



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
P. O. Box 339  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

February 15, 2017

TO: The Honorable Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair  
House Committee on Human Services

FROM: Pankaj Bhanot, Director

SUBJECT: **HB 843 – RELATING TO DENTAL HEALTH**

Hearing: February 15, 2017, 9:00 a.m.  
Conference Room 329, State Capitol

**DEPARTMENT'S POSITION:** The Department of Human Services (DHS) appreciates the opportunity to testify on this bill and provides comments. We ask for the Legislature's support of the restoration of adult dental services included in the Governor's budget request.

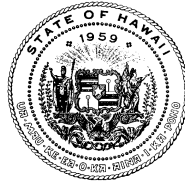
**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this bill is to improve access to dental health care in the State by restoring basic adult dental benefits to Medicaid enrollees.

The DHS appreciates and supports the restoration of a basic oral health benefit for adult Medicaid and QUEST Integration enrollees. Oral health in the state is a public health crisis, and the restoration of a basic adult dental benefit would help address that crisis. The current limited benefit of extractions and emergency-only coverage does not support the goals of whole person care. Lack of access to preventive oral health care has a negative impact on a person's health, especially for individuals with chronic diseases such as coronary disease and diabetes, and for pregnant women and their newborns as a mother's oral health directly impacts her baby.

The basic dental benefit would include up to \$500 per person per benefit year and also provide medically needed dentures up to \$500 each for upper and lower dentures for approximately 180,000 adults. DHS estimates that the appropriation amount included in the

Governor's budget for FY 18 of \$4,704,480 in general funds, or \$11,464,103 of combined state and federal funds would re-establish basic adult dental benefits, and for FY19, the general fund request would be \$9,408,960, or \$23,522,400 including state and federal funds. These amounts were included in the Governor's Executive budget. The Department prefers that the funds be appropriated through the Executive Budget request as it is very difficult to implement a program, such as an adult dental program that will include preventative and essential services that would be time limited.

The DHS respectfully requests that the Legislature support the funding priority for adult dental services included in the Governor's Executive Budget.



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
P. O. Box 3378  
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378  
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony COMMENTING on H.B.843  
DENTAL HEALTH**

REPRESENTATIVE DEE MORIKAWA, CHAIR  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

Hearing Date: February 15, 2017

Room Number: 329

1 **Fiscal Implications:** HB843 proposes adding a general fund appropriation for fiscal years 2018  
2 and 2019 to the Department of Human Services budget to restore basic adult dental benefits to  
3 Medicaid enrollees.

4 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health is providing comments on HB843 Dental  
5 Health. The Department of Health respectfully defers to the Department of Human Services  
6 regarding HB843

7 The Department of Health 2015 “Hawaii Oral Health: Key Findings” report presents data  
8 indicating the need for basic preventive and treatment dental services for all Hawaii residents  
9 including adults. As described in the bill introduction, the 2012 data shows low-income adults  
10 less likely to visit a dentist each year and are more likely to suffer from tooth loss than high  
11 income adults (Hawaii Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System).

12 Also concerning, 2009-2011 data shows less than half of pregnant women (41%) see a  
13 dentist although national health recommendations state dental visits are safe and important to  
14 prevent dental problems for mothers and their developing babies. Low-income pregnant women  
15 and those on Medicaid/QUEST health insurance have the lowest estimates for dental visits  
16 (Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System).

17 Nationally, several states have shown a lack of regular dental care drives up health care  
18 costs by examining emergency department data. Without access to preventive and treatment  
19 services, many residents seek care at hospital emergency departments for dental problems  
20 although dental services are not available there. In 2012, there were more than 3,000 emergency

1 department (ED) visits by children and adults in Hawaii for preventable dental problems,  
2 representing more than \$8.5 million dollars in hospital charges by both state, federal and private  
3 providers. The average charge per ED visit was \$2,854.09. Since 2006, the number of  
4 preventable ED visits for dental problems increased by 67%, significantly higher than the  
5 national average.

6 The “Hawaii Oral Health: Key Findings” report identified eight strategies to improve oral  
7 health and includes expanding Medicaid dental services for adults beyond the limited benefits for  
8 emergency and palliative care. A copy of the report can be found at:

9 [http://health.hawaii.gov/about/files/2013/06/Key\\_Findings\\_wC.pdf](http://health.hawaii.gov/about/files/2013/06/Key_Findings_wC.pdf)

10 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
STATE COUNCIL  
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES  
919 ALA MOANA BOULEVARD, ROOM 113  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814  
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543  
February 15, 2017

The Honorable Dee Morikawa, Chair  
House Committee on Human Services  
Twenty-Ninth Legislature  
State Capitol  
State of Hawaii  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Representative Morikawa and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: HB 843 – Relating to Dental Health


The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD) **SUPPORTS HB 843**. The purpose of the bill is to improve access to dental health care in the State by restoring basic adult dental benefits to Medicaid enrollees.

The Council cannot emphasize enough the importance of dental care services that include preventive, restorative, prosthetic, and emergency services for people with DD. We are all aware of how oral health, or the lack thereof, affects all aspects (emotional, psychological, and social) of our lives. Numerous individuals can share with you their experience of having a tooth or teeth extracted or acquiring serious health problems because necessary dental services were not available because of the termination of the Medicaid adult dental benefit coverage in 1996. Compounding the challenges is the limited number of dentists on the Neighbor Islands who are available and willing to serve Medicaid enrollees

We applaud the Legislature's initiative in restoring basic adult dental benefits through HB 843.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **support of HB 843**.

Sincerely,

  
Waynette K.Y. Cabral, MSW  
Executive Administrator

  
Josephine C. Woll  
Chair



**HPCA**

HAWAII PRIMARY CARE ASSOCIATION

**TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES  
Wednesday, February 15, 2017, 9:00 a.m.  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329**

**RE: SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL NO. 843, RELATING TO DENTAL  
HEALTH.**

Chair Morikawa, Vice Chair Todd, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Robert Hirokawa and I am the Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Primary Care Association (HPCA), a 501(c)(3) organization established to advocate for, expand access to, and sustain high quality care through the statewide network of Community Health Centers (Federally Qualified Health Center) throughout the State of Hawaii. The HPCA strongly **SUPPORTS** House Bill No. 843.

As presently drafted, the bill would appropriate an unspecified amount of general funds for fiscal year 2017-2018, and the same amount for fiscal year 2018-2019, to restore basic adult dental benefits to Medicaid enrollees. The bill would also require the Department of Human Services to obtain the maximum federal matching funds available for this expenditure.

The reinstatement of adult dental benefits to Medicaid enrollees is a priority of the Ige Administration, and as such, general fund appropriations in the amounts of \$4,704,480 for fiscal year 2017-2018 and \$9,408,960 for fiscal year 2018-2019 have been requested in House Bill No. 100, Line Item HMS401. Staying consistent with our position from last year, the HPCA supports funding in these amounts.

