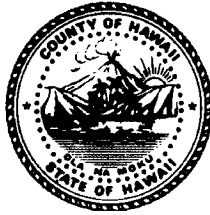


Harry Kim
Mayor



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

January 28, 2019

Representative John M. Mizuno, Chair
Committee on Health
Hawai'i State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Chair Mizuno and Committee Members:

Re: HB 527 Relating to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation
Hearing Date: January 29, 2019 – 8:30 AM; House Conference Room 329

Thank you for this opportunity to support the creation of a full-time catheterization laboratory at Hilo Medical Center (HMC).

For better or worse, over the past few years, I have developed an ongoing and personal relationship with HMC and a number of other medical institutions. HMC has given me excellent service, and Hawai'i should be very pleased with the quality of care it provides. However, it could do even more if more resources were available, and better cardiac care has been identified as a priority.

Please act favorably on HB 527.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Harry Kim".

Harry Kim
Mayor, County of Hawai'i

HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair

Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

Rep. Della Au Belatti

Rep. Calvin K.Y. Say

Rep. Nadine K. Nakamura

Rep. James Kunane Tokioka

Rep. Joy A. San Buenaventura

Rep. Gene Ward

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Tuesday, January 29, 2019

TIME: 8:30 a.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 329

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

Testimony in Support of HB 527

RELATING TO THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION.

Appropriates funds to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) to establish a full-time catheterization laboratory, including the employment of staff, at the Hilo Medical Center in East Hawaii Region of HHSC.

Dan Brinkman, East Hawaii Regional CEO of HHSC

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **support of HB 527** that appropriates funds to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) to establish a full-time catheterization laboratory, including the employment of staff, at the Hilo Medical Center in East Hawaii Region of HHSC.

This funding supports Hilo Medical Center's efforts in providing interventional cardiac care for East Hawaii and potentially for all of Hawaii Island. The procedure involved in this advanced level of cardiac care 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 hospital's cardiology program is on track to meeting its goal by the end of 2019 to provide interventional cardiology that will save lives and improve the quality of life for cardiac patients. The funding received in the 2018 legislative session was very much appreciated as it was crucial in the hospital's success in recruiting interventional cardiologists. Funding in this second phase is essential for Hilo Medical Center to continue the momentum in advancing heart attack care.

Again, mahalo for the opportunity to express my **support for HB 527** to improve cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair

Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

Rep. Della Au Belatti

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NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Tuesday, January 29, 2019

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State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

Testimony in Support of HB 527

RELATING TO THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION.

Appropriates funds to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) to establish a full-time catheterization laboratory, including the employment of staff, at the Hilo Medical Center in East Hawaii Region of HHSC.

Daniel Belcher, MD, Board Chair, East Hawaii Regional Board of HHSC

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Again, mahalo for the opportunity to express my **support for HB 527** to improve cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

HB-527

Submitted on: 1/26/2019 10:15:17 AM

Testimony for HLT on 1/29/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jerry Gray, M.D.	Hilo Medical Center	Support	Yes

Comments:

This funding is essential to continue our progress in establishing badly needed emergency cardiac care for the people living on the Big Island. I spent 15 years working in Hilo Medical Center ER and know first hand the difficulties patients have getting standard of care services or heart attacks.. Time is muscle and transferring patients to Oahu for this critical service is not acceptable. With the legislatures help last year we have been able to begin recruiting and planning for the needed services later this year. Continuing support is needed to launch the program beyond infancy.

Jerry Gray,M.D.

HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair

Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

Rep. Della Au Belatti

Rep. Calvin K.Y. Say

Rep. Nadine K. Nakamura

Rep. James Kunane Tokioka

Rep. Joy A. San Buenaventura

Rep. Gene Ward

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Tuesday, January 29, 2019

TIME: 8:30 a.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 329

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

Testimony in Support of HB 527

RELATING TO THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION.

Appropriates funds to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) to establish a full-time catheterization laboratory, including the employment of staff, at the Hilo Medical Center in East Hawaii Region of HHSC.

(Name/Title) Robert DeCoito

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **support of HB 527** that appropriates funds to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) to establish a full-time catheterization laboratory, including the employment of staff, at the Hilo Medical Center in East Hawaii Region of HHSC.

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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 hospital's cardiology program is on track to meeting its goal by the end of 2019 to provide interventional cardiology that will save lives and improve the quality of life for cardiac patients. The funding received in the 2018 legislative session was very much appreciated as it was crucial in the hospital's success in recruiting interventional cardiologists. Funding in this second phase is essential for Hilo Medical Center to continue the momentum in advancing heart attack care.

