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Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Senator David Ige, Chair
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

Hearing: February 20, 2014; 9:00 a.m.

SB 2447 SD1 – RELATING TO CANCER

Cory Chun, Government Relations Director – Hawaii Pacific
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written comments in support of SB 2447 SD1, which appropriates funding for the Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program.

The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) is the nation's leading cancer advocacy organization. ACS CAN works with federal, state, and local government bodies to support evidence-based policy and legislative solutions designed to eliminate cancer as a major health problem.

Hawaii's Breast and Cervical Cancer program provides free pap tests to women aged 50 to 64 and mammograms to women aged 50 to 64 who are uninsured, underinsured, and have income below 250 percent of the federal poverty level. From 2007-2012, Hawaii's program detected 75 invasive breast cancers and 33 cervical cancers and precancerous lesions.

In 2010, 58% of all women in Hawaii were screened for breast cancer and 84% were screened for cervical cancer. Those rates dropped significantly among uninsured women who were screened at 28% and 62% respectively.

The Affordable Care Act will provide women with greater access to preventive cancer screenings and treatment. However, gaps will still remain for women who will continue to be uninsured or underinsured due to affordability, literacy, and language related barriers. It is estimated that over 10,985 Hawaii women will continue to lack access to cervical cancer screenings, and 4,639 women will lack access to breast cancer screenings in 2014. Maintaining adequate funding will preserve a critical safety net for thousands of Hawaii women who will continue to lack access to essential screening, diagnostic and treatment services.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
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Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2447 on Feb 20, 2014 09:00AM*
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SB2447

Submitted on: 2/18/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2014 09:00AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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