However, recent circumstances have prompted the HPCA to further clarify its position concerning the reinstatement of adult dental benefits for Medicaid enrollees. In 2013, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals opined in *California Association of Rural Health Clinics v. Toby Douglas, Director of the California Department of Health Care Services*, (2013 WL 5184355 (Ninth Cir. 2013)), that California legislation eliminating coverage for certain healthcare services, including adult dental, podiatry, optometry, and chiropractic services, conflicted with the Medicaid Act and was therefore invalid.

**Testimony on House Bill No. 843**  
**February 15, 2017**  
**Page 2**

As in *Douglas*, we contend that the provision of adult dental services at a FQHC is an entitlement that necessitates coverage under Hawaii's Medicaid Program. To initiate discussions that would address the entitlement recognized by the Ninth Circuit in *Douglas* while staying consistent with our position to reinstate the level of benefits provided prior to 2009, we suggest as a starting point the amount requested by Governor Ige in House Bill No. 100 (HMS401), be reduced to the percentage of adult Medicaid patients served in Hawaii's FQHCs, or approximately 33 percent. While this does not address claims that may result from the denial of benefits since 2009, at the very minimum, it would seek to address the situation moving forward. And should the Legislature in its wisdom agree to fund adult dental services at 2009 benefit levels at FQHCs, benefit levels or expansion of coverage could be a matter of discussion at a later time.

**However, the reduced amount proposed should be construed solely as a potential “floor” of the benefits entitled under the *Douglas* decision. HPCA continues to support full reinstatement of adult dental coverage to all Medicaid enrollees and not just those who utilize services provided at FQHCs.**

In addition, please note that we expect that the reinstatement of these much-needed benefits will result in an increase in utilization. There are many people in urgent need of dental services right now who are probably not coming to FQHCs because of the limited dental services that FQHCs can presently afford to offer.

For these reasons we **SUPPORT** House Bill No. 843 and urge your favorable consideration of this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. I'd be happy to answer any questions you may have.



**HO'OLA LĀHUI HAWAI'I**  
*P.O. Box 3990; Līhu'e, Hawai'i*  
*Phone: 808.240.0100 Fax: 808.246.9551*

February 6, 2017

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

Rep. Dee Morikawa, Chair

Rep. Chris Todd, Vice Chair

**Testimony in Support of HB 843**

**Relating to Oral Health**

**Wednesday February 15, 2017, 9:00 AM, Room 329**

Ho'ola Lahui Hawaii the only Federally Qualified Health Center and Native Hawaiian Health Care System on Kauai is strongly **SUPPORTING** this bill to restore adult dental benefits for those on Medicaid.

We are encouraged that there are dental funds in this bill to restore to the adult dental benefit. It is very important that oral health be at the forefront of health care as many dental problems lead to more serious health deficits and basic dental is not just for cosmetic effect.

It is vital to support the dental benefit restoration to Medicaid for those who are most in need. Prevention will save millions in restorative care services in the long term.

Respectfully Requested,

David Peters  
Chief Executive Officer





TO: Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair  
Representative Chris Todd, Vice-Chair  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

FR: Mary Oneha, APRN, PhD  
Chief Executive Officer, Waimānalo Health Center  
Member, Native Hawaiian Health Task Force

Date: Wednesday, February 15, 2017  
9:00am, Conference Room 329

RE: Support for HB 843 Relating to Oral Health

The Waimānalo Health Center has consistently supported and continues to provide strong support to restore basic adult dental benefits to Medicaid enrollees through HB 843. Waimanalo Health Center's Dental Clinic continues to see a high percent of uninsured adults and an increase in dental emergencies.

The severity of cases vary within our population and the age groups typically show different disease manifestation (caries vs. periodontal) all with potentially devastating outcomes. Younger adults typically present with early signs of periodontal disease and more obvious, active signs of untreated tooth decay. Early preventable tooth loss is common in our young adult population. As the population goes into their forties and later, periodontal disease becomes more prevalent and devastating.

**There are many instances of adults negatively affected by lack of regular dental care, instances resulting in bone loss, teeth loss, periodontal disease, and poor nutrition.** The availability of resources (basic adult dental benefits) to assist these patients would have more positively impacted their outcomes. **The investment for basic adult services can have a dramatic effect on patient health and future costs. For too long, we have not set an acceptable baseline for adult dental health. The time is now to restore adult dental benefits at a level for positive health outcomes.** I urge this Committee and Leaders of the House of Representatives to not only support HB 843, but to include in the bill an appropriation of funds necessary to restore adult dental benefits to Medicaid enrollees. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



February 14, 2017

**TO: House Committee on Human Services  
The Hon. Dee Morikawa, Chair  
The Hon. Chris Todd, Vice Chair**

**FROM: Richard P. Bettini, President and CEO  
Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center/697-3457/wcchc@wcchc.com**

**RE: SUPPORT for House Bill No. 843 RELATING TO DENTAL HEALTH.  
Wednesday, February 15, 2017; 9:00 a.m.  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329**

The Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center **strongly supports HB 843** Relating to Dental Health to restore basic adult dental benefits to Medicaid enrollees.

***Restoring support is sorely overdue to address the 42% of the adult population on the Waianae Coast that has not had a dental visit, which is the highest percentage in the state, whose average is 29%.***

Additional justification can be found in the 2015 Department of Health report entitled "*Hawaii Oral Health: Key Findings*", which showed the following:

- (1) From 2009 to 2011, only 41% of pregnant women, 29% of pregnant low-income women, and 27% of women in Medicaid or QUEST visited a dentist during their pregnancy;
- (2) In 2012, 52% of low-income adults saw a dentist as compared to 82% of higher income adults;
- (3) In that same year, 51% of low-income adults lost teeth due to dental disease, while only 32% of high-income adults did; and
- (4) From 2006 to 2012, there was a 67% increase in emergency room visits for dental problems, accounting for a \$4.5 million increase, bringing total expenditures for such visits alone to \$8.5 million.

It is critical to restore adult dental benefits to address dental health needs and its relationship to other health conditions which impact upon one's social determinants of health. This bill will provide additional benefits to both individuals and the community as a whole by making it easier for individuals to obtain employment, reduce absenteeism to school or work, and improving social standing.

Please consider the importance of this bill to the health and well-being of our adult Medicaid enrollees.

Mahalo.



February 12, 2017

TESTIMONY: Written only

To: Representative Cedric Gates  
Representative Daynette Morikawa  
Representative Marcus Oshiro  
Representative Chris Todd

From: Hawaii Public Health Association

Subject: **SUPPORT – HB843 Relating to Oral Health**

The Hawaii Public Health Association is an association of over 600 community members, public health professionals, and organizations statewide dedicated to improving public health. HPHA also serves as a voice for public professionals and as a repository for information about public health in the Pacific.

