

SB2687

Measure Title: RELATING TO CANCER.

Report Title: Colorectal Cancer Screening and Awareness Program; Department of Health; Appropriation (\$)

Description: Creates the colorectal cancer screening and awareness program within the department of health and appropriates funds for the program.

Companion: [HB1854](#)

Package: None

Current Referral: CPH, WAM

Introducer(s): BAKER, ESPERO, GREEN, KIDANI, RUDERMAN, English, Gabbard, Taniguchi, Tokuda



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Written Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health
February 6, 2016 at 9:00 am

By

Robert Bley-Vroman, Chancellor

and

Jerris Hedges, MD, MS, MMM

Dean, John A. Burns School of Medicine
Interim Director, University of Hawai'i Cancer Center
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

SB 2687 – RELATING TO CANCER

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Committee:

The University of Hawai'i Cancer Center strongly supports this bill.

The UH Cancer Center is one of only 69 institutions in the United States that hold the prestigious National Cancer Institute (NCI) designation, and is the only NCI-designated center in the Pacific. The NCI designation provides cancer researchers in Hawai'i with greater access to federal funding and research opportunities, and gives the people of Hawai'i and the Pacific region access to many innovative and potentially life-saving clinical trials without the necessity of traveling to the mainland.

This bill will launch a sorely needed public colorectal cancer screening and awareness program. The goal of the program is to increase colon cancer screening rates in Hawai'i in conjunction with the "80% by 2018" initiative of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer deaths, killing nearly 60,000 people in the United States and more than 250 people in Hawai'i each year. Regular colorectal cancer screening in men and women over age 50 can reduce these deaths by more than 40 percent, with the potential to save 100 lives in Hawai'i each year.

Recommended colorectal cancer screening tests include colonoscopy, sigmoidoscopy, and stool blood tests. Costs for these tests range from \$600 for colonoscopy every 10 years to \$25 - \$30 for annual stool tests. In contrast, the cost of treating colon cancers ranges from \$10,000 (early stage disease) to \$40,000 (late stage disease) per person. This tremendous cost burden does not consider the debilitating morbidity and loss of productivity associated with colorectal cancer and its treatment.

Currently, approximately 72 percent of United States men and women age 50 and over have been screened for colorectal cancers. Hawai'i's screening rates for this group is

approximately 64 percent. However, when we look at differences by gender, ethnicity, location, education, or income, the colorectal cancer screening rates are much lower – often less than 40 percent for people over age 50 in some groups. The UH Cancer Center is currently conducting research designed to improve the uptake of colorectal cancer screening in several key underserved groups, including rural and Native Hawaiian populations, and we are meeting with great success in improving screening rates.

We believe that launching a state-led colorectal cancer screening and awareness campaign will provide the “rising tide that raises all ships” to help improve colorectal cancer screening rates in all at-risk groups, and to help Hawai‘i achieve and perhaps surpass the CDC’s goal of having 80 percent of Hawai‘i’s men and women over age 50 regularly screened for colorectal cancer by 2018.

We respectfully urge you to pass this bill.



American Cancer Society
Cancer Action Network
2370 Nu`uanu Avenue
Honolulu, Hawai`i 96817
808.432.9149
www.acscan.org

Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health
Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

SB 2678 – RELATING TO CANCER

Cory Chun, Government Relations Director – Hawaii Pacific
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 2678, which appropriates funds to the Department of Health to promote and educate the public on colorectal cancer prevention and awareness.

The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) is the nation's leading cancer advocacy organization. ACS CAN works with federal, state, and local government bodies to support evidence-based policy and legislative solutions designed to eliminate cancer as a major health problem.

Colorectal cancer affects about 900 people in Hawaii each year. Colorectal cancer is a dangerous and deadly cancer because precancerous polyps and early-stage colorectal cancer don't always cause symptoms, especially at first. This means that someone could have polyps or colorectal cancer and not know it. That is why having a screening test is so important.