Again, mahalo for the opportunity to express my **support for HB 527** to improve cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

From: [Christine Haili](#)
To: [HLTtestimony](#)
Subject: HB527
Date: Monday, January 28, 2019 4:24:50 AM

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

Rep. Della Au Belatti	Rep. Calvin K.Y. Say
Rep. Nadine K. Nakamura	Rep. James Kunane Tokioka
Rep. Joy A. San Buenaventura	Rep. Gene Ward

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Tuesday, January 29, 2019
TIME: 8:30 a.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 329
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Testimony in Support of HB 527

RELATING TO THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION.

Appropriates funds to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) to establish a full-time catheterization laboratory, including the employment of staff, at the Hilo Medical Center in East Hawaii Region of HHSC.

(Name/Title) Christine J.S. Haili RN

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **support of HB 527** that appropriates funds to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) to establish a full-time catheterization laboratory, including the employment of staff, at the Hilo Medical Center in East Hawaii Region of HHSC.

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2019 to provide interventional cardiology that will save lives and improve the quality of life for cardiac patients. The funding received in the 2018 legislative session was very much appreciated as it was crucial in the hospital's success in recruiting interventional cardiologists. Funding in this second phase is essential for Hilo Medical Center to continue the momentum in advancing heart attack care.

Again, mahalo for the opportunity to express my **support for HB 527** to improve cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

Christine Haili RN
House Supervisor
932-2529

HB-527

Submitted on: 1/27/2019 11:17:09 PM

Testimony for HLT on 1/29/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Julie Ercanbrack	Hilo Medical Cente	Support	No

Comments:

I Julie Ercanbrack, request the passage of HB527 to aid Hilo Medical Center in providing heart services to patients.

HB-527

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 7:27:59 AM

Testimony for HLT on 1/29/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kathleen Katt MD, FACEP	Hilo Medical Center	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

Thank you for your supporting Hilo Medical Center in achieving our mission of improving our community 's health. We are diligently working to create a Cardiology Program that will provide safe, effective and timely care to our patients. We have the physician backing arranged and are ready to prepare their support teams. We are all very excited to improve the standard of care for our patients with cardiac problems.

Thank you,

Kathleen Katt MD FACEP

Medical Director

Hilo Medical Center

HB-527

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 7:38:55 AM

Testimony for HLT on 1/29/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nelson Nako	Hilo Medical Center	Support	No

Comments:

I am a pharmacist at the Hilo Medical Center and I fully support this bill.

Testimony in Support of HB 527

RELATING TO THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION.

Appropriates funds to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) to establish a full-time catheterization laboratory, including the employment of staff, at the Hilo Medical Center in East Hawaii Region of HHSC.

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Again, mahalo for the opportunity to express my **support for HB 527** to improve cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

HB-527

Submitted on: 1/26/2019 11:32:16 AM

Testimony for HLT on 1/29/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lisa Rantz	Hilo Medical Center Foundation	Support	Yes

Comments:

HB-527

Submitted on: 1/27/2019 3:28:20 PM

Testimony for HLT on 1/29/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Julie Tulang	Hilo Medical Center Foundation	Support	No

Comments:



American Heart Association testimony in support of HB 527, "Relating to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation"

Chairman of the Board

Mark Yamakawa

President

Kahealani Rivera, MD

Board Members

Rick Bruno, MD, FACEP
Brandt Farias
Mimi Harris
David Honma
Glen Kaneshige
Brandon Kurisu
Howard Lee
Michael Lui, MD
Kazuma Nakagawa, MD,
FAAN, FAHA
Barbara Petrus
Andrew Rosen
Dave Underriner
Elisa Yadao

Serving Hawaii since 1948

Mission Statement:

"To be a relentless force for a world of longer, healthier lives."

For more information on the AHA's educational or research programs, visit www.heart.org or contact your nearest AHA office.

Office: (808) 377-6630

Fax: (808) 524-0556

Neighbor Islands:
Serviced by the Oahu
office

Of the 865,000 heart attacks that occur annually in the United States, approximately 400,000 of them are STEMI heart attacks. A STEMI heart attack carries a substantial risk of death and disability and calls for a quick response on many fronts.

For STEMI patients, each passing minute equals more heart-muscle damage. Rapid diagnosis and Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (PCI) dramatically increase a patient's chance for survival.

According to the American Heart Association (AHA), approximately 400,000 people suffer STEMI annually. But in hospitals with cath labs, only 40 percent of these patients receive appropriate treatment within the 90-minute door-to-balloon (D2B) time recommended by the AHA and the American College of Cardiology (ACC).

Delays in treating this most lethal type of heart attack can cause catastrophic heart damage and death.