HPHA **supports** the passage of **HB843** which would make an appropriate to restore basic adult dental benefits to Medicaid enrollees.

Hawaii has one of the worst rates of oral health for children and adults alike in the U.S. The August 2015 DOH report, “Hawaii Oral Health: Key Findings”, reported that there are significant oral health disparities in Hawaii’s low-income residents, versus higher income residents, who are less likely to seek dental care, report more loss of teeth, over-use emergency room visits for oral health emergencies, and have lower overall dental health status. Good oral health is essential for optimal overall health, and poor dental health has been linked to higher rates of diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and sepsis as well as premature infants of pregnant women.

There are also significant oral health disparities in Hawaii related to education, health insurance, and geographic location status. Children whose parents are on Medicaid are covered for preventive and treatment services, but their parents may not seek or access dental services, if the adult family members are not covered. Adults on Medicaid who are shown to be at greater risk and are more in need of oral health services are currently receiving emergency-only dental services, which are more invasive, painful and risky, more costly, and are a lower standard of care for oral health than our general population is receiving.

The DOH report specifically recommends as a key strategy based on these findings that, Medicaid services be expanded for ALL adults in Hawaii beyond the current coverage for emergencies only, to include preventative and treatment services. We ask that you provide the policy support and resources to ensure appropriate standards of dental care for our adult Medicaid population.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Holly Kessler  
Executive Director



Date: February 14, 2017

To: The Honorable Dee Morikawa, Chair  
The Honorable Chris Todd, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Human Services

From: Jessica Yamauchi, Executive Director, Hawai'i Public Health Institute

Re: **Support for HB 843, Relating to Dental Health**

Hrg: February 15, 2017 at 9:00 am at Capitol Room 329

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Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of HB 843, Relating to Dental Health.

The Hawai'i Public Health Institute (HIPHI) supports and promotes policy efforts to create a healthy Hawai'i. HIPHI weaves silos into working relationships as an effective network, ensuring that we come together across sectors to advance collaboration and innovation in public health and work towards making Hawai'i the healthiest place on earth.

HB 843 appropriates funds to the DHS to restore basic adult dental benefits to Medicaid enrollees. Oral health in our state is a public health crisis, with Hawaii receiving a failing grade of "F" in three recent oral health report card released by The Pew Center for the States. Restoring basic adult dental benefits would help to address this crisis. Adult Medicaid enrollees have no coverage for preventive or routine dental care, and this lack of access has a negative impact on one's health, especially for individuals with chronic diseases such as coronary disease and diabetes.

HIPHI defers to the State Department of Human Services on the estimates to restore basic adult dental benefits. We strongly support the restoration of these benefits.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jessica Yamauchi'.

Jessica Yamauchi, MA  
Executive Director



949 Kamokila Boulevard, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Suite 350, Kapolei, HI 96707  
808.675.7300 | www.ohanahealthplan.com

February 6, 2017

To: The Honorable Chair Dee Morikawa  
House Committee on Human Services

From: 'Ohana Health Plan  
Danny Cup Choy; Director, Government Affairs

Re: HB 843, Relating to Dental Health; **In Support**  
February 15, 2017; Conference Room 329

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'Ohana Health Plan ('Ohana) is a member of the WellCare Health Plans, Inc.'s ("WellCare") family of companies and provides healthcare for Hawai'i residents statewide. Since 2009, 'Ohana has utilized WellCare's national experience to develop a Hawai'i -specific care model that addresses local members' healthcare and health coordination needs. By focusing on the state's Medicaid and Medicare population, 'Ohana serves Hawaii's most vulnerable residents: low-income, elderly, disabled, and individuals with complex medical issues. Our mission is to help our members' lead better, healthier lives.

'Ohana Health Plan offers our **support** of HB 843, which restores basic adult dental benefits to Medicaid enrollees.

Poor oral health is one of the most important issues facing our state, particularly with the Medicaid population. While oral health can often be overlooked, there is a clear relationship between preventative dental care and the deterrence of serious medical conditions. The investment to restore basic adult dental benefits for Medicaid enrollees would be relatively small in comparison to the downstream cost savings to the entire healthcare system.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this measure.



February 15, 2017  
9:00 a.m.  
Conference Room 329

To: The Honorable Dee Morikawa, Chair  
The Honorable Chris Todd, Vice Chair  
House Committee on Human Services

From: Laura Esslinger, Chief Executive Officer  
Paula Arcena, Chief Customer Officer  
Rachel Wilkinson, Public Policy Analyst

Re: HB843 Relating to Dental Health

AlohaCare appreciates the opportunity to testify **in support** of HB843 which appropriates funds to the Department of Human Services to restore basic adult dental benefits to Medicaid enrollees and requires the Department of Human Services to obtain the maximum federal matching funds available for the expenditure.

AlohaCare is a non-profit, locally based health plan founded in 1994 by Hawaii's community health centers. We serve Medicaid and Medicare Special Needs beneficiaries in all counties.

Studies have increasingly shown the direct correlation between oral health and overall health and wellness. Poor oral health can be linked to chronic diseases such as diabetes and cardiovascular disease. According to the Department of Health 2015 "Hawaii Oral Health: Key Findings" report, low income adults and pregnant women are less likely to visit a dentist. Adult Medicaid enrollees currently do not receive preventive or routine dental care and are offered a limited benefit of extractions and emergency-only coverage. AlohaCare believes that restoring the basic adult dental benefits will assist in addressing the oral health needs of this population.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

**todd2 - Chloe**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 11:15 AM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** SAAC96814@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Self-Advocacy Advisory Council	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: We are nearly 200 members and are in strong support of restoring Adult Dental Care. Thank you

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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**February 15, 2017 at 9:00 AM**  
**Conference Room 329**

**House Committee on Human Services**

To: Chair Dee Morikawa  
Vice Chair Chris Todd

From: Paige Heckathorn  
Senior Manager, Legislative Affairs  
Healthcare Association of Hawaii

Re: **Testimony in Support**  
**HB 843, Relating to Dental Health**

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii (HAH), established in 1939, serves as the leading voice of healthcare on behalf of 160 member organizations who represent almost every aspect of the health care continuum in Hawaii. Members include acute care hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, home health agencies, hospices, assisted living facilities and durable medical equipment suppliers. In addition to providing access to appropriate, affordable, high quality care to all of Hawaii's residents, our members contribute significantly to Hawaii's economy by employing over 20,000 people statewide.

We would like to thank the committee for the opportunity to **support** HB 843, which would restore basic adult dental benefits to Medicaid patients. Having and maintaining good oral health enables individuals to live healthier, more productive lives. A recent report released by the Department of Health titled *Hawaii Oral Health: Key Findings* reveals that there are disparities in access to basic and routine dental treatment for underserved individuals. According to the report, low-income residents in the state were more likely to have dental problems and less likely to seek care to resolve those issues than their counterparts. Restoring the dental benefit in the Medicaid program will help to increase access to needed preventive and dental services that can help to bridge this gap in care.

