout the nation that physicians attending rural training programs are much more likely to practice in a rural area. More than half of residents trained at rural sites stay and practice in this setting after they completed their residency. The same can be expected for advanced practice nurses, psychologists, and clinical pharmacists.

I have also witnessed first hand the impact that a residency training program can have on a community. In 1994, a family medicine residency training program was started in Lawrence to help serve one of the poorest communities in Massachusetts as they were having difficulty attracting doctors. I worked at the Lawrence Family Medicine Residency from 2001-2013 and knew it grew from humble beginnings and now has expanded to eight clinics with over 100 clinicians who care for almost 50,000 patients. Residents stayed on after graduation to continue to care for their patients, faculty were attracted to the mission which in turn attracted stronger and stronger medical students. Lawrence was awarded the Society for Teachers of Family Medicine Program Innovation Award in 2012. The cycle there continues and my hope in moving to Hilo is to be a part of something similar.

I thank you, Chairman Green and Committee members, for your foresight in supporting this measure. This legislation will make a significant impact in the rural communities throughout the neighbor islands due to this new paradigm of a TEAM approach in community health.

I urge you to pass SB 2107. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mary K. Nordling, MD FAAFP
Faculty
Hawaii Island Family Medicine Residency

THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2014

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

February 3, 2014
Conference Room 229
State Capitol

Support of SB 2107
Hawaii Health Systems Corporation – Primary Care Training Program
Christina Mnatzaganian, PharmD
Clinical Pharmacy Specialist, Faculty at The Daniel K Inouye College of Pharmacy, UHH

As faculty member of The University of Hawaii-Hilo Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy, I resolve to strengthen the state's provider workforce through the HHSC Primary Care Training Program (HHSCPCTP).

Support of this program and of family medicine graduate education will generate greater numbers of providers practicing throughout the islands. I endorse the HHSCPCTP as a Means of Closing the Provider Gap in Hawaii.

Investing in training family practice residents in the neighbor islands is expected to yield a meaningful return on investment.

- Increasing the number of family practice physicians is expected to decrease the number and rate of “potentially avoidable hospitalizations,” which the state now pays for through both its Medicaid program and unreimbursed care by state's public hospital system, Hawaii Health Systems Corporation.
- In rural areas of the state the impact of the Residency Program and greater access to family medicine physicians is projected to have a profound impact on lowering the costs of treating expensive and debilitating conditions. For example, diabetes and coronary heart disease have reached epidemic proportions in Hawaii County compared to Oahu and other areas of the state where there is greater access to primary care.
- The known economic multiplier effect of additional physicians in Hawaii means each additional physician is expected to generate 5 new jobs and new tax revenue. (Source: The Lewin Group).

I recognize that the HHSCPCTP uses an advanced model of care delivery that eliminates the need to train or attract unrealistically high numbers of physicians. The current predominant model of care throughout the country involves one primary care physician caring for 2,000-2,500 individuals with a small staff, usually including a medical assistant and receptionist. The team model of care in which the HHSCPCTP is training Hawaii's future providers allows one physician and their team to care for up to 10,000 patients. Critical team components include a nurse practitioner or physician assistant and specialists in chronic disease management such as pharmacists, certified diabetes educators, behavioral health providers, licensed nurses, and well trained non-licensed staff.

I recognize that it is well documented throughout the nation that physicians attending rural training programs are much more likely to practice in a rural area. More than half of residents trained at rural sites stay and practice in this setting after they completed their residency. The same can be expected for advanced practice nurses, psychologists, and clinical pharmacists.

I thank you, Chairman Green and Committee members, for your foresight in supporting this measure. This legislation will make a significant impact in the rural communities throughout the neighbor islands due to this new paradigm of a TEAM approach in community health.

I urge you to pass SB 2107. Thank you.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Cc: ted@peskin.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2107 on Feb 3, 2014 13:30PM
Date: Saturday, February 01, 2014 10:02:19 AM

SB2107

Submitted on: 2/1/2014

Testimony for HTH on Feb 3, 2014 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
edward peskin,MD	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I am an Obstetrician/Gynecologist in the Hilo area. Patients are constantly asking me what primary care physician will take them as patients, since so many of these practitioners practices are full and they are taking no new patients. In addition, many of these primary care physicians will be retiring soon and there not be enough physicians to care for our rapidly growing population. This will result in increased costs as people end up not getting needed preventive care and land in the emergency room and hospital getting much more expensive care. We are desperate for additional primary care physicians and it is very very important that the legislature support the residency program. Thank you.

