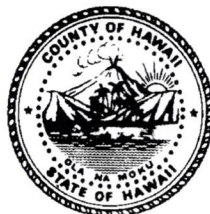


Harry Kim
Mayor



Wil Okabe
Managing Director

Barbara J. Kossow
Deputy Managing Director

County of Hawai'i
Office of the Mayor

25 Aupuni Street, Suite 2603 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720 • (808) 961-8211 • Fax (808) 961-6553
KONA: 74-5044 Ane Keohokālole Hwy., Bldg C • Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740
(808) 323-4444 • Fax (808) 323-4440

February 26, 2018

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Committee on Ways and Means
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 211
Honolulu, HI 96813

Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice-Chair
Committee on Ways and Means
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 211
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Keith-Agaran and Committee Members:

**Re: SB 1235, Proposed SD 2 Relating to Funding for Hilo Medical Center
Hearing Date: 02/28/18 – 10:30 am; Conference Room 211**

SB1235, proposed SD 2, is not our initiative, nor is it our intention to highjack a bill that was intended to fund Hana and Waianae. However, if the authors of SB 1235 and the affected communities have no objections, we appreciate the opportunity to endorse the benefits of increasing services at Hilo Medical Center, the largest provider of care on the Big Island.

Cardiac care in Hawai'i County is clearly substandard by 21st century standards. The idea that almost 200,000 residents, plus all our visitors, are served by a system that requires an airlift to another island, was once thought to be the price of living on a neighbor island. Now that we see the potential to provide treatment on-island, if only adequate funding were made available, the lack of local service becomes less tenable.

Hana, Waianae, and Hawai'i County are rural areas in need of better healthcare. We hope you can find the funds to provide more services to them, and to us.

Respectfully submitted,

Harry Kim
Mayor, County of Hawai'i

SB-1235-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2018 1:58:57 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
lorinda jarnesk	Testifying for hilo medical center	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Kathleen Katt MD. I am an Emergency Physician that has worked at **Hilo Medical Center emergency room since 2005**. I have been an EM physician for 30yrs.

Hilo Medical Center does NOT provide the acceptable standard of care for our chest pain patients and especially our patients actively having a heart attack. We do not have the Interventional Cardiologists or an appropriately equipped and staffed catheterization lab to care for our patients. Unfortunately, we use the 2nd choice treatment which is much less effective AND much higher risk to use know as a “clot buster”.

Our population on the Big Island, with its lack of preventative medicine and genetic predisposition, has a huge number people that suffer from heart attacks. I look these people in the eyes and have to treat them with a substandard medication. Then transport them away from their families to Oahu!! This is terrible.

My last patient I used the “clot buster” for his STEMI [ST elevation MI] was only 39 yo with a wife and little kids. The medicine caused a bleed in his brain!! This would not have happened if we had Interventional Cardiologists and equipment and staff to care for this patient.

Please, give HMC the opportunity to provide the STANDARD OF CARE to the people of the Big Island. This will save lives, save heart muscle, save daily function of so many people.

Please, in honor of our beloved **Sen. Gil Kahele**, provide funding for our hospital to care for our cardiac patients with excellence.

SB-1235-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2018 4:43:51 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Elena Cabatu	Testifying for Hilo Medical Center	Support	Yes

Comments:

Mahalo for hearing SB 1235. Hilo Medical Center is in full support of this bill and will be in attendance on Wednesday. Please expect an onslot of support for this bill. Our community is passionate about improving cardiac care for East Hawaii and Hawaii Island.

SB-1235-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2018 8:44:35 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2018 10:30:00 AM

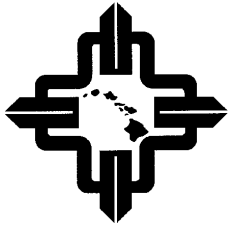
Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Shinde	Testifying for Hilo Medical Center	Support	No

Comments:

I am in full support of this bill. This will go a long ways into helping residents/visitors to Hawaii island obtain better cardiac care, sooner with better outcomes. Please consider passing this bill for better welfare of the people of Hawaii island.

Thank you for your attention,

Jennifer Shinde



HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS
C O R P O R A T I O N

"Quality Healthcare For All"

Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S. C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

February 28, 2018
Conference Room 211
10:30 a.m.
Hawaii State Capitol

**Testimony Supporting Senate Bill 1235, S. D. 1 Relating to Health.
Appropriates funds to improve the health care services related to cardiac care at
Hilo Medical Center. (Proposed SD2).**

Linda Rosen, M.D., M.P.H.
Chief Executive Officer
Hawaii Health Systems Corporation

On behalf of the Hawaii Health System Corporation (HHSC) Corporate Board of Directors, we are in **strong support** for SB 1235, S.D. 2.

