



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I
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SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA

NADINE Y. ANDO
DIRECTOR | KA LUNA HO'OKELE

DEAN I. HAZAMA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR | KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

Testimony of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

Before the
Senate Committee on Health and Human Services
Monday, January 29, 2024
1:00 p.m.

State Capitol, Conference Room 225 and via Video Conferencing

On the following measure:
S.B. 3129, RELATING TO HEALTH

Chair San Buenaventura and Members of the Committees:

My name is Gordon Ito, and I am the Insurance Commissioner for the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs' Insurance Division (Department). The Department supports the intent of this bill.

The purpose of this bill is to establish the Hui Ho'omana task force within the State Health Planning and Development Agency to develop a comprehensive plan to provide universal access to equitable and affordable high-quality healthcare for state residents, including defining action plan items, setting timeline and deadline for each action item, and identifying resources required and funding options.

The Department supports efforts to improve the quality and affordability of health care in order to bend the health care cost curve.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



**STATE HEALTH PLANNING
AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH - KA 'OIHANA OLAKINO

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII
KE KIA'ĀINA O KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII

KENNETH S. FINK, MD, MGA, MPH
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH
KA LUNA HO'ŌKELE

John C. (Jack) Lewin, M.D.
ADMINISTRATOR

1177 Alakea St., #402, Honolulu, HI 96813 Phone: 587-0788 Fax: 587-0783 www.shpda.org

Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

S.B. 3129 Relating to Health

Testimony of John C. (Jack) Lewin, M.D.
SHPDA Administrator

Monday, January 29, 2024
1:00 p.m.



1 **Agency's Position: SUPPORT**

2 **Fiscal Implications: None**

3 **Purpose and Justification:** The purpose of SB 3129 is to convene a highly representative,
4 diverse, and committed group of leading consumer, provider, and government stakeholders to
5 convene as the Hui Ho'omana Task Force to envision on behalf of Hawai'i's citizens the best
6 path to a future of universal access to high-quality, equitable, and affordable health care for
7 ALL.

8 The volunteer Task Force is directed to advise the State Health Planning and
9 Development Agency (SHPDA), the Legislature, the Governor, and the people of Hawai'i of its
10 findings and recommendations before completing its deliberations by July of 2025. This kind
11 of collaborative public planning effort has not been performed for longer than a decade to
12 attempt to describe the most promising, culturally acceptable, and achievable future of health
13 care in Hawai'i, which must also include long-term care. Clarity in these regards is sorely
14 needed.

1 The nation is adrift in terms of effectively addressing numerous problems in health care.
2 These include how to deal with the gaps in access to care for millions of Americans, the
3 unacceptable variation in quality of care from state to state and within states, glaring inequities
4 in care for too many, a failure to effectively prevent disease and its progression, and an
5 alarming rate of rising costs from an estimated national annual health care expenditure of 4.6
6 trillion dollars in 2023 to an estimated seven trillion dollars annually by 2030.

7 Hawai'i has a tradition of national leadership in health system innovation and reform,
8 dating from the Monarchy's provision of health care to waves of immigrant agricultural workers,
9 to the passage of the one-and-only state employer mandate guaranteeing health care for
10 workers and their families in the Prepaid Health Care Act. We also have an advanced Med-
11 Quest program, and many other innovations, dedicated providers, and community volunteers.
12 That said, Hawai'i faces daunting workforce shortages; unacceptable gaps in access to
13 primary and specialty care, particularly in rural areas and neighbor islands; inequities among
14 our Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, and low-income kupuna and keiki populations;
15 unnecessary administrative complexity; and rapidly rising costs. All of that must be addressed
16 expeditiously.

17 While a short-term Task Force cannot be expected to solve all those problems, it can
18 describe the current experience, thinking, priorities, and vision of both those charged with
19 providing care here and those who receive it. This can inform our policy makers and suggest
20 means to seek consensus around potential solutions that reflect the diverse communities and
21 cultural values of our state.