Addressing dental issues early is also beneficial for the health care system, since many individuals turn to emergency room care to seek treatment. According to the department's report, there were more than 3,000 emergency room visits due to preventable dental problems in 2012. Expanding access to and encouraging the use of preventive dental treatments and oral health services could help to lower the number of visits, saving the system from costly treatments. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.



**todd2 - Chloe**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 4:41 PM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** louis@hawaiidisabilityrights.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Louis Erteschik	Hawaii Disability Rights Center	Support	No

Comments: This should be a high priority for the Legislature. The current Medicaid policy makes no sense. Parents teach their children to brush their teeth so they don't get cavities. Yet, we have a state policy that says that we are not going to pay for people to clean their teeth but we will gladly pay to take their teeth out when they are rotting. This defies common sense and so we hope the Legislature will restore funding for preventative dental care.

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**todd2 - Chloe**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2017 1:46 PM  
**To:** HUSstestimony  
**Cc:** michele@arcofkona.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/13/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Michele Ku	Arc of Kona	Support	Yes

Comments: The Arc of Kona strongly supports the restoration of basic oral health benefits for adult Medicaid and QUEST Integration enrollees.

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## House Committee on Human Services

The Hon. Dee Morikawa, Chair

The Hon. Chris Todd, Vice Chair

## Testimony on HB 843, Relating to Dental Health

Wednesday February 15, 2017

Rm 329; 9 am

My name is Sheila Beckham. I am the CEO of Waikiki Health. Waikiki Health strongly supports HB 843 which appropriates funds for the restoration of basic adult dental benefits to Medicaid patients.

According to a 2015 report released by the Department of Health entitled "Hawaii Oral Health: Key Findings":

- In 2012, 51% of low income adults lost teeth due to dental disease compared with only 32% of those at higher income brackets
- Adults with Medicaid have been unable to receive preventive dental services since 2009, resulting in a 67% increase in emergency room use for dental problems, accounting for a \$4.5 million increase tttto \$8.5 million.
- The greatest impact from the lack of Medicaid dental coverage is seen among our patients with HIV/AIDS. HIV severely impacts the integrity of the teeth and gums, often resulting in oral infection and loss of dentition. For persons with HIV, the result is decayed and missing teeth, making it hard to eat. Without food, HIV medication is not absorbed adequately resulting in decline in overall health.

It is imperative that we recognize that that the body's systems are inter-related. In order to achieve quality of life and robust health, jobs and housing, oral health should be restored and not eliminated as a means of balancing the budget.

We ask for your support and thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**todd2 - Chloe**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 7:58 AM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** wao-hsl@WeAreOne.cc  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Joseph Kohn MD	We Are One, Inc. - www.WeAreOne.cc - WAO	Support	No

Comments: Strongly Support health and people. www.WeAreOne.cc

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**todd2 - Chloe**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 6, 2017 3:57 PM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** mendezj@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**todd2 - Chloe**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 1:38 PM  
**To:** HUSstestimony  
**Cc:** jeri@arcofkona.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sanoe W.	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: Hello my name is Sanoe. W. I brush my teeth everyday, it is important for me to brush them so I keep healthy. I want to have proper dental care because I do not want to lose my teeth. If I do not have healthy teeth, they may be pulled and I could not eat foods or snacks, or even smile. I support HB 843 and any others that say the same thing, Thank You

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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**todd2 - Chloe**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 1:08 PM  
**To:** HUSstestimony  
**Cc:** jeri@arcofkona.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Duke Kawaa	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: I am very happy to show my friends my pretty smile when I am talking or laughing with them. I want to be able to chew my food. I Support HB843 because if I do not have dental care, like my teeth being cleaned they fall out or be pulled out and I would not feel good about my self

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**todd2 - Chloe**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 1:44 PM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** jeri@arcofkona.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Makaika Isidiro	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: My name is Makaika Isidiro. It is important for me have dental care because I want to have cleaner teeth, and to be able to chew my food. I can show my friends my pretty teeth and will be able to smile so I can feel good about myself. I support HB 843, Thank You

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**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 2:40 PM  
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**Cc:** jeri@arcofkona.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lois Phillip	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: My name is Lois, and it is important for me to have preventative dental because it me smile with my friends and it makes me happy to have healthy teeth. If I do not have my teeth, because they become rotten I will not be able to chew my food and what I like. I support HB 843,

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 2:43 PM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** jeri@arcofkona.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Shane Follosco	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: My name is Shane and it is important for me to have dental care so a will have a full set of teeth so I can play my harmonica. I support HB 843.

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**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 2:49 PM  
**To:** HUSstestimony  
**Cc:** jeri@arcofkona.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Henry Hao	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: My name is Henry and it very important to me to have my teeth cleaned and get proper care so I will never again have to fly from the Big Island to Oahu to have my poor infected teeth pulled out of my mouth, it was 4 of them and my smile is no longer quite the same, and I cannot eat the right way and the food as much as I did. I support HB 843 and any other bill to help us with good healthy teeth.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 2:52 PM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** jeri@arcofkona.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**Categories:** Done

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Robbie Sanoria	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: My name is Robbie and it is important to keep my teeth cleaned and to keep me healthy. If I do not have my teeth, I will not be able eat whatever I want, and my body will be sick and unhealthy. I want to be happy and if all my teeth are pulled out I will be sad.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 3:21 PM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** jeri@arcofkona.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeri Raymond	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: I work directly with Families and their Family Members with "Special Abilities", ranging from ages 18-48. Our Folks are in a category, whereby the majority have NO Preventative Dental Services, per the current laws; "Persons under age 21 also receive full dental coverage, while individuals age 21 and over are covered for dental emergencies only under the Medicaid Fee-For-Service Program", Med-Quest Division, Quest Hawaii. In Fact, the only remedy in our Medical System for them is an "Emergency" action, that of "Extraction of Teeth". Barbaric at Best! Through the last 4+ years Arc of Kona has been involved with the State of Hawaii Council of Government Developmental Disabilities, and a National Organization, Self-Advocacy Advisory Council, (SAAC). The SAAC Group has been actively involved with the State Capitol; their State Legislators; not only going to visit their respective Senators and Representatives and discussing HB's and SB's affecting their lives, but also submitting testimonies for review by the legislative floor. Our SAAC members have gathered in the Senate Gallery, 500 strong: United together, to help our Leaders understand that they have a voice. We wish that of all individuals in Our Expansive County. Our Rights, to 'Liberty and Justice for All'. Some of these Rights being the Ability to work within our Community, the Right to Health Programs, and the Ability to interact within our communities throughout the Islands. During the last few years we have seen Participants, who are living with single parents, who are not financially secure, who take prescribed medications; which exemplifies Oral Hygiene problems. Both of them have had this "Emergency Extraction" Service, in 2012 and 2017; pulling 5 & 6 of their teeth. Some have not been to the dentist for years, due to finances and fear. In our ADH programs we continue to have classes and group discussions on good Oral Health and Hygiene; both visual and 'hands on'. During the last 2+ years we have attended the trainings presented by Department of Health and the West Hawaii Community Health Center. I support HB 843 and any other Dental HS /SB they shall help empower everyone to have Healthy Oral Hygiene, Mahalo, Jeri Raymond, MA