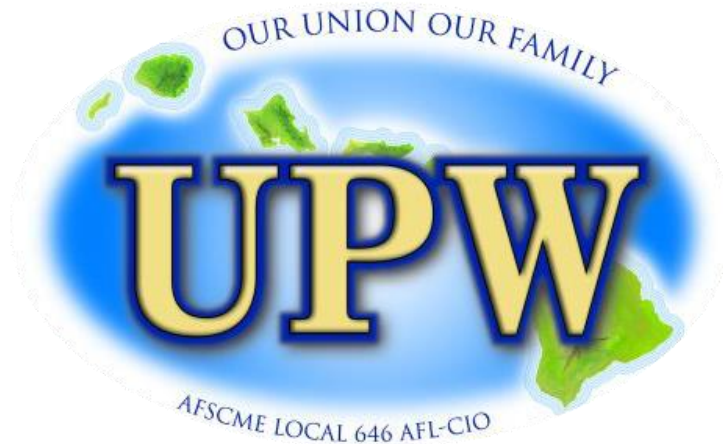
This measure seeks assistance with start-up costs for Hilo Medical Center (HMC) to provide interventional cardiology services 24/7. As an emergency physician I can assure you that having this capability at HMC will be life saving for some and prevent disability for many more. That is because the treatment that will be available, intervention by a cardiologist to open a blocked blood vessel that is starving the heart of oxygen, can **stop** a heart attack as it is happening. With a team of trained personnel on-call 24/7 they can respond in minutes, in some cases even before the patient reaches the hospital, because ambulance paramedics can transmit abnormal EKGs to activate them.

Other therapies for heart attacks are available at HMC and transport to Oahu does occur, it's just that the therapy that stops the damage quickest is currently not available. Every minute literally counts in terms of survival or how the heart functions afterwards. Treated soon enough, the patient may return to normal function, treated incompletely or too late, means death or living with the disability of a damaged poorly functioning heart.

Seven different hospitals on Oahu provide this service. The access to life-saving cardiac interventions that Oahu residents enjoy can be cost-effectively delivered at larger neighbor island acute care hospitals. Maui Memorial Medical Center has successfully provided this service to their community and HMC can do so as well. They

have the population size, intensive hospital support services and basic infrastructure to successfully deliver emergency cardiac interventions. The Legislature's assistance with initial funds to build the program will allow HMC to provide this service to their community in a sustainable fashion in the future.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



The Hawaii State Senate
The Twenty-Ninth Legislature
Regular Session of 2018

Committee on Ways and Means

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee

Date of Hearing: Wednesday, February 28, 2018
Time of Hearing: 10:30 AM
Place of Hearing: Conference room 211
State Capitol

Testimony In **Support** of SB1235 SD2 Relating to Health

By Dayton M. Nakanelua,
State Director of the United Public Workers,
AFSCME, Local 646, AFL-CIO

My name is Dayton M. Nakanelua, State Director of the United Public Workers, AFSCME, Local 646, AFL-CIO. The UPW is the exclusive representative for approximately 12,000 public employees, which include blue collar, non-supervisory employees in Bargaining Unit 01 and institutional, health and correctional employees in Bargaining Unit 10, in the State of Hawaii and the four counties.

The purpose of SB1235 SD2 is to appropriate funds to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation to improve the health care services related to cardiac care at Hilo Hospital. Cardiac interventions are complicated procedures; Hilo Medical Center requires reliable and strong support to expand its offering of interventional cardiology for heart attack treatment. We appreciate the consideration of the Legislature.

The UPW **strongly supports** SB1235 SD2.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

SB-1235-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2018 8:17:22 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrew	Testifying for YWCA of Hawaii Island	Support	No

Comments:

Testimony in Support of SB 1235

Related to health that appropriates funds to improve the health care services related to cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

Andrew Kahili, CREO and Program Director, I would like to thank the committee for the opportunity to **support SB 1235** that appropriates funds to improve the health care services related to cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

This funding gives Hilo Medical Center the opportunity to provide interventional cardiac care for East Hawaii and potentially for all of Hawaii Island. This procedure stops heart attacks in progress and reduces long term cardiac disability. The American College of Cardiology recommends interventional cardiac care as a best practice for treating heart attacks in rural areas like Hawaii Island.