The purpose of this measure is to establish an education program through the 80 by 18 national initiative. The 80 by 18 initiative seeks to increase the screening rates for colorectal cancer to 80% by 2018. The Department of Health, along with community and health care organizations, are working to increase these rates to achieve the 80 by 18 goal. Funding through this measure will help all the parties move closer to achieving this goal.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important issue.

From: [Daniel Shockley](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in Support of SB2687; 2/6/16 CPH hearing
Date: Thursday, February 04, 2016 3:51:25 PM

Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health

Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair

Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Kidani and members of the committee,

I am in support of Senate Bill 2687. As a retired military member, serving 22 years on active duty, I undergo annual physical examinations at the Spark M. Matsunaga Veterans Affairs Medical Center. May 2012 the VA GI Clinic conducted my first colonoscopy. Other than a little weight loss, I considered myself to be in good health. The results of the colonoscopy revealed 100 polyps embedded throughout my colon, rectum and anus. The VA promptly referred me to the Tripler Army Medical Center, Certified Genetic Counselor for further evaluation to include DNA testing. The DNA test results revealed I have a rare gene mutation known as Adenomatous Polyposis Coli (APC) which confirmed the diagnosis of Attenuated Familial Adenomatous Polyposis (AFAP). As a result I underwent successful total-proctocolectomy w/ileostomy surgery in July, 2013 at Tripler. You can read my story at www.army.mil/article/90122

It is important to note there are no statistics on AFAP. It is estimated <0.03% of the global population have AFAP. Dr. Henry T. Lynch, one of the founding fathers of cancer genetic research, is credited w/the discovery of AFAP. It is because of the aggressive screening by the VA GI Clinic and Tripler Certified Genetic Counselor this gene mutation did not impact other organs. As a colon cancer survivor I am able to share my success story on behalf of those who have gone before that were not afforded the opportunity.

As a colon cancer live case presentation I encourage you to please move this measure forward and help us take one step closer to preventing another tragic loss of life from cancer.

Respectfully,

Daniel P. Shockley
99-114 Kihewa Place
Aiea, HI 96701

From: [Jenny Hausler](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in Support of SB2687; 2/6/16 CPH hearing
Date: Thursday, February 04, 2016 6:06:11 PM

Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health

Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair

Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Kidani and members of the committee,

I am in **support** of Senate Bill 2687. Too many people, including my late husband, suffer and needlessly die from cancer every year, when preventative screenings can help save lives. Colorectal cancer is often found after symptoms appear, but most people with early colorectal cancer don't have symptoms of the disease. This is why it's important to get the recommended screening tests before any symptoms develop. In many people, screening can also prevent colorectal cancer by finding and removing polyps before they have the chance to turn into cancer. When colorectal cancer is found at an early stage before it has spread, the 5-year relative survival rate is about 90%. But only about 4 out of 10 colorectal cancers are found at this early stage. When cancer has spread outside the colon or rectum, survival rates are lower. Please move this measure forward and help us take one step closer to preventing another tragic loss of life from cancer.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Ikeda Hausler

1429 Kuloko Street

Pearl City, HI 96782

PH. 808 368 4594

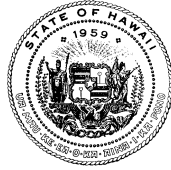
From: [Yoanna Tamura](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: "Testimony in Support of SB2687; 2/6/16 CPH hearing"
Date: Thursday, February 04, 2016 3:09:03 PM

Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health
Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Kidani and members of the committee,

I am in support of Senate Bill 2687. Too many people suffer and needlessly die from cancer every year, when preventative screenings can help save lives. Colorectal cancer is often found after symptoms appear, but most people with early colorectal cancer don't have symptoms of the disease. This is why it's important to get the recommended screening tests before any symptoms develop. In many people, screening can also prevent colorectal cancer by finding and removing polyps before they have the chance to turn into cancer. When colorectal cancer is found at an early stage before it has spread, the 5-year relative survival rate is about 90%. But only about 4 out of 10 colorectal cancers are found at this early stage. When cancer has spread outside the colon or rectum, survival rates are lower. Please move this measure forward and help us take one step closer to preventing another tragic loss of life from cancer.