Reperfusion therapy is used to open the blocked artery for STEMI patients. Reperfusion therapy is either a clot-busting drug therapy or the artery-opening procedure known as angioplasty. Among patients who receive either therapy in the United States, less than half are treated within the recommended time frames.

- 30 minutes for clot-busting drugs
- 90 minutes for angioplasty

For many living on Hawaii's neighbor island, the treatment time for angioplasty has not been accessible because of the lack of catheter labs in neighbor island hospitals, and the time needed to transport a patient by air to Oahu where most larger hospitals have catheter labs.

HB 527 would potentially change that for many Big Island STEMI patients by providing funds to establish a full-time catheterization laboratory, including the specialized staffing needs, at the Hilo Medical Center.

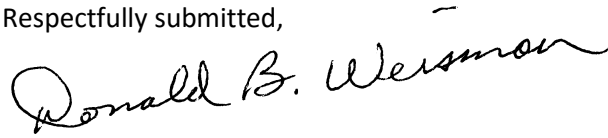
Half of all STEMI patients drive themselves (or are driven by a family member) to the closest hospital. As a result, 30% of STEMI patients do not receive any reperfusion therapy, and of the patients who do receive reperfusion therapy, half of them do not receive it within the recommended time frame.

With an effective STEMI system in place, a patient (or person witnessing the STEMI) would call 9-1-1, Emergency Medical Services using 12-lead ECG machines can transmit

the patient's ECG to the closest hospital capable of providing the best care possible. The AHA recommends that the State also invest in community awareness education of the need to use 9-1-1 for medical emergencies. EMS staff can begin treatment when they arrive — up to an hour sooner than if someone gets to the hospital by car. Patients with chest pain who arrive by ambulance usually receive faster treatment at the hospital, too. Community education may need to focus on overcoming public norms that result in a reluctance to use ambulance services, and education on why calling 9-1-1 improves a patient's chance of having a better health outcome.

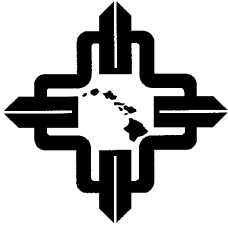
Establishing a 24/7 catheterization lab at Hilo Medical Center would be a first step to giving Big Island STEMI patients hope for a better health outcome. Please support HB 527.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donald B. Weisman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line above the name.

Don Weisman

Hawaii Government Relations/Communications Director



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

"Quality Healthcare For All"

House Committee on Health
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

January 29, 2019
Conference Room 329
8:30 a.m.
Hawaii State Capitol

**Testimony Supporting House Bill 527
Relating to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation.
Appropriates funds to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation to establish a full-time catherization laboratory, including the employment of staff, at the Hilo Medical Center in the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation East Hawaii region.**

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** of HB 527.

This measure seeks assistance with costs for Hilo Medical Center (HMC) to provide interventional cardiology services 24/7. As a 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. Hawai'i Island has the population size, and Hilo Medical Center has the intensive hospital support services and basic infrastructure to successfully deliver emergency cardiac interventions safely and cost effectively. The Legislature's assistance with 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.

HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair

Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

Rep. Della Au Belatti

Rep. Calvin K.Y. Say

Rep. Nadine K. Nakamura

Rep. James Kunane Tokioka

Rep. Joy A. San Buenaventura

Rep. Gene Ward

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Tuesday, January 29, 2019

TIME: 8:30 a.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 329

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

Testimony in Support of HB 527

RELATING TO THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION.

Appropriates funds to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) to establish a full-time catheterization laboratory, including the employment of staff, at the Hilo Medical Center in East Hawaii Region of HHSC.

(Name/Title) Terry Larson, Executive Assistant to the East Hawai'i Regional Board of HHSC

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **support of HB 527** that appropriates funds to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) to establish a full-time catheterization laboratory, including the employment of staff, at the Hilo Medical Center in East Hawaii Region of HHSC.

This funding supports Hilo Medical Center's efforts in providing interventional cardiac care for East Hawaii and potentially for all of Hawaii Island. The procedure involved in this advanced level of cardiac care 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 hospital's cardiology program is on track to meeting its goal by the end of 2019 to provide interventional cardiology that will save lives and improve the quality of life for cardiac patients. The funding received in the 2018 legislative session was very much appreciated as it was crucial in the hospital's success in recruiting interventional cardiologists. Funding in this second phase is essential for Hilo Medical Center to continue the momentum in advancing heart attack care.

Again, mahalo for the opportunity to express my **support for HB 527** to improve cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

HB-527

Submitted on: 1/26/2019 11:04:21 AM

Testimony for HLT on 1/29/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Elena Cabatu	East Hawaii Region of Hawaii Health Systems Corporation	Support	Yes

Comments:

Aloha,

Representatives from the East Hawaii Region of HHSC, which includes Hilo Medical Center, Hale Ho`ola Hamakua and Ka`u Hospital and its 1,300 employees, will attend the hearing in support of HB527.