Hilo Medical Center is well positioned to provide interventional cardiac care as it already has available cardiac imaging equipment and software, as well as a cardiology clinic that has space for three cardiologists. The requested funding would provide for recruiting and employing additional interventional cardiologists, training for staff, and the purchase of medical equipment for the Cardiac Catheterization Lab and Intensive Care Unit.

This funding is essential for Hilo Medical Center to provide interventional cardiology for heart attack treatment that saves lives and improves the quality of life for cardiac patients.

Again, mahalo for the opportunity to express my **support for SB 1235** to improve cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

SB-1235-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/27/2018 10:08:42 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Julia Williams	Testifying for Volcano CAN	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Senator Dela Cruz,

I am representing Volcano CAN, the community action network for the community of Volcano on the island of Hawai'i. We are in support of Senate Bill 1235 submitted by Senator Kai Kahele. Volcano has a large elderly population and we recognize Hilo Medical Center's dire need for a cardiac unit and knowledgeable cardiologists. Shipping heart attack victims off-island at tremendous cost to them as well as the added stress of travelling by medical helicopter is unacceptable.

Hilo Medical Center is our only option for extensive health care in East Hawai'i, the fastest growing area in the State. Yet services there fall far short for our community. Financial support through the State Legislature is of utmost importance in upgrading our medical center to modern standards for cardiac care. An estimated 300 people each year are shipped off island for cardiac stents. This number will only rise as our East Hawai'i population increases.

On November 22, 2014, I brought my mother to Hilo Medical Center emergency room as she was experiencing a heart attack. Imagine our shock when the attending doctor said "there's nothing we can do for you". The clot blocking drug was administered, but my mother still died within an hour as we waited for the medical helicopter. I'm brought to tears just writing this. Please save others from such a tragic experience. And PLEASE support our community as well as the hard working doctors, nurses and technicians at Hilo Medical Center by fully funding SB1235.

Mahalo,

Julia Williams, member

Volcano Community Action Network

P.O. Box 569 Volcano, HI 96785

volcanowilliams@gmail.com

SB-1235-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/27/2018 9:41:54 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
William Walter	Testifying for Hawaii Island Chamber of Commerce	Support	No

Comments:

The Hawaii Island Chamber of Commerce, representing hundreds of individuals and the companies that employ them asks the Hawaii State Legislature to **look with compassion** on this request for funds to assist Hilo Medical Center in its role of providing health care to tens of thousands of residents and guests on the Island of Hawaii. **Please put yourself in the place** - which should you visit the island and have a serious heart problem may well happen - where you have a cardiac arrest or other. **Your care givers have two hours** to find you, discover your problem, transport you to an initial care location for diagnosis and then get you to a location that can provide the needed therapy. Today that therapy all too frequently is on Oahu - meaning that all of the above steps must occur in well under an hour so that you may be airlifted to Oahu for the therapy. You can do the math and see that the probability of all of this happening within two hours provides much less time than any of us can count on.

SB1235 provides the financial resources needed to begin to address and correct this situation by providing the needed doctors, nurses and equipment that would be called for. In practical terms this likely saves 90 minutes or more of the time needed to provide the therapy called for.

We ask that you vote on this bill as if you or one of your loved ones was in the situation where these funds would have made the difference. Thank you for your consideration.



Hui Mālama Ola Nā 'Ōiwi

Community Health Education Services

Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Donovan M. DelaCruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice-Chair

Testimony in Support of SB 1235
related to health that appropriates funds to improve the health care services related to
cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center

February 28, 2018; 10:30 a.m., Conference Room 211, State Capitol

Greetings:

Hui Mālama Ola Nā 'Ōiwi approves the passage of **SB 1235** that appropriates funds to improve the health care services related to cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

This funding gives Hilo Medical Center the opportunity to provide interventional cardiac care for East Hawaii and potentially for all of Hawai'i Island. This procedure stops heart attacks in progress and reduces long term cardiac disability. The American College of Cardiology recommends interventional cardiac care as a best practice for treating heart attacks in rural areas like Hawai'i Island.

Hilo Medical Center is well positioned to provide interventional cardiac care as it already has available cardiac imaging equipment and software, as well as a cardiology clinic that has space for three cardiologists. The requested funding would provide for recruiting and employing additional interventional cardiologists, training for staff, and the purchase of medical equipment for the Cardiac Catheterization Lab and Intensive Care Unit.

This funding is essential for Hilo Medical Center to provide interventional cardiology for heart attack treatment that saves lives and improves the quality of life for cardiac patients.