22 To accelerate the deliberations of the Hui Ho'omana, SHPDA has already formed 4 new
23 Advisory Councils that have been gathering information and expert, community-based, and
24 neighbor island inputs around Keiki Care, Kupuna Care (and the future of long-term care),

1 Health Data, and achieving Universal Access. The more than 50 diverse advisors of these
2 councils formed in 2023 report to the Plan Development Committee of SHPDA’s Statewide
3 Health Coordinating Council to organize background material around priorities they are
4 identifying for the Task Force and the state to consider. Many national private sector, federal,
5 and state health policy leaders have also expressed interest in offering virtual and in-kind
6 assistance to the process if desired.

7 We believe the Hui Ho’omana Task Force will offer the Governor, the Legislature, state
8 agencies, and Hawaii’s health sector valuable insights to accelerate our ability to realize the
9 Governor’s “Hawai’i the Health State” vision, and so to become the first state to achieve
10 universal access to high-quality, equitable, affordable health care for ALL.



LATE

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE COUNCIL
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
1010 RICHARDS STREET, Room 122
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543
January 29, 2024

The Honorable Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair
Senate Committee on Health and Human Services
The Thirty-Second Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawai'i
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Senator San Buenaventura and Committee Members:

SUBJECT: SB3129 RELATING TO HEALTH

The Hawaii State Council on Developmental Disabilities **SUPPORTS SB3129**, which establishes the Hui Ho`omana task force within the State Health Planning and Development Agency to develop a comprehensive plan to provide universal access to equitable and affordable high-quality healthcare for state residents, including defining action plan items, setting timeline and deadline for each action item, and identifying resources required and funding options.

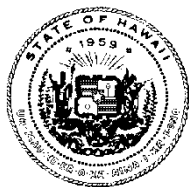
The purpose of the State Health Planning & Development Agency (SHPDA) is to “promote accessibility for all the people of the State to quality health care services at reasonable cost.” We support legislation to upgrade SHPDA’s healthcare oversight capability. We defer to SHPDA for comments and recommendations.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **support of SB3129**.

Sincerely,

Daintry Bartoldus
Executive Administrator

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



CATHY BETTS
DIRECTOR
KA LUNA HO'OKELE

JOSEPH CAMPOS II
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

TRISTA SPEER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

STATE OF HAWAII
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
KA 'OIHANA MĀLAMA LAWELAWE KANAKA
Office of the Director
P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

January 28, 2024

TO: The Honorable Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair
Senate Committee on Health & Human Services

FROM: Cathy Betts, Director

SUBJECT: [SB 3129](#) - RELATING TO HEALTH.

Hearing: January 29, 2024, 1:00 PM
Conference Room 225 & Via Videoconference, State Capitol

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports the bill and defers to the State Health Planning and Development Agency (SHPDA) on implementation and resource needs.

PURPOSE: This measure establishes the Hui Ho'omana task force, convened by the State Health Planning and Development Agency (SHPDA), to develop recommendations for universal access to high quality healthcare at an affordable cost; and support planning actions including identifying and prioritizing necessary actions, determining responsible parties and timelines for each action, and identifying resources required and funding opportunities. The final report of the task force is due before the conclusion of the 2025 legislative session, and the task force shall be dissolved on July 1, 2025. Effective upon approval.

DHS appreciates the Legislature's continued investment in and attention to universal access to high quality healthcare. DHS will gladly participate as a member of the task force.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this measure.

HEARING: Monday, January 29, 2024, 1:00 P.M.