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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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Cc: vvierra@msn.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2107 on Feb 3, 2014 13:30PM
Date: Sunday, February 02, 2014 11:30:55 AM

SB2107

Submitted on: 2/2/2014

Testimony for HTH on Feb 3, 2014 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Victor V. Vierra	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Hawaii Island is in dire need of doctor's and SB 2107 would go a long way in helping provide this island with good medical care. I respectfully urge you to support this bill.

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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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Cc: edwinlilley@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2107 on Feb 3, 2014 13:30PM*
Date: Sunday, February 02, 2014 11:24:39 AM

SB2107

Submitted on: 2/2/2014

Testimony for HTH on Feb 3, 2014 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Edwin L. Lilley	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Health
February 3, 2014 at 1:30 p.m.

by
Donald O. Straney, Ph.D.
Chancellor, University of Hawai`i at Hilo

SB 2105 - Relating to Health

Chair Green, Vice Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

My name is Donald Straney, Chancellor of the University of Hawai`i at Hilo. I am testifying as a member of the Hawai`i Island community and I support the intent of SB 2105 that appropriates funds for the Hawai`i health systems corporation primary care training program at the Hilo Medical Center.

This proposal will help to increase and improve the quality of health care for people on the Island of Hawai`i. The primary care training program is a positive solution to attract and train doctors, nurses, dental hygienist, clinical pharmacist and psychologist to be more cognizant as well as understand the challenges that our island faces in terms of accessing and delivering quality health care.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB 2105. Aloha.



HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS
C O R P O R A T I O N

"Touching Lives Every Day"

THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2014

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Monday, February 03, 2014
TIME: 1:30PM
PLACE: Conference Room 229
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

SB2107 Appropriates funds for the Hawaii health systems corporation primary care training program at the Hilo Medical Center.

By Boyd P. Murayama
Assistant Hospital Administrator
Medical Group Practice Director
Hilo Medical Center
Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC)

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB2107 to appropriate funds for rural integrated primary health care training program

As the Medical Group Practice Director at Hilo Medical Center, my responsibility is to oversee the daily operations of the clinic and work with all disciplines to coordinate the training and education component.

The Hilo Rural Residency Program is an effort to align primary care workforce development with the needs of the state of Hawaii.

On Tuesday, October 22, 2013 the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) informed Hilo Medical Center officials that the Hawaii Island Family Medicine Residency program has met the requirements for a 2-year accreditation, effective July 1, 2014. We will welcome the first class of four residents in the coming summer. News of the accreditation was met with excitement throughout the Hilo Medical Center.

We are actively recruiting candidates who are interested in learning the art of Family Medicine along with a team of pharmacists, nurses, nurse practitioners and psychologists for the

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spring. We look forward to welcoming the first class of four residents July 2014. In the initial application process, we received a total of 112 applications for our 4 family medicine residency positions. Of the 112 applicants we narrowed the pool and interviewed 30 applicants via skype and have selected 17 applicants for on-site interviews in Hilo. We will be notified March 21, 2014 of who has been chosen based on the combined preferences of applicants and our scores.

The program's unique interdisciplinary team approach will serve our community by providing greater access to primary care medicine and is designed to address access to primary care medicine. The physicians and their teams will provide routine screenings and proactive care for debilitating diseases, such as diabetes and coronary heart disease, that when caught early can prevent avoidable emergency room visits and hospitalizations and keeping our community healthy.

The practice provides a full range of services including maternity care, primary gynecological care, newborn care, outpatient pediatrics, adolescent health, and adult acute, consultative psychiatry services, chronic and preventive services as well as outpatient procedures.

According to a report by the "Hawai'i Physician Workforce Assessment Project" presented at the 2013 Legislative Session, Hawaii Island saw a 34 percent physician shortage in 2012 with 341 physicians in supply compared to 514 physicians in demand or needed to adequately care for the island's population. Statewide, the shortage was 18 percent or 2,955 physicians in supply compared to 3,590 physicians in demand. Among other findings, the report concluded the physician shortages were especially acute in the area of primary care.

Your support for SB2107 is greatly appreciated. Thank you.



Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce

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Donald Straney
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William Walter
Noreen Yamane

February 2, 2014

Testimony to the Senate Committee on Health
Monday, February 3, 2014
Conference Room 229
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

RE: Senate Bill 2107 Relating to Health

Dear Chair Green, Vice Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Hawaii Island Chamber of Commerce (HICC), we appreciate this opportunity to raise our collective voice in support of **SB 2107 that appropriates funds to the interdisciplinary HHSC Primary Care Training Program** administered by Hilo Medical Center.

This program is critical to the future health and well-being of our Island community. If we are not pro-active in training and providing a prepared and talented medical force to care for our Island people, then we will suffer the consequences of a shortfall of medical care and physicians for our Island. Our community will suffer, our Island's health will be in jeopardy and our failure to prepare for this shortage will also have very serious social and economic ramifications.