Hui Mālama Ola Nā 'Ōiwi strongly supports **SB 1235** in memory of the late Senator Gilbert Kahele who suffered cardiac arrest in early 2016 and was transported to Oahu due to the lack of interventional cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

Again, mahalo for the opportunity to express our support for **SB 1235** to improve cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

Sincerely,

Louis Hao
Executive Director

Live Longer & Feel Better, Together.

• 1438 Kilauea Avenue Hilo, Hawai'i 96720 • **Phone:** (808) 969-9220 • **Fax:** (808) 961-4794 • HMONO.org •

SB-1235-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2018 8:30:04 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Charlene Iboshi	Testifying for Zonta Club of Hilo	Support	No

Comments:

Testimony in Support, Zonta Club Of Hilo, for SB 1235, SD 2, Relating to Health and Funding for Hawaii County's Cardiac Care Unit

Hearing before the Senate Committee On Ways And Means

Wednesday, February 28, 2016; 10:30 A.M., State Capitol Room 211

Senators Dela Cruz, Chair, Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair, and Committee Members

My name is Charlene Iboshi. **The Zonta Club of Hilo supports SB 1235 SD2, Relating to Health Care funding for Hawaii County's Intensive Cardiac Care.** Zonta is an international organization of business and professional women whose mission is to advance the status of women and girls. Adequate emergency cardiac care is needed in Hawaii county for several important and population trend reasons.

Hawaii County has the second largest population after Honolulu. We have the fastest growing district in Puna. Additionally, there are more elders proportionately than any part of the state, 23% over 60 years of age in Hilo . As we all know, women live longer generally, so women will have more cardiac emergency responses as the population grows.

With a robust Nursing and Medical Services Professional programs at UH Hilo, along with a Pharmacy School and HMC Medical Residency Program, our island is in the best position to grow a cardiac intervention program at the Hilo Medical Center. Research, preventive work and medical interventions could be measured effectively with a twenty year vision.

Hawaii County has the potential for the greatest growth because of affordable land, educational programs, and potential for attracting high technology industries, such as astronomy and low atmospheric space launches, and other traditional agricultural and tourism based industries.

After retiring as Hawaii County Prosecuting Attorney, I have been involved in many organizations that support improved health care delivery, healthy aging, and economic

development. It woefully apparent that Hawaii County, although developing its infrastructure, cannot continue a positive growth cycle with improvement of its health care delivery system.

With more people on island, the greater the need for emergency cardiac services. We want to continue to improve the health care system on our island, so we can attract more health care professionals and “grow our own” locally, as well.

Please improve the state’s health care outcomes by supporting it’s largest county, outside of Honolulu. with a cardiac care unit. Pass SB 1235, proposed SD 2.

Thank you for considering the testimony of the Zonta Club of Hilo.

SB-1235-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/27/2018 7:38:12 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mike	Testifying for Community First	Support	No

Comments:

Community First strongly supports **SB 1235 SD2** that appropriates funds to enable interventional cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center. The capacity to provides such care in the local community can be life savingResidents who need such care . While we undersand not all medical services can be available in a small, rural community like East Hawaii on the Big Island, Hilo Medical Center already has the clinic space and the cardiac imaging equipment and software to support three cardiologists. The requested funding would provide for recruiting and employing additional interventional cardiologists, training for staff, and the purchase of medical equipment for the Cardiac Catheterization Lab and Intensive Care Unit.

Thank you for the opportunity for Community First to express our **support for SB 1235 SD 2** to improve cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

SB-1235-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2018 7:58:09 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Catherine Matthews	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

Your support of SB 1235 will have a huge impact on the lives of our community. We will be able to receive exceptional cardiac care here in our own community. Please support SB 1235. You will be directly impacting our lives for the better!

Mahalo,

Catherine Nutting

SB-1235-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2018 8:23:40 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gordon Takaki	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support SB1235 relating to the appropriation for Hilo Medical Center. East Hawaii needs a cardiac unit at the Hilo Medical Center and cannot have cardiac patients medivac to Honolulu. Every minute can saves lives during a cardia arrest. This is a not an elective procedure.

SB-1235-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2018 8:50:27 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Froebel	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Every Hawaii resident has been or will be affected by cardiac disease. If you are having a cardiac related issue, you may or may not have the time to get to Oahu. The Big Island need better access to cardiac related treatment here. Please pass SB1235.

SB-1235-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2018 8:48:58 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Edward Johnston	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support this Bill! It will surely save lives and greatly add to needed health service infrastructure.

SB-1235-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2018 8:27:25 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
benjamin todd	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Flying cardiac patients to Oahu is expensive and is an extra trauma in an already traumatic experience. We have a significant volume of cardiac patients and should improve our abilities to treat them right here at HMC.