Mahalo,

Elena Cabatu

Director of Legislative Affairs

Hilo Medical Center

HB-527

Submitted on: 1/26/2019 4:40:49 PM

Testimony for HLT on 1/29/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alfred Lardizabal	UPW	Support	No

Comments:

January 26, 2019

The UPW supports HB527 appropriating funds to the HHSC for the Hilo medical center for a full-time catheterization laboratory and staff.

Thank you.

From: cvancamp3@hawaii.rr.com
To: [HLTtestimony](#)
Subject: HB257
Date: Saturday, January 26, 2019 11:27:48 AM

Aloha!

Please support this house bill as it critical to our efforts to ensure that our island has the healthcare services that our residents (and visitors) need. We appreciate your leadership and support for this bill.

Carol VanCamp
Puna Resident

From: [Glen Shigehara](#)
To: [HLTtestimony](#)
Subject: HB527
Date: Saturday, January 26, 2019 1:12:19 PM

Support this bill.
Thank you

Sent from my iPhone so please excuse typos and/or short replies.
Shige

From: [Lisa Shock](#)
To: [HLTtestimony](#)
Subject: HB527
Date: Saturday, January 26, 2019 1:58:32 PM

I am opposed to spending this money for HB527.

I do not feel it is appropriate for the government to spend money subsidizing private industry of any type, including healthcare. I feel the victims of heart attack that might be benefited by this should pay privately for this and not be burden to taxpayers. It is well within most people's means to prevent such a health condition with proper living at no cost to taxpayers.

Sincerely
L. Shock

HB-527

Submitted on: 1/26/2019 9:56:52 AM

Testimony for HLT on 1/29/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tara Wilson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This is a necessary service for all residents of Hawaii Island. We are currently delaying care in this rural area waiting to fly patients to Oahu for life saving procedures. Hilo Medical Center is a thriving patient centered care facility that puts their community first. We want to continue to provide excellent high quality care for our friends and family.

Testimony in Support of HB 527

RELATING TO THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION.

Appropriates funds to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) to establish a full-time catheterization laboratory, including the employment of staff, at the Hilo Medical Center in East Hawaii Region of HHSC.

Nicole Ward, RN

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **support of HB 527** that appropriates funds to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) to establish a full-time catheterization laboratory, including the employment of staff, at the Hilo Medical Center in East Hawaii Region of HHSC.

This funding supports Hilo Medical Center's efforts in providing interventional cardiac care for East Hawaii and potentially for all of Hawaii Island. The procedure involved in this advanced level of cardiac care 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 hospital's cardiology program is on track to meeting its goal by the end of 2019 to provide interventional cardiology that will save lives and improve the quality of life for cardiac patients. The funding received in the 2018 legislative session was very much appreciated as it was crucial in the hospital's success in recruiting interventional cardiologists. Funding in this second phase is essential for Hilo Medical Center to continue the momentum in advancing heart attack care.

The additional funding will ensure the residents of East Hawaii Island will be able to receive not only timely, but the best medical care that they deserve by allowing them to receive lifesaving medical treatments in the comfort of their own community, rather than necessitating travel to Oahu or Maui as is the current practice.

Again, mahalo for the opportunity to express my **support for HB 527** to improve cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

HB-527

Submitted on: 1/26/2019 2:32:23 PM

Testimony for HLT on 1/29/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Please note that as an underserved community, we are at heightened risk and need your support of this measure.

Thank you for your consideration.

HB-527

Submitted on: 1/26/2019 4:05:29 PM

Testimony for HLT on 1/29/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Zelko	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Testimony in Support of HB 527

RELATING TO THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION.

Appropriates funds to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) to establish a full-time catheterization laboratory, including the employment of staff, at the Hilo Medical Center in East Hawaii Region of HHSC.

Jennifer Zelko-Schlueter

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This funding supports Hilo Medical Center’s efforts in providing interventional cardiac care for East Hawaii and potentially for all of Hawaii Island. The procedure involved in this advanced level of cardiac care 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 hospital’s cardiology program is on track to meeting its goal by the end of 2019 to provide interventional cardiology that will save lives and improve the quality of life for cardiac patients. The funding received in the 2018 legislative session was very much appreciated as it was crucial in the hospital’s success in recruiting interventional cardiologists. Funding in this second phase is essential for Hilo Medical Center to continue the momentum in advancing heart attack care.