We CAN and SHOULD work on pro-active solutions to this problem. SB 2107 is just such a solution! We all need to support this bill!

There is ample evidence that primary care physicians serve as a strong foundation for a more efficient and effective health care system. **State investment** would help to guide health system change to achieve optimal, cost-efficient health for everyone, and support primary care medical training.

The interdisciplinary HHSC Primary Care Training Program administered by Hilo Medical Center includes the Hawai'i Island Family Medicine Residency Program and training for advanced practice nurses from UH Manoa, nursing students from School of Nursing at UHH, clinical pharmacists from UHH College of Pharmacy, and post-doctoral psychology fellow from I Ola Lahui. This team care model is a transition from being soloists to being a member of an orchestra in providing health care. The team care approach is now



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recognized as an essential tool for constructing a more patient-centered, coordinated, and effective health care delivery system.

The Chamber of Commerce not only represents the “voice of small business of Hawaii”, but we also serve in the capacity as a network for referral for all services for new and long time residents. We are at a loss as to how to help our community when the shortage of physicians is a critical level in Hawaii and we can offer no viable solutions or assistance at this time. The situation will only escalate now that many of our long-time physicians are nearing retirement age.

HICC also believes that good health care starts with the individual and their Primary Care Physician and health care team. It is with the voice of the people from rural communities like ours that we support SB 2107 that authorizes appropriation of funds for the HHSC Primary Care Training Program administered by the Hilo Medical Center in coordination with Hawaii Health Care Systems.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Respectfully Submitted,

Error! Objects cannot be created from editing field codes.

Judith Fox-Goldstein, President
Hawaii Island Chamber of Commerce
935-7178

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Cc: nishieast888@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2107 on Feb 3, 2014 13:30PM*
Date: Sunday, February 02, 2014 11:50:08 AM

SB2107

Submitted on: 2/2/2014

Testimony for HTH on Feb 3, 2014 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
DELBERT NISHIMOTO	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Kristine I McCoy, MD, MPH

Program Director
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THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2014

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair
February 3, 2014
Conference Room 229
State Capitol

Support of SB 2107

Hawaii Health Systems Corporation – Primary Care Training Program

Kristine I McCoy, MD, MPH
Program Director

Dear Senate Committee on Health:

In 2011 I was recruited by the John A Burns School of Medicine to come to Hawaii to complete the work that they had begun over twenty years ago with the community of East Hawaii and Hilo Medical Center—to bring family medicine physician training to Hilo and coordinate a larger interdisciplinary primary care training program.

The need for this program had been recognized in the early 1990's and the worsening state of primary care access on Hawaii's neighbor islands had been emphasized by the high utilization rates of the emergency rooms and citizens advertising in the newspapers for primary care providers. The 2010 and 2012 reports to the Hawaii State Legislature* provided numerical estimates of the current and projected physician shortages-700 now and 1500 in 10 years, and the UH-Hilo study conducted in 2011** showed that 1/3 of the Big Island's physicians no longer planned to be in practice on the island by 2016.

The HHSC Primary Care Training Program takes a new approach to this dilemma, by not trying to solve the problem with doctors alone. Instead it brings together physicians, nurses, pharmacists, and psychologists who together can provide effective and efficient care teams, multiplying the power of each physician. This is a cost effective way to give Hawaii's citizens the care that they need, keeping them healthier, and reducing the burden on our state funded hospitals and other care facilities in the neighbor islands.

Today, this program is a reality, but only with your continued support. A primary care physician costs over \$3/4 million to train, and with Hawaii's low insurance payments,

only about one third of this can expect to be earned by the physicians in training and their faculty during that training period. Federal money is available for new programs at hospitals that have never had resident physicians before—such as Hilo Medical Center—but it takes a while to start flowing, and is not expected to be substantial until 2017, with the annual amount finalized in 2019. In the meantime, we have a budget of \$2.8 million per year to get the Hilo program off the ground and expand it to train physicians throughout the neighbor islands—including possible substantial rural training “tracks” on Maui, Kona, and Kauai. Beginning July 1st of this year, our first four physicians in training will get started on their three year training program. They will join the I Ola Lahui psychology students and fellows and University of Hawaii medical students, pharmacy students, and nursing students already training in Hilo at Hilo Medical Center and the Hawaii Island Family Health Center.

We greatly appreciate your support and know that it will benefit your family, friends, and neighbors in the years to come as our graduates spread throughout the state to the communities who need them the most. In ten years’ time, we estimate that teams of our graduates will be caring for 140,000 of Hawaii’s citizens. Please ensure that this will be a reality and not simply our dream.