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 3:53 PM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** kehusr001@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Roxann Kehus	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support the appropriation of funds to restore basic adult dental health benefits to people who receive Medicaid.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 9, 2017 8:25 PM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** alohilani7@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Karen Alohilani Hue Sing	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dental care is necessary for healthy oral hygiene and for overall well being. Our teeth are the only body part that cannot heal itself thereby making dental care necessary. Many people on Medicaid are struggling to pay for housing and shelter and have no monies available for anything else. Please approve HB843!

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2017 7:18 AM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** tampaltin@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/13/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tamara Paltin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 12, 2017 2:59 AM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** bmurphy420@mail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/12/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brian Murphy	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Sasha Inouye  
MSW student  
Honolulu, HI

February 15, 2017

To: The Honorable Dee Morikawa, Chair: House of Representatives Committee on Human Services

From: Sasha Inouye, MSW student, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Subject: HB843 – RELATING TO DENTAL HEALTH.

Hearing: Wednesday, February 15, 2017; 9:00 A.M.  
Conference Room 329, State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

POSITION: As a Master of Social Work (MSW) student having completed my first social work internship at a community mental health center in Honolulu, I am in support of the intent of this measure and offer comments. The proposed bill intends to improve the oral health and access to dental health care in Hawai'i by restoring basic adult dental benefits to Medicaid enrollees.

PURPOSE: Most clientele served at the community mental health clinic do qualify to receive supplemental security insurance (SSI); as well as Medicaid health benefits. Clients spend SSI benefits on basic necessities such as clothing, shoes, and rent. SSI benefits may also go toward a client's health needs such as paying for eyeglasses or other costs not covered or not covered in full by Medicaid benefits. Additionally, clients may be unable to work due to varied reasons. It is therefore common that the amount of SSI benefits clients receive put clients on a tight budget for basic necessities, this to include dental services.

Many of the clients I have worked with would benefit from increased access to dental benefits. Dental health is an integral part of a person's whole health, interrelated to other body systems and functioning. Clients are in need of all types of dental services, some do not

remember the last time they've visited a dentist; and clients express interest in seeing a dentist for services within their budget. Without adequate dental benefits, clients naturally pay in full for dental check-ups, cleanings, or procedures they desire and are in need of. Moreover, although clientele may utilize preventative care services more often, doing so will lower the cost of their dental care in the long run. Routine care lessens the need for expensive nonpreventative care, costly both to consumer and provider. Some agencies and private dentists in the community do provide services at reduced prices, sometimes on a sliding scale for clients who are in financial need. These more affordable services are appreciated; however, wait times and locations may cause difficulties in access.

With improved dental benefits for clientele who are enrollees in the Medicaid program, I believe that clients will benefit from the increased access to services. Clients may feel increased confidence in their journey toward their personal goals and dreams, as we continue to support them in meeting their basic needs through improved oral health care. In comment, dental service providers being offered reimbursement via Medicaid as well as incentives for accepting a client with Medicaid insurance would ease access by compensating providers for their services and for adjustment to their practice to accept clientele; thus increasing the number of affordable provider options in a client's community.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

**todd2 - Chloe**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 9:01 AM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** smarquez@higoodwill.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tad Shields	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dental is good for our health.

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**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 9:00 AM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** smarquez@higoodwill.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sang Byun	Individual	Support	No

Comments: So we can have good teeth.

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**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 8:59 AM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** smarquez@higoodwill.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nathan Brown	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We need it cause we don have it to fix our teeth.

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**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** smarquez@higoodwill.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Blane Sardinha	Individual	Support	No

Comments: My gums and my teeth is sore.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 8:56 AM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** smarquez@higoodwill.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
James Purdy	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Pull my teeth. Clean my teeth.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 8:55 AM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** daiu@higoodwill.org  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
D. Aiu	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 8:55 AM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** smarquez@higoodwill.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Emily Keane	Individual	Support	No

Comments: For a good smile and cavities.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 8:54 AM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** smarquez@higoodwill.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Randy Chavarria	Individual	Support	No

Comments: To get my teeth clean and my wisdom teeth out.

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**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 8:50 AM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** smarquez@higoodwill.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jenifer Sacro	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Clean.

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**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 8:49 AM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** smarquez@higoodwill.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Marcus Jung	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Brush my teeth.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 8:48 AM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** smarquez@higoodwill.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Micah Kuboyama	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Clean my teeth!

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**Cc:** smarquez@higoodwill.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Holden Tanoa	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Floss it!!!

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 8:47 AM  
**To:** HUSstestimony  
**Cc:** jburdett@higoodwill.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Edward Goodson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill because my friends need dental coverage. I would like to see them get coverage so that they may have healthy teeth.

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**todd2 - Chloe**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 8:46 AM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** smarquez@higoodwill.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mickie Sakamoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Smile!

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**todd2 - Chloe**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 8:46 AM  
**To:** HUSstestimony  
**Cc:** jburdett@higoodwill.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kinau Schlegel	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill because we need dental work not just emergency dental where they pull out our teeth. How are we supposed to eat if we have no teeth.

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**todd2 - Chloe**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 8:45 AM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** smarquez@higoodwill.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Scott Landrum	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Everyday so you check your teeth so you don't get cavities.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 8:45 AM  
**To:** HUSstestimony  
**Cc:** jburdett@higoodwill.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Shawn Damo	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill because we need dental.

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**todd2 - Chloe**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 8:42 AM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** smarquez@higoodwill.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kinau Schlegel	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Check my teeth so its clean.

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My name is Deborah dela Cruz, and I strongly support House Bill No. 843. I am on the board of the Lanai Community Health Center.

The Department of Health's 2015 report entitled "Hawaii Oral Health: Key Findings" found that: 1. From 2009 to 2011 41% of pregnant women visited a dentist during their pregnancy vs 29% pregnant low-income women and 27% of women on Medicaid or Quest. 2. In 2012, 82% of higher income adults saw a dentist vs 52% of low-income adults. 3. In 2012, only 32% of high-income adults lost teeth due to dental disease vs 51% of low-income adults. 4. From 2006 to 2012, there was a 67% increase in emergency room visits for dental problems accounting for a \$4.5 million increase for a total expenditure for such visits to \$8.5 million.

