

HB527 HD1 SD1

Measure Title: RELATING TO MOBILE CLINICS.
Report Title: Mobile Clinic; Homeless; Appropriation (\$)
Description: Appropriates funds to purchase, staff, and operate two mobile clinics to serve the homeless population. Takes effect on 7/1/2075. (SD1)
Companion: SB347
Package: None
Current Referral: HMS, CPH/WAM
Introducer(s): OHNO, BROWER, ICHIYAMA, KONG



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

March 30, 2017

TO: The Honorable Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

The Honorable Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Scott Morishige, MSW, Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness

SUBJECT: HB 527 HD1 SD1 – RELATING TO MOBILE CLINICS.

Hearing: Thursday, March 30, 2017, 9:30 a.m.
Conference Room 211, State Capitol

POSITION: The Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness appreciates the intent of this measure and offers comments. Existing outreach service providers already provide a mobile health clinic, and the Coordinator asks the Legislature to support the Governor's Executive Budget request that support these services, particularly additional funding to the Department of Human Services for homeless outreach; and funding to the Department of Health for homeless individuals with serious and persistent mental health challenges and severe substance use disorders.

PURPOSE: The purpose of the bill is to appropriate funds to the Department of Human Services (DHS) for establishing, staffing, and operating two mobile clinics to serve the homeless population.

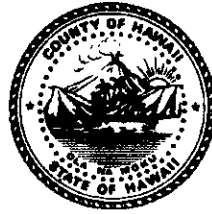
DHS Homeless Programs Office (HPO) currently contracts homeless outreach services with providers statewide, some of which offer mobile health services. In general, homeless outreach providers help connect unsheltered homeless individuals with basic needs, including medical care.

However, outreach is about more than just medical care, and is essential to meet unsheltered homeless households in the community and to build rapport that connects them to housing and services, such as Housing First, Rapid Rehousing, or shelter. Outreach workers provide a comprehensive array of services, including completing applications for housing and services, housing search, and obtaining identification and other necessary documents. Without the assistance of homeless outreach, many homeless individuals are unable to access care and unable to navigate Hawaii's system of homeless services.

In addition to homeless outreach provided by HPO contracted providers, the Department of Health (DOH) is requesting funding in the Executive Budget for targeted mental health and substance use treatment services for the unsheltered homeless population. These services are part of the State's comprehensive framework to address homelessness, which includes a focus on three primary leverage points – affordable housing, health and human services, and public safety. All three of these leverage points must be addressed to continue forward momentum in addressing the complex issue of homelessness. The Executive Budget specifically increases resources for outreach, mental health and substance use treatment, as well as addressing housing costs through programs such as Housing First, Rapid Rehousing, and the State Rent Supplement.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

Harry Kim
Mayor



Wil Okabe
Managing Director

Barbara J. Kossow
Deputy Managing Director

County of Hawai'i

Office of the Mayor

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March 28, 2017

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection
and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Committee on Ways and Means
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Baker, Senator Tokuda, and Committee Members:

**RE: HB 527, HD 1, SD 1
Relating to Mobile Clinics**

While the Legislature has considered and disposed of numerous bills dealing with homelessness, the idea of mobile clinics would seem to have the support of both House and Senate, as both HB527 and SB347 survived first cross. It seems clear that these bills propose to fund an important service that has wide-spread support, and one or the other should move forward to final approval.

Parochially, when I see that two mobile clinics would be funded under this bill, I am tempted to ask that one be earmarked for the neighbor islands. I note that the Senate Human Services Committee Report says that "Your Committee also believes that the development of a mobile clinic pilot project for Hawaii County may be a worthy endeavor for consideration in the future." In the meantime, I defer to experts in this field as to whether the need is so great on Oahu that both clinics should be located there.