PLACE: Room 225 and via videoconference

By Hawai'i – American Nurses Association (Hawai'i-ANA)



Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chair Henry J.C. Aquino, and members of the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services, my name is BJ Bartleson, co-chair of the Hawai'i - American Nurses Association (Hawai'i-ANA) Advocacy Committee. I am offering testimony today on behalf of Hawai'i-ANA, the state professional nurses' organization, speaking for over 16,000 Registered Nurses (RNs) who work and live in Hawai'i. We are the state constituent of the American Nurses Association (ANA), representing over 5 million RNs across the country. Our mission among others, is to advance health policy and to advocate on health care issues that affect nurses and the people of Hawai'i. To clarify, we are a different entity from our colleagues at the Hawaii Nurses Association (HNA), OPEIU Local 50, who represent nurses and other healthcare professionals in collective bargaining contract matters.

Hawai'i-ANA continuously supports the legislature in its quest to achieve universal access and equity to quality healthcare at an affordable cost for all state residents. Nurses are the largest number of providers in our Hawai'i healthcare system. We see first-hand the disparities that provide inequitable access to healthcare services leading to avoidable mortality and morbidity.

Hawai'i-ANA therefore **respectfully requests an amendment** to SB 3129, Section 2. to invite Hawai'i-ANA executive director or their designee to participate as a voting member on the Hui Ho'omana Task Force. Thank you for your consideration.

Contact information for Hawai'i – American Nurses Association:

President: Dr. Nancy Atmospera-Walch, DNP, CCHN, FAAN,
president@hawaii-ana.org

Executive Director: Dr. Linda Beechinor, APRN, FNP-BC
executivedirector@hawaii-ana.org

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LATE

The State Legislature
Senate Committee on Health and Human Services
Monday, January 29, 2024
Conference Room 225, 1:00 p.m.

TO: The Honorable Joy San Buenaventura, Chair
FROM: Keali'i Lopez, State Director, AARP Hawaii
RE: Support for S.B. 3129- Relating to Health

Aloha Chair San Buenaventura, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Keali'i Lopez, and I am the State Director for AARP Hawai'i. AARP is a nonpartisan, social impact organization that advocates for individuals age 50 and older. We have a membership of nearly 38 million nationwide and nearly 140,000 in Hawaii.

AARP Hawai'i supports S.B. 3129 which establishes a task force known as "hui ho'omana" be convened by the state health planning and development agency which will make recommendations to achieve universal access and equity to quality health care at affordable cost for state residents. AARP Hawai'i is honored to serve as one of the twenty-five voting task force members and help craft a comprehensive plan to provide universal access to equitable and affordable high quality health care for all state residents.

AARP respectfully requests that our organization's name "American Association of Retired Persons" be amended to "AARP" under Section 2, Listing of the voting members (no. 13) on page 5.

Having access to quality, timely healthcare services and a robust healthcare workforce is critical to keeping all Hawai'i residents healthy and well. While there are approximately 279,000 Medicare beneficiaries in the Hawai'i, there are still many residents under age 65 who may be at risk of becoming uninsured should they quit their jobs prematurely to become family caregivers, become seriously ill or lose their jobs for other reasons which result in the loss of their health benefits. This is one example of the different gap groups that would benefit if Hawaii can improve its health care coverage for all. AARP appreciates these efforts to increase equal access to quality and affordable health especially for kūpuna and their caregivers, residents in rural areas and others with limited income and health care coverage . Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify in support **S.B. 3129.**



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

Legislative Testimony

Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Health and Human Services
Monday, January 29, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.

By

Lee Buenconsejo-Lum, Interim Dean
John A. Burns School of Medicine

And

Michael Bruno, Provost
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

SB 3129 – RELATING TO HEALTH

Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chair Aquino, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of SB 3129 which establishes the Hui Ho'omana task force to develop a comprehensive plan to provide universal access to equitable and affordable high-quality healthcare for state residents. The purpose of the task force would be to make recommendations to achieve universal access and equity to quality healthcare at an affordable cost for our residents.