SB-1235-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2018 8:30:01 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lenny Sugiyama	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support Bill SB1235 SD02. People on the Island of Hawaii need this service as we all know about the rising cost for medical and traveling expense to the Island of Oahu.

SB-1235-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2018 9:27:04 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeanne Yagi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

[COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS](#)

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair

Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Wednesday, February 28, 2018

TIME: 10:30 a.m.
Conference Room 211

PLACE: State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

Testimony in Support of SB 1235

related to health that appropriates funds to improve the health care services related to cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

James and Jeanne Yagi

I would like to thank the committee for the opportunity to **support SB 1235** that appropriates funds to improve the health care services related to cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

This funding gives Hilo Medical Center the opportunity to provide interventional cardiac care for East Hawaii and potentially for all of Hawaii Island. This procedure stops heart attacks in progress and reduces long term cardiac disability. The American College of Cardiology recommends interventional cardiac care as a best practice for treating heart attacks in rural areas like Hawaii Island.

Hilo Medical Center is well positioned to provide interventional cardiac care as it already has available cardiac imaging equipment and software, as well as a cardiology clinic that has space for three cardiologists. The requested funding would provide for recruiting and employing additional interventional cardiologists, training for staff, and the purchase of medical equipment for the Cardiac Catheterization Lab and Intensive Care Unit.

This funding is essential for Hilo Medical Center to provide interventional cardiology for heart attack treatment that saves lives and improves the quality of life for cardiac patients.

Again, mahalo for the opportunity to express my **support for SB 1235** to improve cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

SB-1235-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2018 8:09:05 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Clarysse Kami Nunokawa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-1235-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2018 9:53:04 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Richard Bidleman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

If we are going to save lives, Hawaii as well as other outer islands need this service. Please support this bill.

Thank you

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Wednesday, February 28, 2018
TIME: 10:30 a.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 211
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Testimony in Support of SB 1235

related to health that appropriates funds to improve the health care services related to cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

(Name/Title) Sharon Bowling _____

I would like to thank the committee for the opportunity to **support SB 1235** that appropriates funds to improve the health care services related to cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

This funding gives Hilo Medical Center the opportunity to provide interventional cardiac care for East Hawaii and potentially for all of Hawaii Island. This procedure stops heart attacks in progress and reduces long term cardiac disability. The American College of Cardiology recommends interventional cardiac care as a best practice for treating heart attacks in rural areas like Hawaii Island.

Hilo Medical Center is well positioned to provide interventional cardiac care as it already has available cardiac imaging equipment and software, as well as a cardiology clinic that has space for three cardiologists. The requested funding would provide for recruiting and employing additional interventional cardiologists, training for staff, and the purchase of medical equipment for the Cardiac Catheterization Lab and Intensive Care Unit.

This funding is essential for Hilo Medical Center to provide interventional cardiology for heart attack treatment that saves lives and improves the quality of life for cardiac patients.

Again, mahalo for the opportunity to express my **support for SB 1235** to improve cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Wednesday, February 28, 2018
TIME: 10:30 a.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 211
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Testimony in Support of SB 1235

related to health that appropriates funds to improve the health care services related to cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

I would like to thank the committee for the opportunity to **support SB 1235** that appropriates funds to improve the health care services related to cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

This funding gives Hilo Medical Center the opportunity to provide interventional cardiac care for East Hawaii and potentially for all of Hawaii Island. This procedure stops heart attacks in progress and reduces long term cardiac disability. The American College of Cardiology recommends interventional cardiac care as a best practice for treating heart attacks in rural areas like Hawaii Island.

Hilo Medical Center is well positioned to provide interventional cardiac care as it already has available cardiac imaging equipment and software, as well as a cardiology clinic that has space for three cardiologists. The requested funding would provide for recruiting and employing additional interventional cardiologists, training for staff, and the purchase of medical equipment for the Cardiac Catheterization Lab and Intensive Care Unit.

This funding is essential for Hilo Medical Center to provide interventional cardiology for heart attack treatment that saves lives and improves the quality of life for cardiac patients.

Again, mahalo for the opportunity to express my **support for SB 1235** to improve cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

Sincerely,

Lisa Rantz

SB-1235-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2018 11:37:09 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Douglas Rose MD, MBA	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Thank you for the opportunity to support SB 1235.

The support for this action would allow Hilo Medical Center to improve the care for the people of East Hawaii. The ability to treat heart attack at present is limited and patients are being transported to Oahu for care during a heart attack. During this transfer time there is risk to the patient in terms of potential long term cardiac disability and death.

