February 6, 2014



To: Chairperson Suzanne Chun Oakland Vice Chairperson Josh Green M.D. Members of the Senate Human Services Committee

> Chairperson Rosalyn H. Baker Vice Chairperson Brain T. Taniguchi Members of the Senate Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee

From: Victoria DeFuentes \square

Subject: Support for SB2479, Chiropractic Care, Med-QUEST, Medicaid

I support SB2479. The bill is proposing that both Med-QUEST and Medicaid provide chiropractic services with a limit of 24 visits per calendar year.

Chiropractic care is mostly used to treat neuromusculoskeletal complaints such as: neck pain, back pain, headaches, and joint pain. It is important for everyone to have the ability to have chiropractic care because it helps prevent the body from having serious injuries in the future like surgeries or having to use medicine. Medicaid and Med-QUEST provide health care for any eligible Hawaii resident but one thing that is not covered is Chiropractic care.

Aside from dentists and medical doctors. Chiropractors are "the third largest group of doctorate-level, portal-of-entry primary-care providers in the nation" (American Chiropractic Association). It is necessary that Medicaid and Med-QUEST provide people with the coverage of chiropractic care considering how many people need it and use it. Including chiropractic coverage could prevent so many serious injuries that could end up costing so much money because chiropractors help people with pain and prevent them from having serious damage to the muscles.

I support SB2479 and I hope that it will be passed.

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my prother recently had a back tumor, and she attends chiropractic careto help with back problems, and the care has been very beneficial, in recovering by her surgery.

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