Baker/Tokuda
March 28, 2017
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In any case, I hope you will approve mobile clinics for the homeless, and provide adequate funding for them.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Harry Kim", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

for Harry Kim
Mayor



Hawai'i Psychological Association

For a Healthy Hawai'i

P.O. Box 833
Honolulu, HI 96808

www.hawaiipsychology.org

Phone: (808) 521-8995

Committee On Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health
Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair

Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair
Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

Testimony in Support of HB527 HD1 SD1 with modification

Thursday, March 30, 2017, 9:30 am, Room 211

The Hawai'i Psychological Association supports a modified version of HB527 HD1 SD1, which appropriates funds for establishing, staffing, and operating two mobile clinics to serve the homeless population.

The Hawaii Psychological Association strongly recommends inclusion of a clinical psychologist in the mobile clinic minimum staffing requirements. The homeless population suffers from extremely high rates of mental illness and a more comprehensive approach to their care is required. There is a strong body of scientific evidence that clearly demonstrates that psychotherapy along with medication is more effective than pharmaceutical intervention alone. The combination results in a faster, more complete and enduring response to treatment. Given the critical shortage of psychiatrists in the State of Hawaii, it is unlikely that any will have the time to provide more than brief medication management to the homeless population. Including a clinical psychologist on the team will allow for the provision of psychotherapy and will result in more effective treatment.

Including a clinical psychologist as a required member of the mobile staff will significantly improve treatment outcome and success. We support the bill with this recommended modification.

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond A. Folen, Ph.D., ABPP
Executive Director



THE QUEEN'S HEALTH SYSTEMS

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

The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair
Committee of Ways and Means

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

Date: March 29, 2017

Hrg: Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health and Committee on
Ways and Means Decision Making; Thursday, March 30, 2017 at 9:30AM in Room 211

Re: **Support for HB 527, HD1, SD1 Relating to Mobile Clinics**

My name is Paula Yoshioka, and I am a Senior Vice President at The Queen's Health Systems (QHS). We would like to express my **support** for HB 527, HD1, SD1 Relating to Mobile Clinics. This bill would appropriate additional funds for fiscal years 2018 and 2019 respectively to purchase, staff, and operate two mobile clinics to service the homeless population.

QHS shoulders majority of the burden of care for our homeless population in Hawaii. As an alternative to what is currently stated in Section 1, line 12 -15, QHS would like to clarify that our facility experiences a net loss of over \$10 million annually for providing unfunded and underfunded care for homeless patients. The Hawaii Health Information Corporation (HHIC) reports that our hospitals provided 64 percent of the care for homeless individuals with 10,459 encounters in FY15 as opposed to 5,381 encounters by all other facilities. Over 90 percent of the care QHS provided occurred in the emergency room setting.

At QHS we are committed to providing care for Hawaii's most underserved. This legislation recognizes the great cost that many health care providers take on to care for this vulnerable and underserved population. The costs to the entire continuum of care—from hospitals to long-term care facilities to home-based services—of treating the homeless population are large and growing. Mobile clinics would help to provide needed non-emergency medical care to homeless individuals in the community. Preventive services assist with mitigating many illnesses and go a long way to reducing the demand for high cost medical services down the road.

I commend the legislature for introducing this measure and urge you to support it. 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.

March 30, 2017 at 9:30am
Conference Room 211

Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

To: Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair (CPH)
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair (CPH)
Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair (WAM)
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair (WAM)

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

Re: HB527, HD1, SD1 – Relating to Mobile Clinics: Testimony in Support

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.

On behalf of Hawai'i Pacific Health, I write to testify in support of HB527, HD1, SD1 which appropriates funds to establish, staff, and operate two mobile clinics to serve the homeless population.

Mobile clinics provide valuable preventative and primary care to the homeless population. Roughly two thirds of homeless individuals in Hawai'i relied on MedQuest to pay for health care services. Barriers to health care such as lack of insurance, housing, transportation, and primary care physicians result in the over-use of high-cost hospital emergency facilities as well as EMS. The homeless population's limited access to preventative and primary health care also results in many individuals waiting to seek treatment until their health conditions have reached extreme stages. The severity of homeless people's health conditions could be prevented and costs to the state minimized if mobile clinics offered basic preventative and primary care to O'ahu's homeless population.