Yoanna Tamura
Pearl City, HI



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony COMMENTING on SB2687
RELATING TO THE COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING
AND AWARENESS PROGRAM**

SENATOR ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH
Hearing Date: February 6, 2016 Room Number: 229

1 **Fiscal Implications:** Appropriated out of the general fund, the sum of \$100,000 or so much
2 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 for the Hawaii Colorectal Cancer
3 Screening and Awareness Program to the Department of Health (DOH).

4 **Department Testimony:** The DOH appreciates the intent of SB2687, but defers to the
5 Governor's Executive Budget request.

6 The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) recognizes the importance of early
7 detection and recommends screening for colorectal cancer beginning at age 50 years and
8 continuing until age 75 years. Early detection of colorectal cancer is critical as studies have
9 shown, the five (5) year survival rate is about 90 percent among individuals whose cancer was
10 found and treated appropriately.¹ Colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death
11 in Hawaii and there are clear ethnic and gender disparities in colorectal cancer mortality.
12 Colorectal cancer screening rates are much lower for those residing in low-income households
13 and those with less than a high school education. Although colorectal cancer screening rates
14 have increased from 59.4% in 2011 to 66.5% in 2014,² they remain well below the recommended
15 goal of 80% by 2018.³ Hawaii's screening rate when compared to all states ranks in the bottom
16 half indicating there is more work to be done to increase early detection of colorectal cancer.

17 Increasing colorectal cancer screening for people age 50 and over is a key priority for the
18 DOH's Hawaii Comprehensive Cancer Control Program and the Hawaii Cancer Control

¹ American Cancer Society, Cancer Facts and Figures 2015

² Hawaii Health Data Warehouse; Hawaii State Department of Health, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Colorectal screening (50-75), for the State of Hawaii, for the Years 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, Reported Created: 1/7/16.

³ National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable. 80% by 2018. Retrieved January 15, 2016 from <http://nccrt.org/tools/80-percent-by-2018/>.

1 Coalition's (HCCC) Colorectal Task Force. The proposed Colorectal Cancer Screening and
2 Awareness Program in SB 2687 aligns with the priorities in the Hawaii State Cancer Plan to
3 increase colorectal screening rates, reduce morbidity and mortality of colorectal cancer through
4 screening and early detection. The additional resources would be used to propel the concerted
5 efforts with HCCC to educate women and men, in particular those at greater risk, so Hawaii can
6 be closer to reaching the screening goal of 80 percent by 2018.

7 Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Cc: sean@blacklavavape.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2687 on Feb 6, 2016 09:00AM
Date: Thursday, February 04, 2016 1:02:26 PM

SB2687

Submitted on: 2/4/2016

Testimony for CPH on Feb 6, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sean Anderson	Individual	Comments Only	Yes

Comments: I am concerned on where the state will get the money to finance this.

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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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Cc: Teddykim613@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2687 on Feb 6, 2016 09:00AM*
Date: Monday, February 01, 2016 6:35:09 PM

SB2687

Submitted on: 2/1/2016

Testimony for CPH on Feb 6, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Teddy Kim	Individual	Oppose	No

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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From: [Mark K. Vasconcellos](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Date: Thursday, February 04, 2016 2:49:07 PM

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Kidani and members of the committee,

I am in support of Senate Bill 2687. Too many people suffer and needlessly die from cancer every year, when preventative screenings can help save lives. Colorectal cancer is often found after symptoms appear, but most people with early colorectal cancer don't have symptoms of the disease. This is why it's important to get the recommended screening tests before any symptoms develop. In many people, screening can also prevent colorectal cancer by finding and removing polyps before they have the chance to turn into cancer. When colorectal cancer is found at an early stage before it has spread, the 5-year relative survival rate is about 90%. But only about 4 out of 10 colorectal cancers are found at this early stage. When cancer has spread outside the colon or rectum, survival rates are lower. Please move this measure forward and help us take one step closer to preventing another tragic loss of life from cancer.

Thank you

Mark Vasconcellos

Honolulu, Hawaii 96816

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