

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



BONNIE KAHAKUI  
ACTING ADMINISTRATOR

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE**

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TESTIMONY  
OF  
BONNIE KAHAKUI, ACTING ADMINISTRATOR  
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE  
ON  
FINANCE  
FEBRUARY 24, 2021, 2:00 p.m.

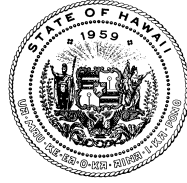
HOUSE BILL 723, HD1  
RELATING TO PANDEMIC RESPONSE

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on HB723, HD1. The State Procurement Office (SPO) supports this bill and provides the following comments.

Since March 2020, the SPO has been on board to support the emergency needs for the State of Hawaii during the declared pandemic by purchasing personal protective equipment (PPE), industrial hygiene supplies, and testing kits that meet CDC requirements.

To date, the SPO has provided procurement services for over \$50,000,000 of CARES allocation as part of the HI-EMA logistics team by purchasing respirators, ventilators, cloth masks, goggles, face shields, gloves, gowns, booties, suits/coveralls, hand sanitizer, hand sanitizer stations, and disinfecting products. Close to 50% of all purchases were from local suppliers and manufacturers.

Thank you.



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**  
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**WRITTEN  
TESTIMONY  
ONLY**

**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB723 HD1  
RELATING TO PANDEMIC RESPONSE.**

REP. SYLVIA LUKE, CHAIR  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Hearing Date: February 24, 2021      Room Number: N/A

1    **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health (DOH) supports access to resources to  
2    assure employees, front line healthcare workers, and the public have robust access to Personal  
3    Protective Equipment and industrial hygiene products. DOH continues to work through the  
4    Office of Public Health Preparedness and other programs with relevant stakeholders to assure  
5    stockpiling and distribution. As community vaccination efforts take root, and as more virulent  
6    COVID variations proliferate the globe, our community cannot afford to slow down, least of all  
7    due to shortages in critical supplies. This measure will help assure that critical stakeholders are  
8    well supplied and protected.

9    Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

10   **Offered Amendments:** N/A.

11

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

JOSH GREEN  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



ANNE E. PERREIRA-EUSTAQUIO  
DIRECTOR

JOANN A. VIDINHAR  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

JOVANIE DOMINGO DELA CRUZ  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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IN REPLY, REFER TO:  
**OCS 21.1042**

February 10, 2021

To: The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair,  
The Honorable Ty J. K. Cullen, Vice Chair, and  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hearing: Friday, February 24, 2021  
Time: 02:00 p.m.  
Place: Room 308 and Videoconference

From: Jovanie Domingo Dela Cruz, Executive Director  
Office of Community Services

**Re: H.B. No. 723, HD 1 RELATING TO PANDEMIC RESPONSE**

**I. OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION**

This measure seeks to authorize use of funds appropriated from the emergency and budget reserve fund, from the amounts received by the State from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) Act, for the purchase and distribution of personal protective equipment and industrial hygiene products to state departments and attached agencies. The original version of this bill stated that it would be effective retroactive to July 1, 2020, and its text in Section 1 refers to operative dates in July and December 2020. However, HD 1 has inserted a defective effective date of July 1, 2050.

**II. CURRENT LAW**

Under current legislation, Act 9, SLH 2020, Section 30, the Legislature appropriated \$100 million of CARES Act funding out of the emergency and budget reserve fund established under HRS §328L-3, for the purchase and distribution of personal protective equipment to hospitals, childcare facilities, elderly care facilities, businesses, non-profits, and schools.

**III. COMMENTS ON THE SENATE BILL**

This bill would expand the current legislation to allow for the purchase of "industrial hygiene products" and would allow for purchases of all of these allowable products by "all state departments and attached agencies" in addition to the recipients already identified in current law. These expansions make the use of CARES Act funds more effective for the State, and OCS supports the bill for this reason, but urges reinstating a retroactive effective date of July 1, 2020.



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
P.O. BOX 2360  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

**Date:** 02/24/2021

**Time:** 02:00 PM

**Location:** 308 Via Videoconference

**Committee:** House Finance

**Department:** Education

**Person Testifying:** Dr. Christina M. Kishimoto, Superintendent of Education

**Title of Bill:** HB 0723, HD1 RELATING TO PANDEMIC RESPONSE.

**Purpose of Bill:** Authorizes use of funds appropriated from the emergency and budget reserve fund, from the amounts received by the State from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, for the purchase and distribution of personal protective equipment and industrial hygiene products to state departments and attached agencies. Effective 7/1/2050. (HD1)

**Department's Position:**

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports the intent of HB 0723, HD1.

The Department has relied heavily on obtaining sufficient supplies of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and industrial hygiene items from the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA). HI-EMA has played a vital and critical role in the purchasing and distribution of the Department's PPE needs.