Dental care is an integral part of good health although it is often viewed as not being an absolute necessity. The effects of dental disease can affect a person's performance as much as a problem in other parts of the body.

Hawaii has dismal dental statistics nationally and Lanai, where I'm from, has dismal stats in our state. Being at the bottom of the bottom, I see the need for this funding. Many people here will have their teeth pulled, rather than fixed, to save money. They don't recognize the problems this creates later. Passing this Bill will give them the choice of having restoration.

Preventive dentistry and catching problems early will reduce medical emergencies and expensive dental procedures. I believe there would have been even more medical emergencies had the Federally Qualified Health Centers not provided dental care AT A LOSS for Medicare patients after dental care was defunded.

Please pass this Bill. Thank you for your consideration.

**todd2 - Chloe**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 8:37 AM  
**To:** HUSstestimony  
**Cc:** scabel@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

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

Comments: Cleaning teeth.

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**todd2 - Chloe**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 8:34 AM  
**To:** HUSstestimony  
**Cc:** scabel@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dawn Koa	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I love to smile!

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**todd2 - Chloe**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 8:32 AM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** smarquez@higoodwill.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

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

Comments: I need a pretty smile!

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 8:26 AM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** aplunkett@higoodwill.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Paul Kaopua	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We all need nice teeth.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 7:28 AM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** adamcfeely@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Michelle Muralt	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 7:27 AM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** adamcfeely@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sol Ray Duncan	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 7:26 AM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** adamcfeely@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
ada mcfely	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We need dental insurance. Me and my friends only get our teeth pulled. Please pass this. Thank you

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 7:21 AM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** KauaiAdvocates@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Crystal Aquinaldo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 7:20 AM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** KauaiAdvocates@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Shirley Shimatsu	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 7:19 AM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** KauaiAdvocates@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
lena nelson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 7:19 AM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** rkailianu57@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rachel L. Kailianu	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

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**todd2 - Chloe**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 7:18 AM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** KauaiAdvocates@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tula Kahea	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 7:17 AM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** KauaiAdvocates@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Roseline Kaukani	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 7:16 AM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** KauaiAdvocates@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Leila Kaohi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
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**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Letty Okino	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 7:14 AM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
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**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Clifton Abuan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 7:11 AM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** KauaiAdvocates@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Chantal Cabral	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 7:10 AM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** KauaiAdvocates@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Edna Perpose	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nids Guirao	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 7:05 AM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** KauaiAdvocates@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Roberta Eiben	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I live on Kauai, I was going to move but now I am staying here. Dental is very important and I support it very strongly. Thank you

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**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** KauaiAdvocates@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Theresa Octavio	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Thank you for helping us on Kauai and in the State. Dental is very important for me and my friends.

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**todd2 - Chloe**

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**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 7:00 AM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** KauaiAdvocates@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Maxie Camelo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 6:59 AM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** KauaiAdvocates@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Marion Mizuno	Individual	Support	No

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**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mark Madrid	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**Cc:** KauaiAdvocates@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Leah Rendongo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** KauaiAdvocates@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lea Ruiz	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** KauaiAdvocates@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kurt Nagata	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dental care is very important. Thank you for hearing this bill

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**Cc:** KauaiAdvocates@gmail.com  
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**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jerry Carneo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** KauaiAdvocates@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Deborah Remigio	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** KauaiAdvocates@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Danny Del Santos	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** KauaiAdvocates@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Barry Cummilang	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Archie Lanning	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**Cc:** KauaiAdvocates@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Angela Uechi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** KauaiAdvocates@gmail.com  
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**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

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

Comments:

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**Cc:** KauaiAdvocates@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Abraham Jimenez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 5:40 AM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** dylanarm@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dylan P. Armstrong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2017 9:37 PM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** begoniabarry@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/13/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Barbara Barry	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2017 8:38 PM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** alicekamaka@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/13/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Alice Kamaka	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: In 2007 I went to Queens Dental Clinic. I had to go under general to fix two teeth, they were pretty bad. Before going under general. My caregiver, Emy, read the paper, it said to remove all my teeth!! Thank God she read that fine print. She asked the doctors why? They said because she is like that, and will only cost more money to have dental care. She told the doctors they can only pull one tooth, to chose wisely and I only had one tooth pulled. Queens Dental never allowed me back, I never wanted to return. Last month I had a second tooth removed. I didn't want a root canal. It was my choice. I now pay for private dental with Dr. Ertal because I moved into a rental and can afford it. But my friends cannot please pass dental coverage.

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**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2017 8:20 PM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** cquiambao@aol.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/13/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ronson Mole	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** cquiambao@aol.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/13/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
John Espiritu	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**Cc:** cquiambao@aol.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/13/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Emy Espiritu	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: I am a foster caregiver. My residents now are afraid of the dentist, because when they go, they will probably get a tooth pulled. They haven't had dental care in so many years. Please restore the dental coverage, people really do need teeth. Thank you

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**Cc:** cquiambao@aol.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/13/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Pili Teo	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: I support dental care, because when they stopped dental care I started to get my teeth pulled because I could not afford to get a filling on \$50 month needs allowance. Now I have no teeth. I was lucky to get dentures, but it is hard to talk with them and the gel to hold them in makes my stomach hurt. I don't think anyone should have to make a choice to keep their teeth or get shoes? Please restore dental I don't need it any more, but I have a girlfriend now and I don't want her to lose her teeth or any of my friends.

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**Cc:** cquiambao@aol.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/13/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Joshua Bounty	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: I want to get a good job, I am only 26 and need to smile. I am afraid that they will pull out my teeth because I don't have dental insurance any more with my medicaid. Thank you for supporting dental care.

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**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2017 7:47 PM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** hokuokekai50@msn.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/13/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mary Lacques	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2017 7:43 PM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** mnye21@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/13/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Michael Nye	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**To:** HUSstestimony  
**Cc:** cquiambao@aol.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/13/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Raynell Mole	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

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**To:** HUSstestimony  
**Cc:** cquiambao@aol.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/13/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Charmaine Padua	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

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**To:** HUSstestimony  
**Cc:** cquiambao@aol.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/13/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Carrie Fujikawa	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: i don't like going to the dentist but I like my teeth and brush them every day. But I still need help to clean them real good. We need dental insurance for this. Thank you

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**Cc:** cquiambao@aol.com  
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**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/13/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Shelsea Starling	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

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**Cc:** cquiambao@aol.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/13/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Elizabeth Lopes	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: I am in strong support of dental insurance for people like me who have medicaid. I have had to have several teeth pulled, I am ashamed to smile. I am older so not so bad but I have friend who are young and it is happening to them. Please return the dental insurance for adults. Thank you

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**todd2 - Chloe**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2017 7:13 PM  
**To:** HUSstestimony  
**Cc:** cquiambao@aol.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/13/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Carol Quiambao	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: I strongly support this bill to reinstate the adult dental for individuals on Medicaid. This is so important for them. It helps with their self-esteem to have good oral hygiene.