For example, Waikiki Care-A-Van was meeting these needs of some of O'ahu's homeless population. Though the State funding for that organization has been pulled, the need remains. Hawai'i Pacific Health understands that our State is focusing on

housing first, but until we reach our goal of providing housing to all homeless individuals, it is important to choose the most cost-effective ways of providing access to health care. HB527, HD1, SD1 improves access to health care for our homeless population and decreases the cost to the State and to hospitals for providing necessary health care services.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB527, HD1, SD1.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 11:27 AM
To: CPH Testimony
Cc: kimcoco@kimcoco.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB527 on Mar 30, 2017 09:30AM

HB527

Submitted on: 3/27/2017

Testimony for CPH/WAM on Mar 30, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kim Coco Iwamoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please accept this testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of HB527 HD1 SD1. These mobile clinics are a data-substantiated win-win-win for the educational institutions and their students, the clients and the state. Thank you for supporting this bill as amended.

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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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 25, 2017 1:49 PM
To: CPH Testimony
Cc: launahele@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB527 on Mar 30, 2017 09:30AM*

HB527

Submitted on: 3/25/2017

Testimony for CPH/WAM on Mar 30, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Benton	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2017 4:09 PM
To: CPH Testimony
Cc: KarinNomura1@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB527 on Mar 30, 2017 09:30AM*

HB527

Submitted on: 3/24/2017

Testimony for CPH/WAM on Mar 30, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karin Nomura	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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HB 527 Testimony

Relating to mobile clinics

Good morning Senators. Homelessness continues to be the state's most costly and challenging issue when it comes to meeting the basic needs of our citizens who are unsheltered. I was a volunteer for the 2017 Point-in-time count held in January and I observed the general and mental health status of Oahu's homeless people and I listened to one man's experience about how the "sweeps" affect their daily lives and personal property. Health care is a necessity and should be afforded to all. I support House Bill 527 because it will allocate funds to employ the staff who will operate the mobile clinics so that we can treat, assess, and directly provide health care outreach services to the unsheltered people and potentially save millions of dollars. Thank you for your time and consideration on this much needed initiative.

Kim Watts
Mililani, HI
808-205-1694

HB 527 Testimony
RELATING TO MOBILE CLINICS

My name is Janie and I am currently a student studying social work at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. I am testifying in support of this bill to be passed because I wish to see a change for the homeless population's medical needs. Many people tend to forget about our growing homeless population because we do not see the same ones everyday. They are transient and struggling to survive day to to day. Homeless people are frequently seen in a negative light and treated as such. However, despite all this, I do not think they should be forgotten because they are also human.

Many homeless individuals and families are unable to afford housing, let alone any appropriate medical care. Rather than sending homeless people to costly emergency room visits, they can go to the two proposed mobile clinics. There, medical workers will be specifically trained to handle problems that occur with people who live on the streets. Not only will the mobile vehicles provide medical services to the homeless population, the vehicles can also provide services to make their lives a bit easier such as referrals to other agencies that can help them, child and family services, and a simple place to shower and do laundry.

I want to see this as a positive change for the homeless population. Rather than pushing them off as a problem to be dealt with in the future, I want to see a path to improvement now. As a part of the community, I want to help everyone in the community and as a human, I want to see the forgotten ones be treated for what they also are -- a human.

To:
COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

RE: HB 527
DATE: Thursday, March 30, 2017
TIME: 9:30 a.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 211
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Aloha Committee Members of Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health, and
Members of the Ways and Means Committee,

My name is Hannah Aldridge, and I am a graduate student at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa in the Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work. I do not belong to any organization, but am writing as citizen and the wife of a firefighter (as I will explain below). I am writing in support of HB 527 with some suggestion.

