

Testimony of
John M. Kirimitsu
Legal and Government Relations Consultant

Senate Committee on Health
The Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair
The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

February 10, 2021
1:00 pm
Via Videoconference

Re: SB 1192 Relating to the Electronic Prescription Accountability System

Chair, Vice Chair, and committee members, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on this bill requiring the reporting of opioid antagonists to the State's Electronic Prescription Accountability System.

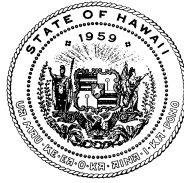
Kaiser Permanente would like to offer comments on this bill.

Kaiser Permanente Hawaii recognizes that patient care can be greatly improved by utilizing the State's Electronic Prescription Accountability System (also known as HI-PDMP) by alerting prescribers of possible misuse of controlled substance prescriptions.

Since Hawaii law only requires the reporting of controlled substances to the HI-PDMP, and this bill is mandating the new reporting of a non-controlled substance, i.e. opioid antagonists, Kaiser requests clarity as to what the contents of the non-controlled substance report must contain. For example, in what format should the report be? What specific content must be covered in the report?

Furthermore, Kaiser requests that the bill's proposed effective date be amended to July 1, 2021, instead of effective upon approval. Since this reporting of a non-controlled substance will be a new process, Kaiser will need adequate time to create and implement the non-controlled substance report into its business practice.

Thank you for your consideration.



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TESTIMONY ONLY

Testimony in SUPPORT of SB1192
RELATING TO THE ELECTRONIC PRESCRIPTION ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM

SENATOR JARRETT KEOHOKALOLE, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Hearing Date: 2/10/2021

Room Number: Videoconference

1 **Fiscal Implications:** None

2 **Department Testimony:** The subject matter of this measure falls within the scope of the
3 Department's Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) whose statutory mandate is to assure a
4 comprehensive statewide behavioral health care system by leveraging and coordinating public,
5 private and community resources. Through the BHA, the Department is committed to carrying
6 out this mandate by reducing silos, ensuring behavioral health care is readily accessible, and
7 person-centered. The BHA's Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division (ADAD) provides the following
8 testimony on behalf of the Department.

9 The Department supports this initiative by the Department of Public Safety (PSD) to use its
10 electronic prescription accountability system (EPAS) as a centralized repository for reporting
11 opioid antagonist dispensing by pharmacists. Presently, efforts to track dispensing and
12 distribution of opioid antagonists such as naloxone are decentralized. The Department defers to
13 the PSD on implementation benchmarks such as identifying which opioid antagonists to track in
14 the future, and coordinating any system enhancements to the EPAS.

15 This measure also aligns with the following objectives of the Hawaii Opioid Initiative:

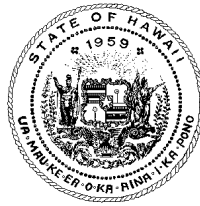
- 16
- Propose legislation to amend administrative rules and reduce over-prescribing or
17 prescribing practices that are of concern (separate from law enforcement);
 - Continue to collaborate with NED for EPAS utilization and enhancements.
- 18

1 The ADAD is also working closely with PSD's Narcotics Enforcement Division to support the
2 enhancement of the EPAS to better facilitate opioid antagonist dispensing by pharmacists, as
3 well as provide for prescriber education on how to use the system.

4 **Offered Amendments:** None

5 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



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TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 1192
RELATING TO THE ELECTRONIC PRESCRIPTION ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM.

By
Max N. Otani, Director

Senate Committee on Health
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

Wednesday, February 10, 2021; 1:00 p.m.
Via Videoconference

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

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) supports Senate Bill 1192, which proposes to amend Sections 329-101(b) and (d) of the Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS), to require that the dispensing of a pharmacist-prescribed opioid antagonists be reported to the State's Electronic Prescription Accountability System (EPAS), more commonly known as the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP). This measure aligns with and supports the goals of the Hawaii Opioid Initiative.

In 2019, the Legislature passed Act 255, which allows pharmacists to issue prescriptions for opioid-antagonists, thereby increasing access to these lifesaving drugs. SB 1192 would require pharmacists to report opioid antagonist prescriptions to the PDMP, using procedures that are very familiar to them. Such a reporting requirement would not substantially add to a pharmacist's workload and would allow State Department of Health (DOH) epidemiologists, who already have access to the PDMP, to efficiently measure the effectiveness of Act 255. This measure would provide DOH with additional data useful to prevent opioid overdose.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.