Again, mahalo for the opportunity to express my **support for HB 527** to improve cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

Jen

Date: January 26, 2019

To: The Honorable John M. Mizuno, Chair
The Honorable Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Health

Re: **Strong Support of HB527**, Relating to the Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation

Hrg: January 29, 2019 at 8:30 AM at Conference Room 329

Aloha House Committee on Health,

I am writing in **strong support of HB527**, which will appropriate funds to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) to establish a full-time catheterization laboratory, including the employment of staff, at the Hilo Medical Center in East Hawai'i Region of HHSC.

This funding will support Hilo Medical Center's efforts in providing interventional cardiac care for East Hawai'i and potentially for all of Hawai'i Island. The procedure involved in this advanced level of cardiac care 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 hospital's cardiology program is on track to meeting its goal by the end of 2019 to provide interventional cardiology that will save lives and improve the quality of life for cardiac patients.

The funding received in the 2018 legislative session is greatly appreciated and was crucial to the hospital's success in recruiting interventional cardiologists. Funding in this second phase is essential for Hilo Medical Center to continue the momentum in advancing heart attack care and saving lives on Hawai'i Island.

I **strongly support HB527** and respectfully ask you to pass this bill out of committee.

Many thanks for your consideration,

Forrest Batz, PharmD
Kea'au, HI

HB-527

Submitted on: 1/26/2019 5:46:50 PM

Testimony for HLT on 1/29/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jodi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As a community member of Hawaii Island, I support this health bill. It is critical that we have an on-island facility that can serve the heart health needs without having to medivac patients to Honolulu. Although I believe in preventative efforts, I do realize that having an adequately trained staff to work with medical heart emergencies, surgery, and recovery are needed on Hawaii island. Mahalo for voting to support HB 527.

HB-527

Submitted on: 1/26/2019 8:20:22 PM

Testimony for HLT on 1/29/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
F. Michael Singer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair

Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

Rep. Della Au Belatti

Rep. Nadine K. Nakamura

Rep. Joy A. San Buenaventura

Rep. Calvin K.Y. Say

Rep. James Kunane Tokioka

Rep. Gene Ward

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Tuesday, January 29, 2019

TIME: 8:30 a.m.

Conference Room 329

PLACE: State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

Testimony in Support of HB 527

RELATING TO THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION.

Appropriates funds to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) to establish a full-time catheterization laboratory, including the employment of staff, at the Hilo Medical Center in East Hawaii Region of HHSC.

(Name/Title) F. Michael Singer, Individual

Thank you for this opportunity in allowing me to provide testimony in **support of HB 527** that appropriates funds to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) to establish a full-time catheterization laboratory, including the employment of staff, at the Hilo Medical Center in East Hawaii Region of HHSC.

I have received this life saving catheterization procedure successfully in Honolulu to treat my arterial fibrillation events. Since my treatment I no longer have the reoccurring events and now I'm able to lead a normal life with proper diet and exercise. Having the ability to perform these procedures locally will make a positive change to our island for the patients that have similiar heart disease issues. It will also reduce costs of having to go to HNL for an outpatient procedure will make a positive difference to our community.

This funding supports Hilo Medical Center's efforts in providing interventional cardiac care for East Hawaii and potentially for all of Hawaii Island. The procedure involved in this advanced level of cardiac care 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 hospital's cardiology program is on track to meeting its goal by the end of 2019 to provide interventional cardiology that will save lives and improve the quality of life for cardiac patients. The funding received in the 2018 legislative session was very much appreciated as it was crucial in the hospital's success in recruiting interventional cardiologists. Funding in this second phase is essential for Hilo Medical Center to continue the momentum in advancing heart attack care.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my **support for HB 527** to improve cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

HB-527

Submitted on: 1/27/2019 10:07:14 AM

Testimony for HLT on 1/29/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rodney Nishino	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-527

Submitted on: 1/27/2019 2:09:25 PM

Testimony for HLT on 1/29/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Frances Chow	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I humbly ask that you appropriate funding for a cardiac care center in Hilo. I was airlifted to Honolulu for an angiogram at Queen's Medical Center in August 2018. While I was at Queen's, family members had to secure housing with friends in Honolulu to be with me.

In 2000 or 2001 my husband and I flew by a commercial airline to meet with the cardiologist at Kuakini Medical Center, again, for an angiogram.

I was fortunate in both instances that nothing serious was detected, but if further treatment were required, that saying, "time is of the essence," would certainly help by having a cardiac care center in Hilo.

Thank you for allowing me to express my feelings pn this matter.

Frances Chow

HB-527

Submitted on: 1/27/2019 3:37:07 PM

Testimony for HLT on 1/29/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lisa Rantz	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

The bill would provide the needed funds to ensure that Big Island patients could be rapidly diagnosed and treated, without the need for Medivac transportation. Currently with lengthy delays in care of 3-5 hours, some patients suffer irreversible heart damage, and may not survive.

