

SB 1044

Measure Title:	RELATING TO BREAST CANCER SCREENING.
Report Title:	Breast Cancer Screening; Health Care Coverage; Specific Mandated Benefits
Description:	Requires health insurance plans to cover 3D mammograms for cancer patients.
Companion:	HB689
Package:	None
Current Referral:	CPH
Introducer(s):	BAKER, S. CHANG, ENGLISH, FEVELLA, INOUE, KIDANI, NISHIHARA, K. RHOADS, L. THIELEN, Gabbard, Moriwaki, Shimabukuro, Wakai



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Testimony of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

**Before the
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
Friday, February 15, 2019
9:30 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229**

**On the following measure:
S.B. 1044, RELATING TO BREAST CANCER SCREENING**

Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

My name is Colin Hayashida, and I am the Insurance Commissioner for the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs' (Department) Insurance Division. The Department offers comments on this bill.

The purpose of this bill is to require health insurance plans to cover 3D mammograms for cancer patients.

This may be viewed as a new mandate. The addition of new mandated coverage may trigger section 1311(d)(3) of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA), which requires states to defray the additional cost of any benefits in excess of the essential health benefits of the State's qualified health plan under the PPACA.

Additionally, any proposed mandate providing coverage for care requires the passage of a concurrent resolution requesting the State Auditor to prepare and submit a report assessing the social and financial impacts of the proposed mandate, pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes section 23-51.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

SB-1044

Submitted on: 2/14/2019 8:41:20 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/15/2019 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:



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To:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

Sen. Rosalyn Baker, Chair

Sen. Stanley Chang, Vice Chair

Date: February 15, 2019

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Place: Room 229

From: Hawaii Medical Association

Jerry Van Meter, MD, President

Christopher Flanders, DO, Executive Director

Re: SB 1044 – Relating to Breast Cancer Screening

Position: SUPPORT

On behalf of Hawaii's physician and student members, the HMA strongly supports SB 1044 requiring coverage by insurers of digital breast tomosynthesis (DBT).

Use of 3-D imaging through DBT improves both sensitivity and specificity in screening for breast cancers, particularly in women with dense breast tissue. This is especially important for Hawaii, in that dense breast tissue is more common in those of Asian descent, of which comprise the majority of Hawaii's females. DTB permits better recognition of malignant and pre-malignant lesions, as well as fewer false positive interpretations, leading to potentially fewer unnecessary breast biopsies.

As an evolution of traditional mammography, it is the belief of the HMA that the original intent of the legislature to require coverage was not limited to a specific study technique, but rather to a commitment for women's health in making state-of-the-art breast cancer screening available to all women. As such, a mandate for DTB is appropriate.

Thank you for allowing testimony on this issue.

HMA OFFICERS

President – Jerry Van Meter, MD President-Elect – Michael Champion, MD Secretary – Thomas Kosasa, MD

Immediate Past President – William Wong, Jr., MD Treasurer – Elizabeth A. Ignacio, MD

Executive Director – Christopher Flanders, DO

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Submitted on: 2/14/2019 9:51:31 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/15/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melody Butay Dacanay	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

When used for breast cancer **screening**, the **3D mammogram** machine creates **3D** images and standard 2D **mammogram** images because both types of images have some advantages in seeing certain breast abnormalities. Combining a **3D mammogram** with a standard **mammogram** can reduce the need for follow-up imaging.

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Submitted on: 2/14/2019 9:52:36 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/15/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Reena Rabago	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Submitted on: 2/13/2019 6:12:25 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/15/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Scott Grosskreutz, M.D.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Comments:

Dear Representatives,

Published research from the Yale School of Medicine in the American

Journal of Radiology assessed the cost effectiveness of

tomosynthesis. Much research has been published over the past decades

about the cost effectiveness of 2D mammography. The cost of 2D

mammography for quality adjusted life year or QALY in this meta analysis

from the Journal of the National Cancer

Institute <https://academic.oup.com/jnci/article/98/11/774/2521606> was

between \$27,000 and \$58,000 per QALY depending on the screening

strategy as to when mammography was started and how often the exams

were performed.

The Yale researchers found “The incremental cost per QALY gained for

tomosynthesis used over 2D mammography was \$20,230 for all

ages(greater or equal to age 40)”. Early detection of up to 40% more

cancers with 3D tomosynthesis was actually LESS expensive per QALY or

in layman’s terms per life saved than using 2D mammography. This in

part is due to the cost savings in far fewer (15-30%) false positive

diagnostic work ups.

On a personal level, few things are more heartbreaking for a health care provider than talking to a young woman (who tend to have denser breasts) with advanced breast cancer which was not diagnosed in time to effect a cure. If we are going to perform breast cancer screening with mammography, then Hawaii should do so with superior modern generation equipment. The State Legislature resolved in HCR138 in 2004 “to support reimbursement for mammography at levels that allow health care providers to recover costs and acquire current generation equipment”. This bill sponsored by 39 lawmakers confirms that the Legislature still believes women in Hawaii should have access to the best care.

As a final note, the Legislature passed a bill in 2013 which requires women with dense breasts to be notified that their mammogram may be less sensitive for breast, which did help to educate women, but did not offer a solution for this challenge. The solution, tomosynthesis, now exists and is widely used in the each of the other 49 states where DBT is covered by third party payers included Medicare and all BCBS payers.

The American Cancer Society estimates that 1,280 women in Hawaii will be diagnosed with

breast cancer in 2019, and about 160 women in our state will die from breast cancer. Hawaii's

women deserve coverage for tomosynthesis now , not years in the future, so we can reduce this mortality through better earlier detection using better screening technology.

Aloha, Scott Grosskreutz, M.D.

Aloha Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

My name is Arlina Agbayani.

I'm writing in **SUPPORT OF SB 1044 RELATING TO BREAST CANCER SCREENING.**
Requires health insurance plans to cover 3D mammograms for cancer patients.

I was diagnosed with Stage 1 breast cancer on January 2017. I was one of the lucky ones to get diagnosed at an early stage. I've undergone a lumpectomy. The surgeons removed three lymph nodes on my right armpit and after healing from the procedure, I completed seven weeks of radiation.

3D mammograms are an excellent tool to detect lumps, tumors or other abnormalities, especially for patients who already have cancer cells in their body. In this day and age where the cost of living in Hawaii is so high, coverage of this essential preventative test is paramount for the health and welfare of all women statewide.

I urge you to please pass SB 1044.

Mahalo for allowing me to provide testimony in support of SB 1044.

Representative Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Representative Stanley Chang, Vice Chair
Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

Michelle Okamoto

Friday, February 15, 2019

Support for S.B. 1044, Relating to Breast Cancer Screening

My name is Michelle Okamoto and I'm a Hawaii resident. I strongly support S.B. 1044, Relating to Breast Cancer Screening, which uses 3D imaging technology to detect breast cancer more precisely than 2D mammography. Having insurance cover this vital screening would save more lives because in Hawaii it is leading cause of cancer in women.

In my family, I have had family who have had breast cancer and die from it. No one should be denied a breast cancer screening test because they can't afford it or because their insurance won't cover their mammography screenings. Breast cancer is a terrible disease and people need these screenings to detect the cancer before it becomes much worse.

In Hawaii, according to UH Cancer Center's report Hawaii Cancer at a Glance, it mentions that breast cancer kills 125 women each year. It also mentions that invasive breast cancer rates have increased 2% every year from 2004 to 2013.

I urge you to pass S.B. 1044. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.