

**Tuesday, April 3, 2018 at 2:00 PM**  
**Conference Room 329**

Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

To: Representative Roy Takumi, Chair  
Representative Linda Ichiyama, Vice Chair

From: Kenneth Robbins, MD  
CMO, Hawaii Pacific Health

**Re: Testimony in Support of HCR 78/HR 63**  
**REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO ASSESS THE ADEQUACY OF THE**  
**PHYSICIAN NETWORKS ON ALL ISLANDS OF THE STATE.**

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My name is Kenneth Robbins, MD. I am the Chief Medical Officer for Hawaii'i Pacific Health. Hawaii'i Pacific Health is a not-for-profit health care system with over 70 locations statewide including medical centers, clinics, physicians and other caregivers serving Hawaii'i and the Pacific Region with high quality, compassionate care. Its four medical centers – Kapi'olani, Pali Momi, Straub and Wilcox – specialize in innovative programs in women's health, pediatric care, cardiovascular services, cancer care, bone and joint services and more. Hawaii'i Pacific Health is recognized nationally for its excellence in patient care and the use of electronic health records to improve quality and patient safety.

I write in support of HCR 78 and HR 63. HCR 78/HR 63 each request the auditor to assess the adequacy of the physician network for insurance providers on all islands of the state. Hawaii is facing a critical shortage of physicians as well as other healthcare providers. In the case of primary care physicians, the shortage of physicians in Hawaii is now calculated at 282 physicians statewide compared to a similar demographic region on the mainland.

This shortfall is projected to worsen with the increased demand for health care from an aging population and the retirement of an aging physician population creating access issues on Oahu and the neighbor islands. The physician workforce assessment conducted by the John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) has shown that shortages exist in nearly all medical specialties. Obtaining access to appropriate health care services has become increasingly difficult in Hawaii. The inability to access necessary health care services is even more acute on the Neighbor Islands.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

**HR-63**

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 1:37:43 PM

Testimony for CPC on 4/3/2018 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melodie Aduja	Oahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments: