

SCR-42

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 10:20:00 PM

Testimony for HLT on 4/14/2023 11:15:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Alison Kaneshiro | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Aloha Representative Belatti, Chair and Representative Takenouchi, Vice Chair and other Representatives of the Committee on Health & Homelessness.

With an urgent need in Hawaii for blood, and the changes in FDA regulations for donation with people who lived in the areas affected by Mad Cow Disease but did not develop the disease, the risk of transmitting the disease is negligible. If people have blood relatives with the disease or have received growth hormone from cadavers, the risk is higher and these people are permanently deferred from donating. It has been three years since this ban was lifted by the FDA. (America’s Blood Centers, 2022). This is long enough to be confident that it is safe for those who lived in the UK, France, or Ireland during outbreaks of this disease and have no relatives with the disease and have not been suspected of having the disease should be allowed to donate blood here in Hawaii.

Mahalo for your time.

Reference

America’s Blood Centers. (2022). *Learn more about FDA’s updated guidance on vCJD*. <https://americasblood.org/news/abc-supports-fdas-updated-guidance-on-vcjd/>