HB-527

Submitted on: 1/27/2019 4:37:42 PM

Testimony for HLT on 1/29/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
steve godzsak	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Testimony in Support of HB 527

RELATING TO THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION.

Appropriates funds to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) to establish a full-time catheterization laboratory, including the employment of staff, at the Hilo Medical Center in East Hawaii Region of HHSC.

Steven P Godzsak, Hilo resident, heart attack survivor

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **support of HB 527** that appropriates funds to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) to establish a full-time catheterization laboratory, including the employment of staff, at the Hilo Medical Center in East Hawaii Region of HHSC.

This funding supports Hilo Medical Center’s efforts in providing interventional cardiac care for East Hawaii and potentially for all of Hawaii Island. The procedure involved in this advanced level of cardiac care 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 hospital’s cardiology program is on track to meeting its goal by the end of 2019 to provide interventional cardiology that will save lives and improve the quality of life for cardiac patients. The funding received in the 2018 legislative session was very much appreciated as it was crucial in the hospital’s success in recruiting interventional cardiologists. Funding in this second phase is essential for Hilo Medical Center to continue the momentum in advancing heart attack care.

Again, mahalo for the opportunity to express my **support for HB 527** to improve cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center

HB-527

Submitted on: 1/27/2019 7:25:15 PM

Testimony for HLT on 1/29/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Thank you for this opportunity to support HB527.

If passed, this legislation will save the lives of Big Island residents with acute, significant cardiac problems. Problems where time is frequently a critical factor in the life or death outcomes. It will also save considerable money by avoiding expensive, and time consuming, transfers from Hilo to O'ahu. Those of us concerned with this issue have been trying for several years to make this set of services available on The Big Island. Your support will save lives and considerable time, and financial burden for all involved.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in favor of this essentialm, service.

Dan Domizio

PA-C Emeritus

HB-527

Submitted on: 1/27/2019 7:30:24 PM

Testimony for HLT on 1/29/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Scott Grosskreutz, M.D.	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Hilo Medical Center has made remarkable strides in improving patient care in recent years, and has acquired a state of the art angiography suite and CT scanner capable of excellent coronary CT angiography studies. This bill would provide the needed funds to ensure that Big Island patients could be rapidly diagnosed and treated on island with interventional cardiology procedures, without the delays inherent in Medivac transportation. Currently with the lengthy delays of 3-5 hours, some cardiac patients suffer irreversible heart damage, and may not survive.

Myocardial infarction is a condition, where any delays in treatment, can often lead to poor patient outcomes. Around a hundred diagnostic cardiac angiograms have been performed in the last year, and providing interventional cardiac procedures on site will save lives.

HB-527

Submitted on: 1/27/2019 8:16:35 PM

Testimony for HLT on 1/29/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tamara Brown	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Committee on Health.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **support of HB 527** that appropriates funds to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) to establish a full-time catheterization laboratory, including the employment of staff, at the Hilo Medical Center in East Hawaii Region of HHSC. I am in support of HB527.

This funding supports Hilo Medical Center's efforts in providing interventional cardiac care for East Hawaii and potentially for all of Hawaii Island. The procedure involved in this advanced level of cardiac care 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 hospital's cardiology program is on track to meeting its goal by the end of 2019 to provide interventional cardiology that will save lives and improve the quality of life for cardiac patients. The funding received in the 2018 legislative session was very much appreciated as it was crucial in the hospital's success in recruiting interventional cardiologists. Funding in this second phase is essential for Hilo Medical Center to continue the momentum in advancing heart attack care.

Again, mahalo for the opportunity to express my **support for HB 527** to improve cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

Aloha

Tamara Brown

From: [Edward Johnston](#)
To: [HLTtestimony](#)
Subject: HB 527
Date: Sunday, January 27, 2019 7:54:43 AM

I support House Bill 527 because it will appropriate funds to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) to establish a full-time catheterization laboratory, including Staff, at the Hilo Medical Center in East Hawaii Region of HHSC.

This Bill, if passed, will support Hilo Medical Center's efforts in providing interventional cardiac care for East Hawaii and potentially for all of Hawaii Island. The procedure involved in this advanced level of cardiac care stops heart attacks in progress and reduces long term cardiac disability. This is proven "best practice" for rural areas according to The American College of Cardiology.