Best practice of treatment for heart attack involves interventional cardiac care as soon as possible.

The funding to Hilo Medical Center would be instrumental in facilitating personnel (additional interventional cardiologists, cardiac catheterization techs), training and equipment to provide improved cardiac care for the people of East Hawaii.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to support SB 1235 and the continued health of the people of State of Hawaii.

SB-1235-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2018 12:11:17 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bernard A Balsis Jr Jr	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Hilo Medical Center is well positioned to provide interventional cardiac care as it already has available cardiac imaging equipment and software, as well as a cardiology clinic that has space for three cardiologists. The requested funding would provide for recruiting and employing additional interventional cardiologists, training for staff, and the purchase of medical equipment for the Cardiac Catheterization Lab and Intensive Care Unit.

As such, funding thier Cardiac Catheterization Lab & Intensive Care Unit will be an immediate productive use of government funds supporting the Big Isalnd community and all Hawaii residents and visitors in the East Hawaii community in their time of need.

Bernard Balsis

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair

Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Wednesday, February 28, 2018

TIME: 10:30 a.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 211

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

Testimony in Support of SB 1235

related to health that appropriates funds to improve the health care services related to cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

(Name/Title)__Merylyn _Harris, Administrator Ka'u Hospital._____

I would like to thank the committee for the opportunity to **support SB 1235** that appropriates funds to improve the health care services related to cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

This funding gives Hilo Medical Center the opportunity to provide interventional cardiac care for East Hawaii and potentially for all of Hawaii Island. This procedure stops heart attacks in progress and reduces long term cardiac disability. The American College of Cardiology recommends interventional cardiac care as a best practice for treating heart attacks in rural areas like Hawaii Island.

Hilo Medical Center is well positioned to provide interventional cardiac care as it already has available cardiac imaging equipment and software, as well as a cardiology clinic that has space for three cardiologists. The requested funding would provide for recruiting and employing additional interventional cardiologists, training for staff, and the purchase of medical equipment for the Cardiac Catheterization Lab and Intensive Care Unit.

This funding is essential for Hilo Medical Center to provide interventional cardiology for heart attack treatment that saves lives and improves the quality of life for cardiac patients.

Again, mahalo for the opportunity to express my **support for SB 1235** to improve cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

SB-1235-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2018 1:08:25 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Erick Cremer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-1235-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2018 1:30:42 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dan Domizio	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Most of us know that the very first few minutes of a heart attack will determine whether a patient will or will not survive Hilo Medical Center is very well equipped for most circumstances, but must transport the most critical cardiac patients to Honolulu for definitive care with an infarction. That transportation is extremely costly, both in terms of dollars, in terms of time, and ultimately, in terms of lives. Hilo Medical Center needs to take cardiac care to the next level as soon as possible. I urge you to pass this bill, and ultimately allocate the needed funds.

Thank for this opportunity to testify.

Dan Domizio PA-C, Emeritus

Pahoa, Hawaii

SB-1235-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2018 2:32:46 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Julie Tulang	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support SB 1235 for Hilo Medical Center.

SB-1235-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2018 2:56:52 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Daniel Berman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-1235-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2018 4:36:20 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ryan Kadota	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

The people of Hawaii County need this as it is too time-consuming and expensive to travel to Honolulu for critical cardiac care. Hilo Medical Center has made great strides in improving care for the community and is deserving of the funding to provide the personnel and tools necessary to make this come to fruition for the overall health of Hawaii Island.

SB-1235-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2018 4:59:25 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joe Garlich	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Legislators:

I support Senate Bill 1235 SD2 PROPOSED for \$2 million to Improve Cardiac Care at Hilo Medical Center. As a still productive tax paying citizen of this great state I hope that this relatively small amount of money can be allocated to the huge need for more localized cardiac care. As noted in the bill it is a matter of life and death if we have to be transported to another island for treatment. As a 62 year old male I have to keep in mind that access to adequate timely health care becomes more and more important to me every year and the proposed cardiac care improvement will help alleviate this concern for me and many many others. My wife and I hope to be able to stay here on the big island and not have to move away for better access to critical health care. Thanks, Joseph Garlich, PhD

Date: February 26, 2018

To: The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Re: **Strong Support of SB1235 SD2 Proposed**

Hrg: February 28, 2018 at 10:30 AM at Conference Room 211

Respected Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means,

I am writing in strong support of SB1235 SD2 Proposed that appropriates funds to improve the health care services related to cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

This measure gives Hilo Medical Center the opportunity to provide interventional cardiac care for East Hawai'i and potentially for all of Hawai'i Island. This procedure stops heart attacks in progress and reduces long-term cardiac disability. The American College of Cardiology recommends interventional cardiac care as a best practice for treating heart attacks in rural areas like Hawai'i Island.

