



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committees on Higher Education and
Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health
February 7, 2017 at 2:15 p.m.

By
Jerris R. Hedges, MD, MS, MMM, Dean
John A. Burns School of Medicine
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

SB 730 – RELATING TO HEALTH

Chairs Kahele and Baker, Vice Chairs Kidani and Nishihara, and members of the committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide **comments** on SB 730. SB 730 creates a global primary care training program by combining the Hilo medical center primary care training program and the University of Hawai'i Family Medicine residency program on O'ahu. The objective is to enable the two programs to collaborate and allow residents from each program to rotate with the other.

We support dialogue between the two entities to discuss coordination and collaboration. Issues to consider include, among other things, the financial, space and human resources required to attain full accreditation for a merged program. Due to the complexity of ACGME accreditation and the flow of federal funding to the hospitals to support the graduate medical programs, we suggest that the Hawai'i Medical Education Council be requested to study this proposal and report to the legislature on the feasibility, costs and advantages.

Graduate Medical Education (GME) (residency and fellowship training programs that commence after graduation from an accredited medical school) is costly, but critically important and necessary to address the current physician shortages throughout the state. At the UH John A. Burns School of Medicine, we have shown that if a physician does his or her medical school AND GME training here in Hawai'i, about 80% of them stay in Hawai'i to practice.

UH is not able to fund or defray costs of the Hilo Medical Center Family Medicine Residency program, which is a part of the Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation. However, should the legislature deem it appropriate to fund each of the residency programs, we would be pleased to explore expansion to create more Family Physicians for Hawai'i.

Thank you for considering our comments.

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SB730

Submitted on: 2/1/2017

Testimony for HRE/CPH on Feb 7, 2017 14:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ronald Taniguchi, Pharm.D.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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SB730

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for HRE/CPH on Feb 7, 2017 14:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Teresa Parsons	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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