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 hospital's cardiology program is on track to meeting its goal by the end of 2019 to provide interventional cardiology that will save lives and improve the quality of life for cardiac patients. The funding received in the 2018 legislative session was very much appreciated as it was crucial in the hospital's success in recruiting interventional cardiologists. Funding in this second phase is essential for Hilo Medical Center to continue the momentum in advancing heart attack care.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my **support for HB 527** to improve cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

Edward Johnston, PO Box 636, Pepe;ekeo, HI 96783

From: [Diane and Fred Holschuh](#)
To: [HLTtestimony](#)
Subject: HB 527
Date: Sunday, January 27, 2019 10:12:25 AM
Attachments: [HB 527 .pdf](#)

Chair Mizuno, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and Members of the Committee on Health:

Attached is my testimony in support of HB 527, Relating to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation.

Thank you,

Frederick C. Holschuh, M.D.

From: mak221@aol.com
To: [HLTtestimony](#)
Subject: Writing in strong support of HB527
Date: Saturday, January 26, 2019 4:33:29 PM

Aloha:

I am writing in strong support of HB527.

My name is Mark A. Koppel. I live at 31-392
Lepoloa Rd., Ninole, Hawaii, 96773.

If I need medical care, I go to Hilo Medical
Center. HB527 could represent life-saving
technology for those of those who live in East
Hawaii.

Mahalo.

From: [Matt Michalec](#)
To: [HLTtestimony](#)
Subject: HB527
Date: Sunday, January 27, 2019 7:23:09 PM

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH<<http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/committeepage.aspx?comm=HLT&year=2019>>

Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair

Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

Rep. Della Au Belatti

Rep. Calvin K.Y. Say

Rep. Nadine K. Nakamura

Rep. James Kunane Tokioka

Rep. Joy A. San Buenaventura

Rep. Gene Ward

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE:

Tuesday, January 29, 2019

TIME:

8:30 a.m.

PLACE:

Conference Room 329
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Testimony in Support of HB 527

RELATING TO THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION.

Appropriates funds to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) to establish a full-time catheterization laboratory, including the employment of staff, at the Hilo Medical Center in East Hawaii Region of HHSC.

(Name/Title) MATTHEW M MICHALEC, RN

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 527 that appropriates funds to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) to establish a full-time catheterization laboratory, including the employment of staff, at the Hilo Medical Center in East Hawaii Region of HHSC.

This funding supports Hilo Medical Center's efforts in providing interventional cardiac care for East Hawaii and potentially for all of Hawaii Island. The procedure involved in this advanced level of cardiac care 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 hospital's cardiology program is on track to meeting its goal by the end of 2019 to provide interventional cardiology that will save lives and improve the quality of life for cardiac patients. The funding received in the 2018 legislative session was very much appreciated as it was crucial in the hospital's success in recruiting interventional cardiologists. Funding in this second phase is essential for Hilo Medical Center to continue the momentum in advancing heart attack care.

Again, mahalo for the opportunity to express my support for HB 527 to improve cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

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HB-527

Submitted on: 1/27/2019 9:54:48 PM

Testimony for HLT on 1/29/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Wayne Kanemoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair

Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

Rep. Della Au Belatti

Rep. Nadine K. Nakamura

Rep. Joy A. San Buenaventura

Rep. Calvin K.Y. Say

Rep. James Kunane Tokioka

Rep. Gene Ward

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: [Tuesday, January 29, 2019](#)

TIME: [8:30 a.m.](#)

Conference Room 329

PLACE: State Capitol

[415 South Beretania Street](#)

Testimony in Support of HB 527

RELATING TO THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION.

Appropriates funds to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) to establish a full-time catheterization laboratory, including the employment of staff, at the Hilo Medical Center in East Hawaii Region of HHSC.

(Name/Title) _____ Wayne
Kanemoto _____

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **support of HB 527** that appropriates funds to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) to establish a full-time catheterization laboratory, including the employment of staff, at the Hilo Medical Center in East Hawaii Region of HHSC.

This funding supports Hilo Medical Center's efforts in providing interventional cardiac care for East Hawaii and potentially for all of Hawaii Island. The procedure involved in this advanced level of cardiac care 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 hospital's cardiology program is on track to meeting its goal by the end of 2019 to provide interventional cardiology that will save lives and improve the quality of life for cardiac patients. The funding received in the 2018 legislative session was very much appreciated as it was crucial in the hospital's success in recruiting interventional cardiologists. Funding in this second phase is essential for Hilo Medical Center to continue the momentum in advancing heart attack care.

Again, mahalo for the opportunity to express my **support for HB 527** to improve cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

HB-527

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 7:24:03 AM

Testimony for HLT on 1/29/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carl Juneau	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 527. My name is Carl Juneau. I am an interventional cardiologist and have recently joined Hilo Medical Center's cardiology program.