Sincerely,

Kristine I McCoy, MD, MPH

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To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Cc: voggymtn@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2107 on Feb 3, 2014 13:30PM*
Date: Sunday, February 02, 2014 11:10:21 AM

SB2107

Submitted on: 2/2/2014

Testimony for HTH on Feb 3, 2014 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Willie-Joe Camara	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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SB2107

Submitted on: 2/2/2014

Testimony for HTH on Feb 3, 2014 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lori Rogers	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Testimony to the Senate Committee on Health Monday, February 3, 2014 Conference Room 229 State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street RE: Senate Bill 2107 Relating to Health Dear Chair Green, Vice Chair Baker and Members of the Committee: The Hilo Medical Foundation Board supports SB 2107 that appropriates funds to the interdisciplinary HHSC Primary Care Training Program administered by Hilo Medical Center. There is ample evidence that primary care physicians serve as a strong foundation for a more efficient and effective health care system. State investment would help to guide health system change to achieve optimal, cost-efficient health for everyone, and support primary care medical training. The interdisciplinary HHSC Primary Care Training Program administered by Hilo Medical Center includes the Hawai'i Island Family Medicine Residency Program and training for advanced practice nurses from UH Manoa, nursing students from School of Nursing at UHH, clinical pharmacists form UHH College of Pharmacy, and post-doctoral psychology fellow from I Ola Lahui. This team care model is a transition from being soloists to being a member of an orchestra in providing health care. The team care approach is now recognized as an essential tool for constructing a more patient-centered, coordinated, and effective health care delivery system. We, the Hilo Medical Center Foundation, believe that good health care starts with the individual and their Primary Care Physician and health care team. It is with the voice of the people from rural communities like ours that we support SB 2107 that authorizes appropriation of funds for the HHSC Primary Care Training Program administered by the Hilo Medical Center in coordination with Hawaii Health Care Systems. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. Respectfully Submitted, Lori Rogers, Executive Director Hilo Medical Center Foundation 1190 Waiuanue Avenue #629 Hilo, Hawaii 96720 Phone: 808-935-2957 Fax: 808-974-4746

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THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2014

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

February 3, 2014
Conference Room 229
State Capitol

Support of SB 2107
Hawaii Health Systems Corporation – Primary Care Training Program
Victoria Rupp, PharmD
Clinical Pharmacy Specialist, Faculty at The Daniel K Inouye College of Pharmacy, UHH

As faculty member of The University of Hawaii-Hilo Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy, I resolve to strengthen the state's provider workforce through the HHSC Primary Care Training Program (HHSCPCTP).

Support of this program and of family medicine graduate education will generate greater numbers of providers practicing throughout the islands. I endorse the HHSCPCTP as a Means of Closing the Provider Gap in Hawaii.

Investing in training family practice residents in the neighbor islands is expected to yield a meaningful return on investment.

- Increasing the number of family practice physicians is expected to decrease the number and rate of “potentially avoidable hospitalizations,” which the state now pays for through both its Medicaid program and unreimbursed care by state's public hospital system, Hawaii Health Systems Corporation.
- In rural areas of the state the impact of the Residency Program and greater access to family medicine physicians is projected to have a profound impact on lowering the costs of treating expensive and debilitating conditions. For example, diabetes and coronary heart disease have reached epidemic proportions in Hawaii County compared to Oahu and other areas of the state where there is greater access to primary care.
- The known economic multiplier effect of additional physicians in Hawaii means each additional physician is expected to generate 5 new jobs and new tax revenue. (Source: The Lewin Group).

I recognize that the HHSCPCTP uses an advanced model of care delivery that eliminates the need to train or attract unrealistically high numbers of physicians. The current predominant model of care throughout the country involves one primary care physician caring for 2,000-2,500 individuals with a small staff, usually including a medical assistant and receptionist. The team model of care in which the HHSCPCTP is training Hawaii's future providers allows one physician and their team to care for up to 10,000 patients. Critical team components include a nurse practitioner or physician assistant and specialists in chronic disease management such as pharmacists, certified diabetes educators, behavioral health providers, licensed nurses, and well trained non-licensed staff.

I recognize that it is well documented throughout the nation that physicians attending rural training programs are much more likely to practice in a rural area. More than half of residents trained at rural sites stay and practice in this setting after they completed their residency. The same can be expected for advanced practice nurses, psychologists, and clinical pharmacists.

I thank you, Chairman Green and Committee members, for your foresight in supporting this measure. This legislation will make a significant impact in the rural communities throughout the neighbor islands due to this new paradigm of a TEAM approach in community health.

I urge you to pass SB 2107. Thank you.