

SCR142

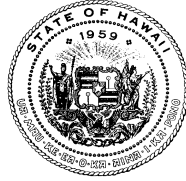
DESIGNATING THE FIRST WEEK OF DECEMBER AS
CANCER SCREEN WEEK TO URGE THE PEOPLE OF HAWAII
Measure Title: TO TALK WITH THEIR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS ABOUT
APPROPRIATE SCREENINGS FOR PREVENTION AND EARLY
DETECTION OF CANCER.

Report Title: Cancer Screening; Health; Cancer Screen Week

Package: None

**Current
Referral:** CPH

Introducer(s): BAKER, ESPERO, TOKUDA, S. Chang, English, Gabbard,
Galuteria, Green, K. Kahele, Keith-Agaran, L. Thielen,
Wakai



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

Testimony in SUPPORT of SCR No. 0142

**DESIGNATING THE FIRST WEEK OF DECEMBER AS CANCER SCREEN WEEK
TO URGE THE PEOPLE OF HAWAII TO TALK WITH THEIR HEALTHCARE
PROVIDERS ABOUT APPROPRIATE SCREENINGS FOR PREVENTION AND
EARLY DETECTION OF CANCER**

SENATOR ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

Hearing Date: March 23, 2018

Room Number: 229

1 **Fiscal Implications:** None.

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health (DOH) supports Senate Concurrent
3 Resolution (SCR) No. 0142 designating the first week of December as Cancer Screen Week to
4 urge the people of Hawaii to talk with their healthcare providers about appropriate screenings for
5 prevention and early detection of cancer. According to the Centers for Disease Control and
6 Prevention (CDC), screening regularly increases the probability of finding certain cancers early,
7 when treatment is likely to be more effective.¹ In the last year, approximately 600,000 people
8 were expected to die from cancer, yet many of those lives could have been saved through earlier
9 detection.² A public health initiative such as Cancer Screen Week will provide an opportunity to
10 raise awareness and encourage people in the state to get recommended screenings.

11 Screening is effective in identifying some types of cancers in early, often highly treatable
12 stages including: breast cancer (using mammography); cervical cancer (using Pap alone or

¹ Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Cancer Prevention and Control, Cancer Screening Test.
<https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/dcpc/prevention/screening.htm>, downloaded 3-20-2018.

² Source: American Cancer Society. Cancer Facts and Figures 2018. Available at:
<https://www.cancer.org/content/dam/cancer-org/research/cancer-facts-and-statistics/annual-cancer-facts-and-figures/2018/cancer-facts-and-figures-2018.pdf>

1 combined Pap test and HPV test); and colorectal cancer (using stool-based testing,
2 sigmoidoscopy, or colonoscopy). Current screening rates for breast, cervical, and colorectal
3 cancer rates in Hawaii remain well-below the nationally recommended Healthy People 2020
4 targets. Increasing cancer screening rates for residents of Hawaii is a priority for both CDC
5 funded programs, the Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) and Hawaii
6 Comprehensive Cancer Control Program (HCCCP) in the DOH. The BCCCP provides critical
7 screening and early detection services to high risk, uninsured and underinsured, rarely or never
8 screened women between the ages of 50-64. The HCCCP convenes and supports the Hawaii
9 Comprehensive Cancer Coalition's efforts to reduce morbidity and mortality of breast, cervical,
10 and colorectal cancer through screening and early detection. These priorities are in the Hawaii
11 State Cancer Plan 2016 – 2020. The DOH supports SCR0142 to designate the first week of
12 December as Cancer Screen Week.

13 Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

SCR-142

Submitted on: 3/21/2018 6:43:00 PM

Testimony for CPH on 3/23/2018 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:



**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
Wednesday, March 23, 2018; 9:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229**

RE: SUPPORTING SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 142, DESIGNATING THE FIRST WEEK OF DECEMBER AS CANCER SCREEN WEEK TO URGE THE PEOPLE OF HAWAII TO TALK WITH THEIR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS ABOUT APPROPRIATE SCREENINGS FOR PREVENTION AND EARLY DETECTION OF CANCER.

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Primary Care Association (HPCA) is a 501(c)(3) organization established to advocate for, expand access to, and sustain high quality care through the statewide network of Community Health Centers throughout the State of Hawaii. The HPCA **SUPPORTS** Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 142.