The opening of schools for in-person learning while ensuring the safety and health of its employees and students would be virtually impossible without the procurement of adequate supplies of PPE and industrial hygiene items from HI-EMA.

In 2020, the Department obtained over \$6 million of PPE and industrial hygiene supplies, the great majority of which were provided through HI-EMA at no cost to the Department. In addition, another \$4.8 million of PPE and industrial hygiene supplies were purchased directly by the schools using their local budgets.

As the pandemic continues, PPE and industrial hygiene supplies are needed to prevent

outbreaks and keep students, teachers, and families safe through healthy practices, such as wearing face masks, washing hands, and maintaining social distance.

The Department estimates the costs for PPE and industrial hygiene products at approximately \$1 million per month in order for schools to safely return to in-person learning and achieving its academic mission.

The Department appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 0723, HD1, particularly the dedicated funding it would provide for PPE and industrial hygiene products for Hawaii's public schools.

The Hawai'i State Department of Education is committed to delivering on our promises to students, providing an equitable, excellent, and innovative learning environment in every school to engage and elevate our communities. This is achieved through targeted work around three impact strategies: school design, student voice, and teacher collaboration. Detailed information is available at [www.hawaiipublicschools.org](http://www.hawaiipublicschools.org).

**DAVID Y. IGE**  
GOVERNOR



**KENNETH S. HARA**  
MAJOR GENERAL  
ADJUTANT GENERAL

**STEPHEN F. LOGAN**  
COLONEL  
DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL

STATE OF HAWAII  
**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**  
**OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL**  
3949 DIAMOND HEAD ROAD  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96816-4495

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 723 HD1  
A BILL RELATING TO PANDEMIC RESPONSE

PRESENTATION TO  
THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

BY  
MAJOR GENERAL KENNETH S. HARA  
ADJUTANT GENERAL AND DIRECTOR OF STATE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY  
FEBRUARY 23, 2021

Chair Sylvia Luke, Vice Chair Ty J.K. Cullen and Members of the House Committee on Finance.

I am Major General Kenneth S. Hara, State Adjutant General and the Director of the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency. I am testifying in SUPPORT of House Bill 723 HD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on behalf of the Department of Defense which supports HB723 HD1, authorizing the use of funds appropriated from the emergency and budget reserve fund, from the amounts received by the State from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) Act, for the purchase and distribution of personal protective equipment and industrial hygiene products to state departments and attached agencies.

HB723 HD1 clarifies the use of CARES ACT funds by including the purchase of industrial hygiene products and further allows state departments and attached agencies to receive personal protective equipment and industrial hygiene products.

Thank you for the opportunity to support HB723 HD1. If you have any questions or need additional information to our response, please contact our administrative services officer Rusty Spray at (808) 330-7744 or at [rusty.spray@hawaii.gov](mailto:rusty.spray@hawaii.gov)



**Testimony to the House Committee on Finance  
Wednesday, February 24, 2021; 2:00 p.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 308  
Via Videoconference**

**RE: HOUSE BILL NO. 0723, HOUSE DRAFT 1, RELATING TO PANDEMIC RESPONSE.**

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Joint 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** House Bill No. 0723, House Draft 1, RELATING TO PANDEMIC RESPONSE.

The bill, as received by your Committee, would clarify that the \$61,000,000 appropriated out of the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund for fiscal year 2020-2021 to purchase and distribute personal protection equipment to hospitals, childcare facilities, elderly care facilities, businesses, non-profits and schools may also be used for the purchase of industrial hygiene products and for all State departments and attached agencies.

The bill would also take effect on July 1, 2050, to facilitate continued discussion.

By way of background, the HPCA represents Hawaii Federally-Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs). FQHCs provide desperately needed medical services at the frontlines in rural and underserved 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 healthcare.

When our citizens first became infected with COVID-19 in February 2020, Hawaii's social safety net was not prepared. Basic necessities such as surgical and N-95 masks, gowns, shields, and other personal protection equipment (PPD) quickly became scarce. For our 15 FQHCs, very limited resources became stretched to the breaking point forcing providers to limit the provision of health care services in some instances.

**Testimony on House Bill No. 0723, House Draft 1**  
**Wednesday, February 24, 2021; 2:00 p.m.**  
**Page 2**

I'm pleased to write that the system did not shut down because of the dedication and selfless actions of providers working with community leaders, legislators, the Governor and his Administration, and the Mayors and their Administrations to keep the safety net afloat.

It cannot be overstated that these actions saved countless lives in Hawaii.

While the supply of PPE has stabilized due in large part to the efforts of the Department of Defense and private partners, among others, there are additional types of PPEs that can be utilized as well as other workers who can make use of these important tools. Accordingly, this bill would provide the State with additional flexibility to utilize very limited funds previously appropriated for best use. Because of the, the HPCA wholeheartedly supports this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Public Affairs and Policy Director Erik K. Abe at 536-8442, or [eabe@hawaiiipca.net](mailto:eabe@hawaiiipca.net).