



**LATE**

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
STATE COUNCIL  
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES  
919 ALA MOANA BOULEVARD, ROOM 113  
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TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543  
February 7, 2017

The Honorable Della Au Belatti, Chair  
House Committee on Health  
Twenty-Ninth Legislature  
State Capitol  
State of Hawaii  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Representative Au Belatti and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: HB 1299 – Relating to Health

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD) **appreciates the intent of HB 1299, but does not feel the bill is necessary**. The bill authorizes a pharmacy to provide a customized patient medication package to any patient of an institutional facility or any member of the general public, subject to certain conditions.

Last year similar measures (HB 1757 and SB 2390) were heard pertaining to customized patient medication package. With the support of Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair of the Senate Committee on Consumer Protection and Health, the Council worked closely with Peter Oshiro, Department of Health Environmental Health Program Manager (Sanitation/Food and Drug) to assure such packaging was possible without further legislation. We learned that the driver of the measures was a pharmacist owner who wanted to amend Hawaii Revised Statutes, Chapter 328, Section 328-15 (7) and 328-16 (a) to clearly allow for a pharmacy to package and dispense medication for a patient that contains one or more different drugs prescribed by the patient's doctor.

Although it was with all good intentions to benefit the consumer, based on information from DOH, and their willingness to disseminate a Memo clarifying the interpretation of the above mentioned Chapters, the Council felt that there was no further need to advocate for enabling legislation. DOH created an Informational Notice dated March 17, 2016 that clarified the practice of customizing patient medication packaging.

The Council was able to share the Informational Notice with individuals who wanted their medication in customized packaging. We found Aiea Medical Center, Tamura's Pharmacy at Waianae, and Times Supermarket Pharmacies were able to offer such customized patient medication packaging.

The Honorable Della Au Belatti

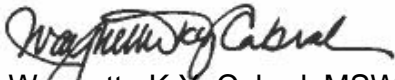
Page 2

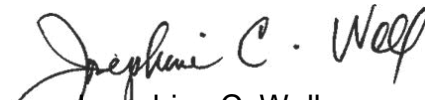
February 7, 2017

Based on the Informational Notice from the Department of Health, and the fact there are pharmacies who are able and willing to provide such customized patient medication packaging, we do not feel further legislation is needed.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments regarding HB 1299.

Sincerely,

  
Waynette K.Y. Cabral, MSW  
Executive Administrator

  
Josephine C. Woll  
Chair

# SanHi Government Strategies

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DATE: February 6, 2017

TO: Representative Della Au Belatti  
Chair, Committee on Health  
*Submitted Via Capitol Website*

RE: **H.B. 1299 – Relating to Health**  
**Hearing Date: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 at 9:30 a.m.**  
**Conference Room: 329**

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Dear Chair Belatti and Members of the Committee on Health:

We submit this testimony on behalf of Walgreen Co. (“Walgreens”). Walgreens operates stores at more than 8,200 locations in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. In Hawaii, Walgreens now has 20 stores on the islands of Oahu, Maui, and Hawaii.

Walgreens **supports the intent** of HB 1229, which authorizes a pharmacy to provide a customized patient medication package to any patient of an institutional facility or any member of the general public under certain conditions.

Walgreens utilizes customized medication packaging in its specialty pharmacy setting in working with higher needs patients. Walgreens believes that allowing pharmacists with the ability to provide customized packaging to patients provides a convenience that will ultimately help patients with adherence to their medication.

We would note that we believe that the existing law already permits for the use of customized medication packaging in Hawaii. In addition, if the Committee moves this bill, there are technical amendments needed to ensure that the bill comports with existing language in HRS Chapters 328 and 461. We are happy to provide any information that would assist the Committee in this regard.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

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Gary M. Slovin  
Mihoko E. Ito  
R. Brian Tsujimura  
C. Mike Kido  
Tiffany N. Yajima  
Matthew W. Tsujimura



An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

February 7, 2017

The Honorable Della Au Belatti, Chair  
The Honorable Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair  
House Committee on Health

Re: HB 1299 – Relating to Health

Dear Chair Au Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Medical Service Association (HMSA) appreciates the opportunity to testify on HB 1299, which would authorize pharmacists to provide a customized patient medication package (“package”) the institutionalized patient or member of the general public. HMSA has concerns with this Bill.

HMSA’s goal in the provision of pharmacy services is to ensure our members have access to affordable, high quality medication. We believe that optimal drug therapy results in positive medical outcomes, which helps to manage overall health care costs. To that end, HMSA appreciates the intent of HB 1299 - to help our members with their medication compliance.

The safety of our members is paramount. Processes must be in place to ensure the quality and safety of the pharmacy packaging process in order to decrease the potential of errors and unintended adverse events affecting our members. The process of packaging the medications also meets the highest standards. Customized patient medication packages must meet the U.S. Pharmacopeia standards and National Formulary standards.

Ensuring a sufficiently designed and staff process will involve an investment, and this will impact the cost of healthcare. Given that, we would want to ensure that this measure does not contemplate a mandate for customized patient medication packaging.

Thank you for allowing us to testify on HB 1299. Your consideration of our concerns is appreciated

Sincerely,

Mark K. Oto  
Director, Government Relations

kobayashi2 - Jessi

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Sunday, February 5, 2017 3:28 PM  
To: HLTtestimony  
Cc: kglick@wheelchair-kauai.com  
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1299 on Feb 7, 2017 09:30AM

**HB1299**

Submitted on: 2/5/2017

Testimony for HLT on Feb 7, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 329

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b>                      | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Kevin Glick         | Hawaii Community Pharmacists Association | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: Please consider passing this bill out of committee. The ability of pharmacists to tailor medication packaging to a patients needs is a vital step in adherence to therapy.

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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To: House Committee on Health  
From: Patrick Adams  
Re: HB 1266

In Support:

The proposed packaging bill is a positive addition to patient packaging. The proposed change will allow for better compliance and will promote safety. Patient packaging of medications is changing as technology improves. The changes in technology have allowed for a more customized packaging that better suits each patients needs. Please support HB 1266 and the patients that will be better served.

Mahalo,  
Patrick Adams, Rph  
808-640-1848