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PRESENTATION OF
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
REGULATED INDUSTRIES COMPLAINTS OFFICE

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE
ON
CONSUMER PROTECTION AND COMMERCE

TWENTY-EIGHTH STATE LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION, 2016

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2016
5:00 P.M.

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL NO. 1627 H.D.1
RELATING TO MEDICAL INVESTIGATIONS BY
THE REGULATED INDUSTRIES COMPLAINTS OFFICE

TO THE HONORABLE ANGUS L.K. MCKELVEY, CHAIR,
AND TO THE HONORABLE JUSTIN H. WOODSON, VICE CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department") appreciates the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 1627 H.D.1, Relating to Medical Investigations by the Regulated Industries Complaints Office. My name is Daria Loy-Goto and I am the Complaints and Enforcement Officer for the Department's Regulated Industries Complaints Office ("RICO"). RICO supports this bill.

House Bill No. 1627 H.D.1 requires RICO to establish a division that specializes in investigating medical complaints and appropriates unspecified funds for five field investigator positions to handle investigations of medical complaints. Two of the five positions are slated for O'ahu and the remaining three positions are allocated, one each, for the Big Island, Maui, and Kauai. The bill also has a defective effective date.

The additional staff would assist RICO in its investigation of medical complaints and allow RICO's existing staff more time to devote to investigating complaints involving the other professions RICO oversees.

RICO does note the Department is currently undergoing rule making for an increase in the compliance resolution fee paid by all licensees to support RICO enforcement. The proposed fee increase for medical licensees would need to be adjusted to cover the personnel and operating costs relating to the new responsibilities provided for in this bill.

Should this bill move forward, RICO requests that the Committee consider replacing at least one investigator position with a staff attorney position. RICO currently employs nine attorneys who handle both licensed and unlicensed activity prosecutions for all of the forty-nine professions RICO oversees.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 1627 H.D.1. I will be happy to answer any questions the Committee may have.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:31 PM
To: CPCtestimony
Cc: cflanders@hma-assn.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1627 on Feb 11, 2016 17:00PM*

HB1627

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for CPC on Feb 11, 2016 17:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christopher D. Flanders, D.O.	Hawaii Medical Association	Support	Yes

Comments:

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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Cc: bishopmattj@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1627 on Feb 11, 2016 17:00PM*

HB1627

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for CPC on Feb 11, 2016 17:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Matt Bishop	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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