

# SB2487

Measure Title: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Report Title: Health; Quality Assurance Committees; Definition

Description: Amends the definition of "quality assurance committee" to include committees established by long-term care facilities, skilled nursing facilities, assisted living facilities, home care agencies, hospices, and authorized state agencies. Allows for the creation of a quality assurance committee outside of a single health plan or hospital.

Companion: [HB1922](#)

Package: None

Current Referral: CPH/HMS

Introducer(s): BAKER, KEITH-AGARAN, TOKUDA, Gabbard, Galuteria, Ihara, Ruderman

## COMMUNITY FIRST BILL

Formerly  
HOSPICE of HILO

February 5, 2018

1011 Waiānue Avenue  
Hilo, HI, 96720-2019  
P: (808) 969-1733  
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care@hawaiicarechoices.org  
www.hawaiicarechoices.org

RE: Request for Support  
Community First Bill  
Enables Quality Assurance of Care across Medical and Social Services  
**SB 2487 related to Amendment of the definition of “Quality Assurance Committee”**

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Dear Chair Baker and Chair Green,

As a long term resident of Hawaii Island, the CEO of Hawaii Care Choices, a member of the Community First Regional Health Improvement Collaborative, a board member of the East Hawaii Region of Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC), I would like to express my appreciation for the opportunity to present testimony in SUPPORT of HB 1922.

The Community Action Network (CAN), an action network developed out of Community First, is a steering committee comprised of representatives of the various health care service providers in the East Hawaii region of Hawaii Island along with social service and non-profit service providers. Our organization has been meeting monthly with the goals of identifying issues and gaps in the health care system and how they may be causing or contributing to complex health issues of community members. These complex health conditions often result in high costs and significantly impact the limited available resources. Through these forums it has been demonstrated that assessing the problems from a truly comprehensive perspective to include the participation of non-medical service providers is invaluable. In many cases it is the social determinants or non-medical needs of patients that may be greatly affecting their health and health care needs.

The Community Action Network would like to continue to provide the forum and venue for our member organizations to assess and evaluate the challenges and gaps within the health care system and expand upon our objectives to include the conducting of case review under the concept of “quality assurance”. In order to provide for that objective and activity, the current statute language defining Quality Assurance Committees would need to be amended to provide for consistency between the respective chapters and to include the provisions for an “interdisciplinary committee”.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in support of HB 1922. Your support of this measure would be greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda S. Ho, MS, RN  
Chief Executive Officer

**SB-2487**

Submitted on: 2/4/2018 9:46:10 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/5/2018 3:10:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Darryl Oliveira		Support	Yes

Comments:

February 4, 2018

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair

Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

State of Hawaii

415 S. Beretania Street

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Baker,

I would like to provide the enclosed testimony in support of Senate Bill 2487 related to the definition of Quality Assurance Committees.

I am writing on behalf of the members of the Community Action Network, a steering committee under the oversight of the Community First non-profit organization. Our membership is comprised of representatives of the various health care service providers in the East Hawaii region of Hawaii Island, along with many of the social service and non-profit service providers.

Over the past year, our organization has been meeting on a monthly basis with the goal of identifying issues and gaps in the health care system and how they may be causing or contributing to complex health issues of community members. These complex health conditions often result in high costs and place a significant demand on the limited available resources without measurable outcomes. We have determined that assessing the problems from a truly comprehensive perspective to include the participation of non-medical service providers is invaluable. In many cases it is the social factors or non-medical needs of patients that may be greatly affecting their health and health care needs.

The Community Action Network would like to continue to provide the forum and venue for our member organizations to assess and evaluate the challenges and gaps within the health care system and expand upon our objectives to include the conducting of case review under the concept of "quality assurance". In order to provide for that objective and activity, the current statute language defining Quality Assurance Committees would need to be amended to provide for consistency between the respective chapters and to include the provisions for an "interdisciplinary committee". As previously mentioned, the opportunity and platform for medical and non-medical or social service providers to convene to review and discuss health care in the most comprehensive manner is not only effective but essential and invaluable to identifying the problems and developing and implementing the best solutions with the ultimate goal of improving the quality of care and life for our community members.

I respectfully ask for your support of Senate Bill 2487 amending the definition of "Quality Assurance Committee". I welcome the opportunity to address any questions or concerns you may have. I can be contacted at oliveiradarryl@gmail.com or (808)987-8615.

Sincerely,

Darryl Oliveira

Co-Chair, Community Action Network

February 4, 2018

Senator Josh Green, Chair

Senate Committee on Human Services

State of Hawaii

415 S. Beretania Street

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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The Community Action Network would like to continue to provide the forum and venue for our member organizations to assess and evaluate the challenges and gaps within the health care system and expand upon our objectives to include the conducting of case review under the concept of "quality assurance". In order to provide for that objective and activity, the current statute language defining Quality Assurance Committees would need to be amended to provide for consistency between the respective chapters and to include the provisions for an "interdisciplinary committee". As previously mentioned, the opportunity and platform for medical and non-medical or social service providers to convene to review and discuss health care in the most comprehensive manner is not only effective but essential and invaluable to identifying the problems and developing and implementing the best solutions with the ultimate goal of improving the quality of care and life for our community members.

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Darryl Oliveira

Co-Chair, Community Action Network