Hilo Medical Center is well positioned to provide interventional cardiac care as it already has available cardiac imaging equipment and software, as well as a cardiology clinic that has space for three cardiologists. The requested funding would provide funds to recruit and employ additional interventional cardiologists, train staff, and purchase medical equipment for the Cardiac Catheterization Lab and Intensive Care Unit.

This funding is essential for Hilo Medical Center to provide life-saving heart attack treatment and improve the quality of life and care for cardiac patients on Hawai'i Island.

I strongly support SB1235 SD2 Proposed to improve cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center and respectfully ask you to pass this out of committee.

Many thanks for your consideration,

Forrest Batz, PharmD
Kea'au, HI

SB-1235-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2018 7:29:48 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dwight Matsumoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I would like to thank the committee for the opportunity to **support SB 1235** that appropriates funds to improve the health care services related to cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

This funding gives Hilo Medical Center the opportunity to provide interventional cardiac care for East Hawaii and potentially for all of Hawaii Island. This procedure stops heart attacks in progress and reduces long term cardiac disability. The American College of Cardiology recommends interventional cardiac care as a best practice for treating heart attacks in rural areas like Hawaii Island.

Hilo Medical Center is well positioned to provide interventional cardiac care as it already has available cardiac imaging equipment and software, as well as a cardiology clinic that has space for three cardiologists. The requested funding would provide for recruiting and employing additional interventional cardiologists, training for staff, and the purchase of medical equipment for the Cardiac Catheterization Lab and Intensive Care Unit.

This funding is essential for Hilo Medical Center to provide interventional cardiology for heart attack treatment that saves lives and improves the quality of life for cardiac patients.

Again, mahalo for the opportunity to express my **support for SB 1235** to improve cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

Dwight Matsumoto

SB-1235-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/27/2018 6:47:16 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Support

SB-1235-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2018 10:15:19 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Miyahira	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am testifying in support of SB 1235 SD2 which provides for funds to improve the health care services related to cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

This funding gives Hilo Medical Center the opportunity to provide interventional cardiac care for East Hawaii and potentially for all of Hawaii Island. This procedure stops heart attacks in progress and reduces long term cardiac disability. The American College of Cardiology recommends interventional cardiac care as a best practice for treating heart attacks in rural areas like Hawaii Island.

Hilo Medical Center is well positioned to provide interventional cardiac care as it already has available cardiac imaging equipment and software, as well as a cardiology clinic that has space for three cardiologists. The requested funding would provide for recruiting and employing additional interventional cardiologists, training for staff, and the purchase of medical equipment for the Cardiac Catheterization Lab and Intensive Care Unit.

This funding is essential for Hilo Medical Center to provide interventional cardiology for heart attack treatment that saves lives and improves the quality of life for cardiac patients.

SB-1235-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2018 9:59:41 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Amy Hamane	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Last week I participated in a tour of HMC...I am so impressed with the progress they have made in the last five years. But we need more help in order to save lives from heart attacks. We need to be able to provide the necessary treatment here. Please support this bill which will provide \$2 million dollars to further improve cardiac care here on the Big Island. Thank you!

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Wednesday, February 28, 2018
TIME: 10:30 a.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 211
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Testimony in Support of SB 1235

related to health that appropriates funds to improve the health care services related to cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

Patricia L. Shema, P.O. Box 432 Volcano HI 96785

I would like to thank the committee for the opportunity to **support SB 1235** that appropriates funds to improve the health care services related to cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

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This funding is essential for Hilo Medical Center to provide interventional cardiology for heart attack treatment that saves lives and improves the quality of life for cardiac patients.

Again, mahalo for the opportunity to express my **support for SB 1235** to improve cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Wednesday, February 28, 2018
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PLACE: Conference Room 211
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Testimony in Support of SB 1235

related to health that appropriates funds to improve the health care services related to cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

(Name/Title)_Dr James Morrison, Medical Director (1996-2014), Hilo Medical Center
Emergency Department

I would like to thank the committee for the opportunity to **support SB 1235** that appropriates funds to improve the health care services related to cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

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This funding is essential for Hilo Medical Center to provide interventional cardiology for heart attack treatment that saves lives and improves the quality of life for cardiac patients.

