

# WIMAH

WORK INJURY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII  
91-2135 FORT WEAVER ROAD SUITE #170  
EWA BEACH, HAWAII 96706

MAULI OLA  
THE POWER OF HEALING

FEBRUARY 5, 2014

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

SENATE BILL 3091 RELATING TO HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEM CORPORATION  
PRIMARY CARE TRAINING PROGRAM

APPROPRIATES FUNDS FOR THE INTERDISCIPLINARY HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION PRIMARY CARE TRAINING PROGRAM AT HILO MEDICAL CENTER. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2014

THE WORK INJURY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII UNDERSTANDS THE SHORTAGE OF DOCTOR ON THE NEIGHBOR ISLANDS. WE FULLY SUPPORT THIS BILL AND ITS INTENT TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF DOCTORS. WE HOPE ALSO THAT THESE DOCTORS WILL PROVIDE CARE FOR INJURED WORKERS' WHO DESPERATELY NEED MORE PHYSICIANS ON THE NEIGHBOR ISLANDS.

YOUR PASSAGE OF THIS MEASURE IS GREATLY APPRECIATED.

MAHALO,

GEORGE M. WAIALEALE  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
WORK INJURY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII

EMAIL: [WIMAHXDIR@AOL.COM](mailto:WIMAHXDIR@AOL.COM) PHONE: (808)-383-0436

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [mgariando@hpsc.org](mailto:mgariando@hpsc.org)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB3091 on Feb 5, 2014 13:30PM  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 05, 2014 11:57:13 AM

---

**SB3091**

Submitted on: 2/5/2014

Testimony for HTH on Feb 5, 2014 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melissa Gariando	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Please support this bill. It is very important to the community.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [smatson@hhsc.org](mailto:smatson@hhsc.org)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB3091 on Feb 5, 2014 13:30PM  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 05, 2014 12:03:21 PM

---

**SB3091**

Submitted on: 2/5/2014

Testimony for HTH on Feb 5, 2014 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sherise Matson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: With a growing and aging community and lack of providers, 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.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**Mark A. Knox, MD**  
*Hawaii Island Family Medicine Residency*  
45 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 5th, 2014  
Conference Room 229  
State Capitol

**Support of SB 3091**  
Hawaii Health Systems Corporation – Primary Care Training Program  
**Mark A. Knox, MD, faculty member**

As member of the Hawaii Island Family Medicine Residency Program faculty, 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 strongly urge your support in appropriating \$2.8 million for SB 3091 and have it included as a budgetary line item in the Hawaii State Budget of HHSC.

I urge you to pass SB 3091. Thank you.