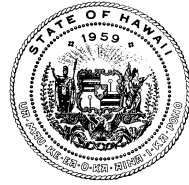


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



VIRGINIA PRESSLER, M.D.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
1250 Punchbowl Street
Honolulu, HI 96813-2416
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony COMMENTING on S.B. 304
Relating to Health**

SENATOR JOSH GREEN, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Hearing Date: February 6, 2015

Room Number: 414

1 **Fiscal Implications:** The measure appropriates \$10,000 which is not sufficient to conduct the
2 comprehensive reviews, collect and analyze this data, produce and distribute related reports, and
3 provide reimbursement for committee expenses such as travel.

4 **Department Testimony:** We appreciate the intent but defer to the Governor's Executive
5 Budget request and for the Department of Health's appropriations and personnel priorities. The
6 bill amends Hawaii Revised Statutes, Chapter 324 to establish a Maternal Mortality Review
7 Panel to conduct comprehensive, multidisciplinary reviews of maternal deaths in Hawaii to
8 identify factors associated with the deaths and make recommendations for system changes to
9 improve the delivery of health care and reduce maternal mortality in Hawaii. This panel would
10 be responsible for submission of an annual report to the legislature on their activities, identifiable
11 trends in maternal deaths, including recommendations for systems changes, and any proposed
12 legislation to reduce the number of preventable maternal deaths. The Department does not
13 currently have the capacity or resources to carry out the requirements of this measure.

14 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

15 **Offered Amendments: None**

OFFICE OF INFORMATION PRACTICES

STATE OF HAWAII
NO. 1 CAPITOL DISTRICT BUILDING
250 SOUTH HOTEL STREET, SUITE 107
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE: 808-586-1400 FAX: 808-586-1412
EMAIL: oip@hawaii.gov

To: Senate Committee on Health

From: Cheryl Kakazu Park, Director

Date: February 6, 2015, 2:30 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 414

Re: Testimony on S.B. No. 304 and S.B. No. 1033
Relating to Health

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on these bills. The Office of Information Practices (“OIP”) takes no position on these bills, which would establish a maternity mortality review panel within the Department of Health. OIP offers comments on proposed subsection 324-C(a), which exempts the proposed panel from part I of chapter 92, HRS, the Sunshine Law.

OIP generally advises the Legislature that the question of whether to create an exception to the Sunshine Law’s open meeting scheme is a policy question for the Legislature to decide, considering carefully whether the exception is warranted given the nature of the board and the issues it is charged with. However, given the nature of this board’s authority and likelihood that its discussions will largely involve individually identifiable medical information, OIP believes that the requested exception would be a reasonable measure to protect individual privacy.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



HAWAII MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

1360 S. Beretania Street, Suite 200, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814
Phone (808) 536-7702 Fax (808) 528-2376 www.hmaonline.net

TO:

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

DATE: Friday, February 06, 2015
TIME: 2:30PM
PLACE: Conference Room 414
FROM: Hawaii Medical Association
Dr. Christopher Flanders, DO, Executive Director
Lauren Zirbel, Community and Government Relations

Re: SB 304 & SB 1033

Position: SUPPORT

This measure establishes the Hawaii maternal mortality review panel within the department of health to conduct a comprehensive review of maternal deaths that have occurred in the State.

HMA strongly supports this measure, which establishes a maternal mortality review panel to conduct comprehensive, multidisciplinary reviews of maternal deaths in Hawaii for the purpose of identifying factors associated with those deaths to improve services for women in our state.

As you may know, Hawaii's Maternal and Perinatal Mortality Review Committee was an active group until about 15 or more years ago when this committee ceased to exist due to lack of administrative support. During that time, protection from discovery or legal action for the review process and committee participants was provided by Hawaii Revised Statutes 324-1 to 4, and this law is still current today. This law requires updating and revision.

Hawaii is one of only 14 states in the nation that does not have a Maternal Mortality Review Committee (ACOG Annual Clinical Meeting, May 2011). Despite advances in medical care, the maternal mortality rate in the U.S. appears to be rising, and has reached a rate that is now four times higher than the federal government's Healthy People 2010 goal.