Again, mahalo for the opportunity to express my **support for SB 1235** to improve cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

SB-1235-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/27/2018 9:34:40 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karen D Akiba	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am both a resident of Hilo and Registered Nurse at Hilo Medical Center. It is vitally important to the residents of the County of Hawaii for you to vote yes on this bill. The health of our community is vital. When residents suffer from heart attacks, the adage is "time is muscle"- in reference to heart muscle. Delays in getting treatment = loss of oxygen to a vital organ.

Please fund this bill so that we can move forward to treat our cardiac patients on this island. Transport to Honolulu takes too much time. You have the opportunity to save lives by voting yes on this bill.

Thank you for your consideration

Karen Akiba, BSN, RN

Hilo, HI

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Wednesday, February 28, 2018
TIME: 10:30 a.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 211
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Testimony in Support of SB 1235

related to health that appropriates funds to improve the health care services
related to cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

(Name/Title): Patricia Bray, Bookkeeper/Administrative Assistant

I would like to thank the committee for the opportunity to **support SB 1235** that appropriates funds to improve the health care services related to cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

This funding gives Hilo Medical Center the opportunity to provide interventional cardiac care for East Hawaii and potentially for all of Hawaii Island. This procedure stops heart attacks in progress and reduces long term cardiac disability. The American College of Cardiology recommends interventional cardiac care as a best practice for treating heart attacks in rural areas like Hawaii Island.

Hilo Medical Center is well positioned to provide interventional cardiac care as it already has available cardiac imaging equipment and software, as well as a cardiology clinic that has space for three cardiologists. The requested funding would provide for recruiting and employing additional interventional cardiologists, training for staff, and the purchase of medical equipment for the Cardiac Catheterization Lab and Intensive Care Unit.

This funding is essential for Hilo Medical Center to provide interventional cardiology for heart attack treatment that saves lives and improves the quality of life for cardiac patients.

Again, mahalo for the opportunity to express my **support for SB 1235** to improve cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

From: [Jack & Marti Lockwood](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: [Sen. Kaiali'i Kahele](#)
Subject: SB1235
Date: Tuesday, February 27, 2018 9:59:34 AM

Dear Ways and Means:

I read that you are discussing SB 1235 this morning. I want to express my and my family's strong support for this critically important bill.

Senator Gil Kahele was a good friend and superb Senator, and his loss was devastating - especially as I now learn his death could have been prevented had he received the best possible cardiac treatment in Hilo rather than enduring the delay for treatment on Oahu.

Please, in honor of Senator Gil, and to help save hundreds of future lives on the Big Island, please help to pass SB1235! The fact that I'm now 78 and and could also face the need for these services in Hilo one day adds self-interest to support of this bill!

Mahalo and Aloha,

John Lockwood

Hilo

--
MARTI & JACK LOCKWOOD
1160 Puhau Street
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
Tel: 1-808-209-8264
halepuhau@twc.com

From: [Annette Green](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: PASS IT
Date: Tuesday, February 27, 2018 10:24:39 AM

Aloha,

Please, please do whatever is needed to facilitate the Hilo Medical Center cardiology center to be able to provide stents here in Hilo. Can you imagine being a patient in dire need being sent to Honolulu for the surgery? My friend, Dan, was and this adds much more utterly unnecessary stress for the sick patient and the delay in treatment.

If any of you can influence the passage of Death with Dignity to let a person die if s/he has no longer a will to live, let them do so by law instead of desperation. The current law being discussed has many, many checks and balances that prevent randomness. Why will a doctor prefer to let a terminally ill patient to suffer for several months rather than relieve the suffering? Well, I am here to tell you, this is absolutely true. They misinterpret the Hippocratic oath.

Mahalo nui loa,
Fervently,
Annette B. Green
Hilo

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Suen Hughes](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: SB1235
Date: Tuesday, February 27, 2018 9:30:39 AM

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 1235.

I am 65 years old, and have been working and paying taxes on the Big Island for the past 47 years.

Hilo Medical Center doctor, Dr. David Griffin estimated that about 400 people get airlifted to Honolulu from HMC each year at a cost of \$30,000. each. That comes to 12 million dollars a year.

SB 1235 is projected to cost 2 million.

Aren't our lives worth the money?

If it were your loved ones, what would you vote?

Susan Hughes

From: [Kaulana Smith](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony on SB1235
Date: Tuesday, February 27, 2018 7:40:00 AM

Aloha,

I am in support of the state to fund a cardiac care unit at Hilo Medical Center. There is a need for accessibility to cardiologists on the island of Hawai`i for professional care and stent placement procedures.

--

**Mahalo nui loa,
Kaulana Smith
Hakalau, Hawai`i**