I first heard of the need for interventional cardiology on the Big Island from one of my patients in Nevada. He told me that he is hesitant to visit the island because, having had a previous stent placement, he knows there is no such intervention should he experience a cardiac emergency. After being contacted by the team at HMC, my wife and I flew for a visit. While on the Hawaiian Airlines plane, my wife struck up a conversation with the lady in the next seat. This woman was so excited to have us visit her home island. She told us that her mother had died of a heart attack because she hadn't wanted to be taken from her home to receive care in Honolulu. Later that day, while checking in at the bed and breakfast, our hostess cried and hugged me when I told her the reason for our visit. Our realtor's husband has a good friend who died after a heart attack while on a transport plane. Since our arrival here, we have heard countless stories from people who have lost family members or friends to heart attacks. These are the people that this program will help.

I am an experienced cardiologist who has performed this procedure thousands of times on the mainland. While in Nevada, I was instrumental in establishing a new interventional program and, over the years, saw a great benefit to the community. This type of program requires an entire team. The goal is to establish a solid foundation that will grow with the community's needs and be sustainable in the long run. The future outlook is so promising. There is a second full-time interventional cardiologist coming on board this summer and they are in the process of hiring a third permanent cardiologist to consolidate the team.

Every morning my wife and I wake up grateful for the opportunity to become part of this wonderful community. Thank you for listening and for your consideration.

Carl Juneau MD

HB-527

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 7:45:22 AM

Testimony for HLT on 1/29/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Al Ercanbrack	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair

Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

Rep. Della Au Belatti

Rep. Nadine K. Nakamura

Rep. Joy A. San Buenaventura

Rep. Calvin K.Y. Say

Rep. James Kunane Tokioka

Rep. Gene Ward

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: [Tuesday, January 29, 2019](#)

TIME: [8:30 a.m.](#)

Conference Room 329

PLACE: State Capitol

[415 South Beretania Street](#)

Testimony in Support of HB 527

RELATING TO THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION.

Appropriates funds to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) to establish a full-time catheterization laboratory, including the employment of staff, at the Hilo Medical Center in East Hawaii Region of HHSC.

HB-527

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 8:37:12 AM

Testimony for HLT on 1/29/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Candace Walker	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **support of HB 527** that appropriates funds to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) to establish a full-time catheterization laboratory, including the employment of staff, at the Hilo Medical Center in East Hawaii Region of HHSC.

This funding supports Hilo Medical Center's efforts in providing interventional cardiac care for East Hawaii and potentially for all of Hawaii Island. The procedure involved in this advanced level of cardiac care 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 hospital's cardiology program is on track to meeting its goal by the end of 2019 to provide interventional cardiology that will save lives and improve the quality of life for cardiac patients. The funding received in the 2018 legislative session was very much appreciated as it was crucial in the hospital's success in recruiting interventional cardiologists. Funding in this second phase is essential for Hilo Medical Center to continue the momentum in advancing heart attack care.

Again, mahalo for the opportunity to express my **support for HB 527** to improve cardiac care at Hilo Medical Center.

LATE

HB-527

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 4:25:22 PM

Testimony for HLT on 1/29/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joseph Wolf	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support HB527. We here in Hilo very much need a full and operating cardiology clinic. Our clinic is catch and catch can. Please help provide the funds. As a cardiology patient who needs these services, I should not have to fly to Oahu for ordinary services. We need help and attention here on the Big Island. As do all the neighbor Islands.

Regards for your help and support.

JG Wolf

LATE

HB-527

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 4:46:28 PM

Testimony for HLT on 1/29/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

LATE

HB-527

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 8:08:37 PM
Testimony for HLT on 1/29/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joni	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

HB-527

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 10:19:51 AM

Testimony for HLT on 1/29/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rainbow	Rainbow Family 808	Support	Yes

Comments:

On behalf of Rainbow Family 808, we realize how HB527 effects the life and death situation of our cousins on the Big Island. We are sure the experts on this topic give your committee members their data, statistics and funding importance of this issue. Rainbow Family 808 wants to share one of our family members living on the Island of Hawaii and his near death experience with a heart attack and the subsequent AirVac flight to save his life.

Tom's experience was so harrowing and lengthy to fly to Oahu for his cardiac attack that he and his spouse have decided to sell their Hilo home and move to the Mainland to avoid another attack that would cause him his life. Tom took an early retirement to return to our fair islands. He checked if there where medical staff to address his medical needs. The availability of this aspect of was never address in his research.

The state of Hawai`i and the Island of Hawai`i are losing two good citizens and homeowners. This is a personal lost and a lost to our state. The Island of Hawai`i has to have the services addressed by HB527.

Please pass HB527 in the belief that our state wants the best care there is for life saving measures because we are a state that serve We the People as a Blue State.

Thank you for hearing my personal story of need for the people of Hawai`i Island.