I will take a different perspective and say that this bill could not only benefit the homeless community and private hospitals with \$5 million dollar IOU's, but also our first responders, the healthcare professionals, and the overall quality of care received by fellow hospital patients and citizens of Hawai'i. I am writing on behalf of my hardworking friends, who are nurses, physicians, physician assistants, and more closely, my husband, who is a firefighter. Many of my husband's calls are dedicated to health needs of the homeless population. It is his duty to serve our community, and with a joyful heart he responds with the same respect to the homeless patient-- from that first call, to the 100th call. Similarly, the nurses, doctors, and hospital

providers give the same level of care when that same patient comes in for the 100th visit. However, over time there is bound to be a lurking decline of compassion toward repeat patients, and other patients alike.

Compassion fatigue can impact the *health of our healthcare providers* and has the potential to affect the overall quality of care provided to Hawai'i's community. Compassion fatigue was first diagnosed in nurses in the 1950's, and is common among social workers, nurses, teachers, police officers, paramedics, health coordinators, and anyone who helps others, including caretaking for 'ohana. Various research shows that those who suffer from compassion fatigue can display many symptoms such as constant stress, anxiety, sleeplessness, a permeating negative attitude, a decline in productivity, the inability to focus, and the development of feelings of self-doubt and incompetency. Similar to burnout, compassion fatigue can have harmful effects on individuals, both personally and professionally.

Without addressing this issue of homelessness and its affect on healthcare worker, there can be many *detrimental effects on the organizations* to which these healthcare professionals belong, from the first responders who respond to these calls in extremely high numbers, to emergency room staff across the state. The Compassion Fatigue Awareness Project explains: "When Compassion Fatigues hits critical mass in the workplace, the organization itself suffers. Chronic absenteeism, spiraling Worker's Comp costs, high turnover rates, friction between employees, and friction between staff and management are among organizational symptoms that surface, creating additional stress on workers."

Recommendations

When it comes to funding, strongly consider a PARTNERSHIP between the state and private hospitals. If a hospital is losing \$2.5 million dollars per year due to misuse of the emergency services, perhaps that same hospital could dedicate \$1 million dollars for the first year of this project, hoping for a return on investment.

Second, rather than additional care such as laundry services or dental services, a huge need for the homeless community, is consistent WOUND CARE.

Finally, 1 Doctor, 2 Nurses and/or mid-level practitioners such as Physician's Assistants within the mobile clinic are more realistic in starting this project, instead of providing a Pharmacist (which could open a huge can of worms), and a Psychiatrist, both positions already in high demand.

Conclusion

I support HB 527 as an opportunity to prevent compassion fatigue among all of the first responders and healthcare workers who consistently give their full efforts on repeat patients. Should the mobile clinics go out, it would decrease the number of repeat patients coming in for non-emergency related issues, and give the healthcare providers and first responders the ability to practice genuine and healthy care for their patients.

Sincerest mahalo for all that you do,

Hannah Aldridge

re: HB527, HD1, SD1

Aloha Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz and committee members,

I am a senior citizen and a resident of House District 19 and Senate District 9. I am a member of AARP, Kokua Council, the Hawaii Alliance of Retired Americans and the Legislative Committee of PABEA.

I'm testifying in strong support of HB527, HD1, SD1, an appropriation to fund two mobile clinics to assist homeless individuals with non-emergency medical care, counseling, family planning, child and family services, HIV identification and treatment, referral for substance abuse, etc.

Our Emergency Departments, especially Queen's Medical Center as the main trauma center on Oahu, are overburdened with treatment of homeless people, who do not have Primary Care Physicians and go the Emergency Departments for all their medical needs. Queen's Medical Center, alone, spent more than \$5,000,000 last year on homeless individuals

Mobile Clinics could take care of many homeless people and/or problems for a fraction of the cost. This has already been proven in some mainland cities.

Please support funding of Mobile Clinics.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Barbara J. Service