

Testimony of
Jonathan Ching
Government Relations Specialist

Before:
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair

January 27, 2017
9:30 a.m.
Conference Room 229

Re: SB132 Relating to Stroke Awareness

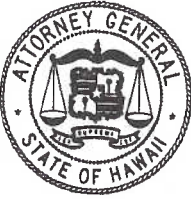
Chair Baker, Vice Chair Nishihara, and committee members, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on SB132, which provides funding for implementation of the stroke communication plan, developed by the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association (AHA/ASA) task force.

Kaiser Permanente Hawaii SUPPORTS SB132.

According to statistics from AHA/ASA, stroke is the third leading cause of death in Hawaii. However, for a variety of reasons, Hawaii's ischemic stroke patients often delay seeking medical care at local hospitals, which often significantly increases their chances of permanent disability, or death. To address this important issue, AHA/ASA convened a communication and marketing task force, which Kaiser Permanente Hawaii serves as a member of, to develop a stroke communication plan to raise public awareness statewide of stroke warning signs, and to change public norms about the use of emergency medical services systems to transport stroke patients to hospital care. In addition to reaching the general population, the plan will target disparately affected communities, who are at an increased risk of being effected by a stroke.

Kaiser Permanente Hawaii supports the appropriation for a stroke communication plan, which will help to ensure that members of our community are made aware of the symptoms of stroke and proper response.

Therefore, Kaiser Permanente Hawaii strongly urges the committee to **PASS** SB132. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE, 2017

LATE

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

S.B. NO. 132, RELATING TO STROKE AWARENESS.

BEFORE THE:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

DATE: Friday, January 27, 2017

TIME: 9:30 a.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 229

TESTIFIER(S): Douglas S. Chin, Attorney General, or
Jill T. Nagamine, Deputy Attorney General

Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General provides the following comments.

This bill would require the Department of Health to implement the stroke communications plan developed by a task force established by the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association and consisting of volunteers from Hawaii's major hospital systems and health insurance companies, including medical experts and other interested parties. It would also require the department to distribute appropriated funds to the Hawaii Public Health Institute, a domestic nonprofit corporation, and to other unnamed community organizations, to manage and participate in implementing the stroke communications plan. The department would be required to report to the Legislature on the distribution and use of funds, the data collected, and proposed legislation, if any. The bill would appropriate \$250,000 for the 2017-2018 fiscal year.

While the purpose of the bill is a good one, the means for the Department of Health to expend the funds appears to violate article VII, section 4, of the Hawaii Constitution. That section provides in part that "No grant of public money or property shall be made except pursuant to standards provided by law." Therefore, if the Hawaii Public Health Institute or other community organizations described in the bill have applied to the Legislature for a grant and are eligible pursuant to the requirements of chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the Legislature could appropriate funds for a

grant to one or more of them to achieve the goals intended by this bill. Possible wording to accomplish this is:

There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$_____ or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 as a grant pursuant to chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to _____ to implement the stroke communications plan developed by the task force established by the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association.

The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of health for the purposes of this Act.

As an alternate suggestion, if there are no potential grantees, the Legislature could include the moneys in the Department of Health's budget for it to procure the services that the Legislature intended to provide by this bill.

If the Committee decides to proceed with this bill, we respectfully ask the Committee to amend the funding provision of the bill to meet the requirements of article VII, section 4, of the Hawaii Constitution.



To: The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair
Members, Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

From: Kazuma Nakagawa, MD, FAAN, FAHA,
Associate Professor of Medicine, Division of Neurology, University of Hawai'i, John A. Burns School of Medicine
Neurovascular and Neurocritical Care, Neuroscience Institute, The Queen's Medical Center

Date: January 26, 2017

Hrg: Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health Hearing; Friday, January 27, 2017 at 9:30 AM in Room 229

Re: **Support for SB 132, Relating to Stroke Awareness**

My name is Kazuma Nakagawa, and I am an Associate Professor of Medicine for the University of Hawai'i, John A. Burns School of Medicine and a Neurointensivist at The Queen's Medical Center's Neuroscience Institute. I would like to express my **support** for SB 132, Relating to Stroke Awareness. This bill would provide \$250,000 in funding for the Stroke Communications Plan Task Force to raise public awareness of stroke warning signs and educate the community on the importance of reducing delays in treatment for stroke.

Established in 1996, Queen's Neuroscience Institute's mission is to provide state-of-the-art medical care to patients with neurological and neurosurgical diseases through the integration of clinical excellence, education and research. In 2016, Queen's Neuroscience Institute became Hawaii's first Comprehensive Stroke Center, the highest level of stroke accreditation designated by The Joint Commission.

Across the State of Hawaii, approximately half of all stroke patients are not calling 911 when they exhibit stroke symptoms and instead drive themselves to the Emergency Department (ED). Data has shown that if 911 is not called, the chances for receiving effective treatment, such as clot buster medication, is extremely low. The immediate identification of a stroke condition and treatment starts with emergency medical services notifying the "stroke ready" hospital during transport. The stroke and ED teams at the receiving hospital can then coordinate treatment when the patient arrives. This collaboration between the various medical providers cuts down time delays and increases the probability of successful treatment. Our community needs to be educated on the symptoms of stroke and know when to call 911. In doing so more lives would be saved and more stroke patients could regain functional independence. Stroke education is important for reducing risk factors and understanding the signs of stroke can increase quality-of-life and reduce long-term health care cost for the state.

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.



THE QUEEN'S HEALTH SYSTEMS

SB 132 would allow the Stroke Communications Plan Task Force to raise public awareness of stroke warning signs and educate the community on the importance of reducing delays in treatment for stroke. I commend the legislature for introducing this measure and ask you to support it. Thank you for your time and attention to this important issue.