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February 15, 2017 / 9:00a.m.  
Conference Room 329

**House Committee On Human Services**

To: Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair (HUS)  
Representative Chris Todd, Vice Chair (HUS)

From: Michael Robinson  
Vice President – Government Relations & Community Affairs

**Re: HB 843 – Testimony in Support**

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My name is Michael Robinson, Vice President, Government Relations and Community Affairs at Hawai'i Pacific Health (HPH). Hawai'i Pacific Health is a not-for-profit health care system, and the state's largest health care provider and non-governmental employer. Hawai'i Pacific Health is committed to providing the highest quality medical care and service to the people of Hawai'i and the Pacific Region through its four hospitals, more than 50 outpatient clinics and service sites, and over 1,600 affiliated physicians. Hawai'i Pacific Health's hospitals are Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children, Pali Momi Medical Center, Straub Clinic & Hospital and Wilcox Memorial Hospital.

I am writing in support of HB 843 which makes an appropriation to the Department of Human Services to restore basic adult dental benefits to Medicaid enrollees and requires the Department of Human Services to obtain the maximum federal matching funds available for the expenditure.

Poor oral health is linked with respiratory disease, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, cardiac issues, premature births, and even can affect the ability of individuals to obtain and keep employment. Restoring basic adult dental benefits to Medicaid enrollees is in the best interests of the State as oral health is an essential part of general health and well-being.

Hawai'i Pacific Health supports HB 843.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**todd2 - Chloe**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 11:21 AM  
**To:** HUSstestimony  
**Cc:** SAAC96814@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Bathey Fong	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: Dental insurance is so important because my smile helps me meet and great people. I live in a Arc Dom Home in Ewa Beach. I am on a fixed income and cannot afford dental. I am afraid as I get older I will have to have my teeth pulled because I cannot afford to get a filling. Please pass this bill thank you.

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**LATE**

**KOKUA KALIHI VALLEY COMPREHENSIVE FAMILY SERVICES**

**2239 N. SCHOOL STREET ◆ HONOLULU, HAWAII 96819 ◆ TEL: 808-791-9400 ◆ FAX:  
808-848-0979 ◆ www.kkv.net**

House Committee on Human Services  
The Hon. Dee Morikawa, Chair  
The Hon. Chris Todd, Vice Chair

Testimony on House Bill No. 843  
**RELATING TO DENTAL HEALTH**  
Wednesday, February 15, 2017; 9:00 a.m.  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

Chair Morikawa, Vice Chair Todd, and Members of the Committee:

My name is David Derauf , and I am the Executive Director of Kokua Kalihi Valley. I am testifying in strong support of House Bill No. 843. In 2015, the Department of Health (DOH) released a report “Hawaii Oral Health: Key Findings”, which revealed that Hawaii has an enormous shortfall in the area of dental benefits. The report made it absolutely clear that low income adults in Hawaii were suffering in many serious and costly ways from lack of access to good dental care. The DOH went on to recommend reestablishing adult dental services for Medicaid patients. KKV has steadfastly sought to provide access to dental care for our entire community for 45 years now, in times when insurance was and was not available for our patients. Our ability to do so is however limited by the reality of losing hundreds of thousands of dollars providing this care each year, and by the reality that the services we can then offer are extremely limited and mean that many patients ultimately go without the good oral hygiene that is essential to being well and to being productive members of our society.

Thank you for your considerations of this important bill!

David D Derauf MD

**Date:** February 8, 2017

**To:** Chair Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair Chris Todd, and other House Committee on Human Services Members

**From:** Mark Yamakawa  
HDS President & CEO

**Subject:** HDS Testimony on HB 843 (Relating to Dental Health)

Aloha Chair Morikawa, Vice Chair Todd, and other Human Service Committee members. HDS is glad to provide this testimony to support the discussion on this important oral health issue to help the Committee make informed policy decisions.

**HDS Position:**

HDS is in favor of HB 843 because it will broaden the range of dental services available for adults eligible for Medicaid. It will ensure more Hawaii residents, regardless of their socioeconomic status, have access to quality oral health care.

- **Inherent Inequity in Plan Design**

Medicaid currently covers a broad range of services for children in our state; however, Medicaid does not offer the same services for adults. As a dental benefits plan and Medicaid administrator, we continue to hear concerns about the inherent inequity in plan design that makes adults ineligible for basic oral health services. Currently, Medicaid will cover extractions for adults, but does not cover preventive care or restorative treatment. The only option for adults with a toothache on a Medicaid plan is for a dentist to pull out their tooth. This clearly is not the best practice for oral health care.

- **The Link between Oral Health and Overall Health**

HDS places a strong emphasis on preventive oral health care education and focuses on the need for early diagnosis and intervention to preempt the need for costly emergency care. HDS also documents studies backed by the American Dental Association that show the link between oral health and overall health. When Medicaid-eligible adults can receive appropriate dental care, this will correspondingly improve their overall health, resulting in more productive individuals and reduced medical costs for the State of Hawaii.

- **Ancillary Benefits**

Hawaii ranks at the bottom of the nation for oral health among children, with significant oral health disparities by income, as well as by race/ethnicity in Hawaii, according to the Hawaii Smiles Oral Health Surveillance Report conducted by the Hawaii Department of Health. Children model their health habits after their parents. If parents cannot go to the dentist to receive basic care, these same health habits will be passed on to their children, resulting in generational oral health degradation.

This change in policy and practice would change the course of Hawaii's oral health trajectory for underserved populations, now and for future generations. Mahalo.



TO: DEE MORIKAWA, CHAIR  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

CHRIS TODD, VICE CHAIR  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN  
SERVICES

FROM: CHERYL VASCONCELLOS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DATE: FEBRUARY 14, 2017

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF H.B. 843**  
**RELATING TO DENTAL HEALTH**

Hana Health strongly supports H.B. 843. Restoring basic, dental care for adults covered by Medicaid is critical to the overall health and wellness of this population. According to the Academy of General Dentistry, there is a relationship between gum (periodontal) disease and health complications such as stroke and heart disease. Women with gum disease also show higher incidences of pre-term, low birth-weight babies. Other research shows that more than 90% of all systemic diseases (diseases involving many organs or the whole body) have oral manifestations, including swollen gums, mouth ulcers, dry mouth and excessive gum problems. Routine dental care is as important to the overall health of the individual as is routine medical care.

Since initiating dental services several years ago, Hana Health has been overwhelmed by the poor oral health conditions found among the adult population in Hana, particularly among Native Hawaiians who make up more than 50% of our patient base. Patient delays in accessing care, result in expensive treatments, tooth loss and other preventable health problems, the

financial burden of which has fallen on community health centers and hospital emergency rooms.

