

To:

Committee on Health, Hawaii State Legislature

Monday, February 6, 2017

Aloha Chair and Members;

I write this testimony in support of Senate Bill 785 in your committee. This testimony is written on behalf of my mother, Susan L. Yoko, of Waipahu.

She has had challenges getting her doctor's to give her her records on several occasions. She feels strongly that patients should be forewarned about medical centers closing so they can get their records free of charge. This is especially necessary for our kupuna and those with special needs. They don't need any other struggles in life! Having to find new doctors and new medical facilities is enough humbug.

Show aloha by lightening the heavy load on seniors and people with disabilities or those who are frequently visiting doctors and hospitals. A little aloha can go a long way to make life more tolerable.

Signed on behalf of Susan L. Yoko

LATE

Aloha Senators,

This is in regards to SB 785. I am in strong support of this measure.

When the hospital in Ewa closed, HI Medical Center West, a number of years ago my medical records were locked in. I had been admitted to that hospital twice and had extensive records with them including surgery information, x-rays, MRI images, medicine allergies, and more.

I felt I had no choice but to pay \$50 to obtain my records for my new doctor after the hospital closing. Not getting this records seemed to be a life and death choice.

What is more, we had to pay an additional \$50 to get my husband's records, since he had also been treated for a car accident at HI Medical Center West, and my son who had records on file with them as well.

We were blown away---\$150 to get records that should belong to us anyways??!?

I can't say how strongly feel that this bill should pass immediately. Unfortunately it is too late for what happened to us.

Thank you,

Eliza Donaldson

PO Box 2248
Ewa Beach