



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
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In reply, please refer to:  
File:

## Senate Committee on Health

### S.B. 2854, Relating to the Neurotrauma Advisory Board

Testimony of Gary L. Gill  
Acting Director of Health

February 3, 2014

1 **Department's Position:** The Department supports S.B. 2854 relating to the Neurotrauma Advisory  
2 Board.

3 **Fiscal Implications:** There are no fiscal implications.

4 **Purpose and Justification:** S.B. 2854 proposes to amend HRS §321-3 to change the minimum  
5 number of members on the Neurotrauma Advisory Board (NTAB) from 21 to 11 members as  
6 appointed by the Director of Health. The smaller number of members will allow the board to have  
7 quorum on a regular basis improve the effectiveness of its statewide advisory board's capacity to  
8 assist the Department to meet its legislative charge. More importantly, a total of three (3) survivors  
9 or family members of individuals with neurotrauma will be appointed to the Board by the Director  
10 and will have the highest number of representatives as compared to the other groups. This measure  
11 proposes to delete representation from the Spinal Cord Injury Association as this association is no  
12 longer in operation. A spinal cord injury survivor or family member will continue to be represented  
13 on the NTAB. The Department has discussed this measure with the Board and they are in support of  
14 reducing the number of board members. Lastly, this measure will allow the Director to appoint up to

1 three state and county ex officio non-voting members to the NTAB. Partnerships and collaboration  
2 with such entities will provide a more coordinated effort for NTAB initiatives.  
3 Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

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