Please support and expand preventive dental care to low-income populations, through the restoration of adult dental services in Medicaid. Thank you for your consideration.

House Committee on Human Services

The Hon. Dee Morikawa, Chair

The Hon. Chris Todd, Vice Chair

**Testimony on House Bill No. 843  
RELATING TO DENTAL HEALTH.  
Wednesday, February 15, 2017; 9:00 a.m.  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329**

Chair Morikawa, Vice Chair Todd, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Donna Altshul, and I am the Dental Program Director of West Hawaii Community Health Center on the Big Island of Hawaii. I am testifying in strong support of House Bill No. 843.

Oral Health is critical to general health and well-being. The mouth is the gateway to the rest of the body, providing clues about overall health. It is sometimes the first place where signs and symptoms of other diseases such as diabetes are noticed. Causes of poor oral health are complex. West Hawaii Community Health Center serves the most underserved people in our community who have the most complicated health needs. Individuals with a range of chronic conditions are more susceptible to oral disease. Oral disease can also exacerbate chronic disease symptoms.

In 2015, the Department of Health (DOH) released a report entitled "*Hawaii Oral Health: Key Findings*", which revealed that Hawaii has an enormous shortfall in the area of dental benefits. Among other things, DOH found that:

- (1) From 2009 to 2011, only 41% of pregnant women, 29% of pregnant low-income women, and 27% of women in Medicaid or QUEST visited a dentist during their pregnancy. Emerging evidence shows an association between periodontal infection and adverse pregnancy outcomes, such as premature delivery and low birth weight. Studies also show that controlling oral diseases improves a woman's quality of life and has the potential to reduce the transmission of oral bacteria from mothers to children.
- (2) In 2012, 52% of low-income adults saw a dentist as compared to 82% of higher income adults;
- (3) In that same year, 51% of low-income adults lost teeth due to dental disease, while only 32% of high-income adults did; and
- (4) From 2006 to 2012, there was a 67% increase in emergency room visits for dental problems, accounting for a \$4.5 million increase, bringing total expenditures for such visits alone to \$8.5 million. What is more compelling is that emergency departments do not provide dental treatment and can do little except provide medication for pain. They cannot address the underlying dental problem and in many cases, the patient returns to the emergency room with the same problem or worse.

Further, the DOH outlined a number of measures that could greatly improve the oral health status of Hawaii's residents. Foremost among them was the continued support and expansion of preventative dental care to low-income populations, best achieved through the restoration of adult dental services in Medicaid.



This issue is of special importance to all community health centers because a majority provide dental services. Between 2007 and 2015, the number of patients receiving dental care at community health centers more than doubled, rising from 20,000 patients to over 40,000. As 57% of community health center patients are enrolled in either Medicaid or CHIP Programs, this bill will provide much needed funding and sustainability for services to the most needy in the State.

Additionally, West Hawaii Community Health Center is a staunch believer in the social determinants of health, those economic and social conditions that influence an individual and a community's health status. This bill will provide additional benefits to both individuals and the community as a whole by making it easier for individuals to obtain employment, reduce absenteeism to school or work, and improving social standing.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. I'd be happy to answer any questions you might have.



## Hawaii Dental Association

To: House Committee on Human Services  
Time/Date: 9:00 a.m., February 15, 2017  
Location: Capitol Conference Room 329  
Re: **SUPPORT FOR HB 843, RELATING TO DENTAL HEALTH**

Aloha! My name is Dr. Chris Lee and I serve as the president of the Hawaii Dental Association, a professional association comprised of nearly 1,000 member dentists. The Hawaii Dental Association (HDA) is a statewide professional membership organization representing dentists practicing in Hawaii and licensed by the State of Hawaii Board of Dental Examiners. HDA members are committed to protecting the oral health and well-being of all of the people of Hawaii, from keiki to kupuna and everyone in between.

We are writing in **strong support** of HB 843 which appropriates funds to the Department of Human Services to restore basic adult dental benefits to Medicaid enrollees. It requires the Department of Human Services to obtain the maximum federal matching funds available for the expenditure.

HDA is affiliated with the American Dental Association, a partner in a broad coalition called the Partnership for Medicaid. The Partnership for Medicaid has noted that since President Johnson signed Medicaid into law in 1965, it has evolved from a program designed to serve the health care needs of low-income women and their children to one that cares for nearly one in five Americans. According to the Partnership for Medicaid, the program is unique in its design as a federal and state program in its extraordinary flexibility, which has allowed states to test innovative new ways to fund care for those in need. The HDA believes that HB 843 is an important step towards addressing those local needs.


In addition, and consistent with our longstanding public positions, we believe that water fluoridation would make significant contributions to improving oral health in our state. Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,  
Dr. Chris Lee, D.D.S  
President, Hawaii Dental Association



## THE QUEEN'S HEALTH SYSTEMS

To: The Honorable Dee Morikawa, Chair  
The Honorable Chris Todd, Vice Chair  
Members, Committee on Human Services

From:   
Paula Yoshioka, Senior Vice President, The Queen's Health Systems

Date: February 14, 2017

Hrg: House Committee on Human Services Hearing; Wednesday, February 15, 2017 at  
9:00AM in Room 329

Re: **Support for HB 843, Relating to Dental Health**

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My name is Paula Yoshioka, and I am a Senior Vice President at The Queen's Health Systems (QHS). We would like to express our **support** for HB 843, Relating to Dental Health. This bill appropriates funds to the Department of Human Services (DHS) to restore basic adult dental benefits to Medicaid enrollees. It also requires DHS to obtain the maximum federal matching funds available for the expenditure.

QHS is committed to providing quality care to Native Hawaiians and all the people of Hawaii regardless of their ability to pay. The Queen's Medical Center, Dental Clinic is home to Hawaii's only accredited hospital-based General Practice Residency Program and provides comprehensive dental services to meet the needs of our community.

For fiscal year 2015, 46% of the patients served at the Dental Clinic were Medicaid eligible. QHS supports the restoration of basic adult dental benefits to Medicaid enrollees and urges you to support this measure.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important issue.

*The mission of The Queen's Health Systems is to fulfill the intent of Queen Emma and King Kamehameha IV to provide in perpetuity quality health care services to improve the well-being of Native Hawaiians and all of the people of Hawai'i.*

**LATE**

**todd2 - Chloe**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 4:10 PM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** xiao8@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Iris Xiao	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am from Maui, Wailuku Heights. I am in strong support of HB843 because I think we should all have dental. So our mouths stay clean and we have strong healthy teeth. Please help us reinstate the dental.

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**todd2 - Chloe**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 5:35 PM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** tulsigreenlee@icloud.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB843 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM\*

**Categories:** LATE, Done

**HB843**

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tulsi Greenlee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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