The U.S. pregnancy-related mortality ratio was 14.5 per 100,000 live births during 1998-2005 (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention-CDC). This is higher than any other period in the

Officers

*President - Robert Sloan, MD, President-Elect - Scott McCaffrey, MD
Immediate Past President - Walton Shim, MD, Secretary - Thomas Kosasa, MD
Treasurer - Brandon Lee, MD Executive Director - Christopher Flanders, DO*

past 20 years. U.S. officials had hoped to decrease this rate from 8.4 in 1997 to 3.3 deaths per 100,000 live births by 2010 (Healthy People 2010), and instead the actual rate was 4 times that number. According to World Health Organization (WHO) estimates for 2008, 47 countries had lower maternal mortality ratios than the U.S. (WHO, Trends in Maternal Mortality: 1990-2008)

Hawaii's maternal mortality ratio from 2001 through 2006 was estimated by the CDC as 13.9 deaths per 100,000 live births (CDC, National Center for Health Statistics-NCHS, 2001-2006 data). According to Hawaii Department of Health data, there were 102 maternal deaths from 2001 through 2011, or an average of 9 deaths per year. These numbers are thought to be under-reported not only in Hawaii, but across the nation. Many experts caution that there is a 30% to 100% under-reporting of maternal deaths. Experts also estimate that only 30-40% of the rise in national maternal deaths can be attributed to new data collection techniques and better reporting.

Nationally, women of color, particularly African American women, have a higher maternal mortality ratio than white women in the U.S. (CDC, NCHS, 2010). No current similar data are publicly available or analyzed for our multiethnic state.

As an example of how comprehensive maternal mortality reviews can contribute to improved quality of care, the United Kingdom reports targeting particular pregnant populations for earlier prenatal care, education campaigns for care providers and other interventions based on their maternal mortality review data with a subsequent decrease in maternal mortality (Saving Mothers' Lives, Reviewing maternal deaths to make motherhood safer: 2006-2008. British Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology. Volume 118, Supplement 1, March 2011). In the United States, the Illinois Maternal Mortality Review Committee (MMRC) found that obstetric hemorrhage was the leading cause of death, with 69% thought to be potentially avoidable. The Illinois MMRC was instrumental in mandating that every obstetric hospital in their state undergo mandatory Obstetric Hemorrhage training [Reducing Maternal Deaths through State Maternal Mortality Review. Kilpatrick SJ, et al. 2012 Sep;21(9):905-9. Journal of Womens Health (Larchmont)].

Establishing a maternal mortality review will to a long way towards improving women's services.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

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

Lori Kamemoto, MD, MPH, FACOG, Chair
94-235 Hanawai Circle, #1B
Waipahu, Hawaii 96797



TO: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

DATE: Friday, February 06, 2015
TIME: 2:30PM
PLACE: Conference Room 414
FROM: American Congress of Ob and Gyn, District VIII, Hawaii Section
Dr. Lori Kamemoto, Chair Hawaii Section
Dr. Greigh Hirata, Vice-Chair Hawaii Section
Lauren Zirbel, Community and Government Relations

Re: SB 304 & SB 1033

Position: STRONGLY SUPPORT

This measure establishes the Hawaii maternal mortality review panel within the department of health to conduct a comprehensive review of maternal deaths that have occurred in the State.

ACOG strongly supports this measure, which establishes a maternal mortality review panel to conduct comprehensive, multidisciplinary reviews of maternal deaths in Hawaii for the purpose of identifying factors associated with those deaths to improve services for women in our state.

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Establishing a maternal mortality review will to a long way towards improving women's services and saving lives.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Raydeen M Busse, MD
1401 S. Beretani St. Ste 310
Honolulu, HI 96814

TO: [COMMITTEE ON HEALTH](#)
Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

DATE: Friday, February 06, 2015
TIME: 2:30PM
PLACE: Conference Room 414
FROM: [name]

Re: SB 304 & SB 1033

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