



Hawaii Dental Association

To: The House Committee on Health and Human Services
Time/Date: 9:30 a.m. March 8, 2018
Location: Capitol Conference Room 312
Re: HCR42 HR 30

Aloha Chair Mizuno, Vice Chair Kobayashi and members of the committee! The Hawaii Dental Association (HDA) is a statewide professional membership organization representing dentists practicing in Hawaii and licensed by the State of Hawaii Board of Dental Examiners. HDA members are committed to protecting the oral health and well-being of all of the people of Hawaii, from keiki to kupuna and everyone in between.

HDA supports HCR42 HR30, which requests the Department of Health to conduct a study on the voluntary use of fluoride supplements by children and pregnant women in the State of Hawaii and whether the voluntary taking of fluoride supplements should be encouraged by the State.

In 2015, the Hawaii State Department of Health reported Hawaii's children have the highest prevalence of tooth decay in the United States. Providing our community with an opportunity to support fluoridation is an important step toward addressing our state's oral health needs.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Petition to Submit Testimony in Support of HCR42/HR30

<p>Petition summary and background:</p>	<p>As Registered Dental Hygienists in the state of Hawaii, we SUPPORT HCR42/HR30. We have seen high rates of dental decay in both keiki and adults which could be a result from NO fluoride in our community water system. The Federal government mandates all military installments to provide fluoride in their water system. Statistics show how effective it has been to those living on base and have access to fluoridated water. This bill is requesting the Department of Health to conduct a study on the voluntary use of fluoride supplements by keiki and pregnant women in Hawaii. Encouraging parents to give fluoride drops/chew tabs to their keiki from a young age helps to increase the chance of developing healthy teeth in the future.</p>
<p>Action petitioned for:</p>	<p>We, the undersigned, are concerned citizens who urge our leaders to act now to SUPPORT HCR42/HR30 and help to improve the overall dental health of keiki and pregnant women in Hawaii.</p>

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HR-30

Submitted on: 3/7/2018 8:26:02 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/8/2018 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	OCC Legislative Priorities Committee, Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

PRESENTATION OF THE
OAHU COUNTY COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES
DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAII
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2018
Thursday, March 8, 2018
9:30 a.m.

Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 312

RE: Testimony in Support of **HR30**

To the Honorable John M. Mizuno, Chair; the Honorable Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice-Chair and the Members of the Committee on Health and Human Services:

Good morning, my name is Melodie Aduja. I serve as Chair of the Oahu County Committee ("OCC") Legislative Priorities Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on **HR30** relating to a request to THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON THE VOLUNTARY USE OF FLUORIDE SUPPLEMENTS BY CHILDREN AND PREGNANT WOMEN IN THE STATE OF HAWAII AND WHETHER THE VOLUNTARY TAKING OF FLUORIDE SUPPLEMENTS SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED BY THE STATE.

. The OCC Legislative Priorities Committee is in favor of **HR30** and supports its passage.

HR30 is in alignment with the Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i ("DPH"), 2016, as it requests the Department of Health to conduct a study on the voluntary use of fluoride supplements by children and pregnant women in Hawaii to ensure that medical and dental standards for fluoride intake and use are based on conditions where local water supplies are not fluoridated, to assess the public health benefits of taking fluoride supplements, and to determine whether the taking of fluoride supplements should be encouraged by the State.

Specifically, the Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i provides that "[w]e support community health initiatives that provide opportunities for the overall health of communities through strategic projects and programs focusing on increased interaction and physical activities among all age groups, as well as on better nutrition." (Platform of the DPH, P. 7, Lines 378-380(2016)).

Given that **HR30** requests the Department of Health to conduct a study on the voluntary use of fluoride supplements by children and pregnant women in Hawaii to assess the public health benefits of taking fluoride supplements, and determine whether the taking of fluoride supplements should be encouraged by the State, it is the position of the OCC Legislative Priorities Committee to support this measure.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Melodie Aduja

Melodie Aduja, Chair, OCC Legislative Priorities Committee

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