

**American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
District VIII, Hawaii (Guam & American Samoa) Section**

Greigh Hirata, MD, FACOG, Chair
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To: [COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS](#)
Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

DATE: Tuesday, February 23, 2016
TIME: 9:50 a.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 211

FROM: Hawaii Section, ACOG
Dr. Greigh Hirata, MD, FACOG, Chair
Dr. Jennifer Salcedo, MD, MPH, MPP, FACOG, Vice-Chair
Lauren Zirbel, Community and Government Relations

Re: SB 2319 SD1, Relating to Insurance

Position: Support

Dear Senator Tokuda, Senator Dela Cruz, and Committee Members,

The Hawaii Section of the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (HI ACOG) supports SB2319 and other legislative proposals that promote increased access to contraception.

As a Section of the Nation's leading group of physicians dedicated to improving health care for women, HI ACOG represents over 160 obstetrician/gynecologist physicians in our state.

Impact of Limited Contraceptive Supply Provision

- Providing a greater number of birth control pill packs at once is associated with higher continuation rates.¹
- Dispensing a greater number of birth control pill packs at once is associated with fewer pregnancy tests, fewer unplanned pregnancies, and decreased health care costs per woman.²
- ACOG and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommend prescribing or supplying up to one year of birth control pills (13 28-day pill packs), based on the woman's preferences and anticipated use.^{3,4,5}

For these reasons, **HI ACOG supports SB2319 and urges the Legislature to consider changing the language to allow provision of up to a 1-year's supply of contraception from the initial prescription, based on the prescriber's discretion.**

We stand ready to provide you with factual information on medical issues that come before the Legislature, and hope you will contact us at any time.

¹ Steenland MW, Rodriguez MI, Marchbanks PA, Curtis KM. How does the number of oral contraceptive pill packs dispensed or prescribed affect continuation and other measures of consistent and correct use? A systematic review. *Contraception* 2013;87:605–10.

² Foster D, Parvataneni R, de Bocanegra H, Lewis C, Bradsberry M, Darney P. Number of oral contraceptive pill packages dispensed, method continuation, and costs. *Obstet Gynecol* 2006;108:1107–14.

³ Understanding and using the U.S. Selected Practice Recommendations for Contraceptive Use, 2013. Committee Opinion No. 577. American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. *Obstet Gynecol* 2013;122:1132–3.

⁴ Access to contraception. Committee Opinion No. 615. American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. *Obstet Gynecol* 2015;125:250–5.

⁵ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Selected Practice Recommendations for Contraceptive Use. *MMWR* 2013;62

From: [Planned Parenthood Votes Northwest](#) on behalf of [Cherise Braxton-Brooks](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Please support SB 2319 for increased birth control access
Date: Friday, February 26, 2016 9:26:55 PM

Feb 27, 2016

Hawaii Senate Committee On Ways And Means
HI

Dear Committee On Ways And Means,

I am writing to urge the Ways & Means committee to move forward on SB 2319, an important and commonsense bill to provide 12 months of birth control at a time.

Everyone deserves affordable and accessible birth control that works for them, regardless of income or insurance. Consistent access to birth control gives women the ability to control when and if they have children, giving them more career and education opportunities and healthier pregnancies.

Today, most women have to refill their birth control every month, which is a burden for many and leads to inconsistent use. SB 2319 will change that by allowing women to pick up a prescription only once a year.

Please support SB 2319 and move it forward into becoming law. Thank you for your consideration!

Sincerely,

Cherise Braxton-Brooks

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