The resolution, as received by your Committee, would express the Legislature's intention that:

- (1) In 2018, and annually thereafter, the first week of December be designated as Cancer Screen Week in Hawaii; and
- (2) All citizens of Hawaii be encouraged to visit cancerscreenweek.org for cancer screening resources and talk to their healthcare providers about their risk factors for all cancer types, including breast, cervical, colon, lung, prostate, and skin cancers, and recommended screening options.

Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) provide desperately needed medical services at the frontlines in rural communities. Long considered champions for creating a more sustainable, integrated, and wellness-oriented system of health, FQHCs provide a more efficient, more effective and more comprehensive system of health.

According to the National Cancer Institute, in 2017, an estimated 1,688,780 people in the United States were diagnosed with cancer, and 600,920 will die of cancer. Estimates of the premature deaths that could have been avoided through screening vary from 3% to 35%, depending on a variety of assumptions. Beyond the potential for avoiding death, screening may reduce cancer morbidity since treatment for earlier-stage cancers is often less aggressive than that for more advanced-stage cancers.

Testimony on Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 142

Friday, March 23, 2018; 9:00 a.m.

Page 2

Community Health Centers serve on the front line providing desperately needed primary care for Hawaii's underprivileged communities. The HPCA welcomes the opportunity to partner with the Department of Health, the American Cancer Society, and all stakeholders to expand screening for cancer. Ultimately, such efforts will promote a healthier and happier population.

Accordingly, we **SUPPORT** this measure and urge your favorable consideration.

In advance, thank you for your consideration of our testimony.



American Cancer Society
Cancer Action Network
2370 Nu`uanu Avenue
Honolulu, Hawai`i 96817
808.432.9149
www.acscan.org

Senate Committee on Consumer Protection and Health
Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair
Senator Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair

SCR 142 – DESIGNATING THE FIRST WEEK OF DECEMBER AS CANCER SCREEN WEEK TO URGE THE PEOPLE OF HAWAII TO TALK WITH THEIR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS ABOUT APPROPRIATE SCREENINGS FOR PREVENTION AND EARLY DETECTION OF CANCER.

Cory Chun, Government Relations Director – Hawaii Pacific
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SCR 142, which designates the first week in December as Cancer Screen Week.

The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) is the nation's leading cancer advocacy organization. ACS CAN works with federal, state, and local government bodies to support evidence-based policy and legislative solutions designed to eliminate cancer as a major health problem.

Cancer Screen Week is a public health initiative to elevate public awareness and foster understanding of the potentially lifesaving benefits of cancer screening. This nationwide initiative started in 2017, with a collaborative effort to drive action around cancer screening. It will take place annually in the first week of December each year. The initiative, as well as materials for employers, insurers, and individuals can be found at <http://www.cancerscreenweek.org>.

We can all raise awareness and help to reduce cancer mortality for some of the most common and deadly cancers in the United States. That's why each of us must do all we can to promote the power of cancer screening, and Cancer Screen Week is the catalyst for action effort that will continue each year with the goal of saving more lives through raising awareness and encouraging people to get recommended screenings.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important matter.

SCR-142

Submitted on: 3/19/2018 6:40:11 PM

Testimony for CPH on 3/23/2018 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Marcella Alohalani Boido, M. A.
Hawaii Judiciary Certified Spanish Court Interpreter, Tier 4

Senate District 10, House District 21. Moili'ili, Honolulu, Hawaii 96826

To: Chair, Sen. Rosalyn H. Baker; Vice-chair, Sen. Jill N. Tokuda
Members,
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and & Health

Re: **SCR 142, SUPPORT**

Date: Friday, March 23, 2018, 9:00 a.m., Room 229

Chair Baker, Vice-Chair Tokuda, and Committee Members: Thank you for hearing SCR 142.

This testimony is presented as a private individual.

There is a saying in Japanese that says approximately, "The ocean is equally salty, no matter where you taste it." Although it is not literally true, it does remind me of the grief one feels when people you know and care about suffer, and sometimes die, with cancer. It is difficult for them, and also for those who can only play a supportive role.

Testimony from private individuals often recounts some of their personal experience. I have too many such experiences with people I care about to recount with this issue.

Efforts to prevent this group of illnesses can be very effective. Early detection is also effective. Both prevention and early detection are less costly, both emotionally and financially, than not making those efforts.

This resolution is so simple. It is socially responsible. If passed, it will take community cooperation to make it effective. That effort is worthwhile.

I appreciate your taking the time to consider this resolution, and to read this testimony. Respectfully, I ask this Committee to pass this resolution. Thank you.