The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted and made worse preexisting challenges for some populations to achieve good health, in part due to inconsistent access to healthcare. Disparities in infection rates, hospitalizations and death were noted throughout Hawai'i and experienced by certain ethnicities more than others. Despite many efforts guided by community leaders to help with outreach and education, many health disparities continue today. Increasing healthcare insurance costs, low reimbursement rates to providers, healthcare workforce shortages combined with growing unaffordability for families and businesses are among the myriad reasons for poor access to care. Despite many efforts and partnerships among those in the health care sector and community leaders, coordinated efforts are needed to provide seamless access to care for all of Hawai'i's people, across community-based settings to clinics to inpatient, long-term, and home-based care settings.

The Hui Ho'omana task force would be an effective mechanism to outline processes and procedures that would move the state in the direction of achieving universal access to equitable and affordable high-quality healthcare. The John A. Burns School of Medicine appreciates and welcomes the opportunity to participate in the task force.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.



Hawaii Association
of Health Plans

January 29, 2024

To: Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chair Aquino, and Members of the House Committee on Health and Human Services

From: The Hawaii Association of Health Plans Public Policy Committee

Date/Location: Jan. 29, 2024; 1:00 p.m./Conference Room 225 & Videoconference

Re: Testimony in support of SB 3129 – Relating to Health.

The Hawaii Association of Health Plans (HAHP) respectfully supports SB 3129. HAHP is a statewide partnership that unifies Hawaii's health plans to improve the health of Hawaii's communities together. A majority of Hawaii residents receive their health coverage through a plan associated with one of our organizations.

HAHP supports efforts to create a task force of leaders from state government and Hawaii's healthcare sector who will work collaboratively towards a goal of assuring affordable, high-quality, healthcare services in Hawaii. Furthermore, we believe that working together and coordinating our efforts is essential to identifying and prioritizing the actions needed to secure private, state, and federal funds to further these goals.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 3129.

Sincerely,

HAHP Public Policy Committee

cc: HAHP Board Members

AlohaCare | HMAA | HMSA | Humana | HWMG | Kaiser Permanente | MDX Hawaii | Ohana
Health Plan | UHA Health Insurance | UnitedHealthcare

hahp.org | info@hahp.org



**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services
Monday, January 29, 2024; 1:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 225
Via Videoconference**

RE: SENATE BILL NO. 3129, RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chair Aquino, and Members of the 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** Senate Bill No. 3129, RELATING TO HEALTH.

By way of background, the HPCA represents Hawaii's Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs). FQHCs provide desperately needed medical services at the frontlines to over 150,000 patients each year who live 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.

This bill, as received by your Committee, would establish the Hui Hoomana Task Force (Task Force) within the State Health Planning and Development Agency (SHPDA) to make recommendations that further the goal of state residents achieving universal access and equity to quality healthcare at an affordable cost. Further, this bill would direct SHPDA to invite, among others, the Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Primary Care Association or designee to participate in the Task Force.

The HPCA has had preliminary discussions with the SHPDA Administrator and strongly supports this effort. We note that the State has a unique opportunity to utilize the vast experience that Dr. John (Jack) Lewin possesses to further many of the objectives that he spearheaded years ago when he devised the MedQUEST Program under the Waihee Administration. This concept later served as the basis for the federal Affordable Care Act, which is in existence today.

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.



THE QUEEN'S HEALTH SYSTEM

To: The Honorable Joy San Buenaventura, Chair
The Honorable Henry Aquino, Vice Chair
Members, Senate Committee on Health & Human Services

From: Jace Mikulanec, Director, Government Relations, The Queen's Health System

Date: January 29, 2024

Re: Support for SB3129 – Relating to Health

The Queen's Health System (Queen's) is a nonprofit corporation that provides expanded health care capabilities to the people of Hawai'i and the Pacific Basin. Since the founding of the first Queen's hospital in 1859 by Queen Emma and King Kamehameha IV, it has been our mission to provide quality health care services in perpetuity for Native Hawaiians and all of the people of Hawai'i. Over the years, the organization has grown to four hospitals, and more than 10,000 affiliated physicians, caregivers, and dedicated medical staff statewide. As the preeminent health care system in Hawai'i, Queen's strives to provide superior patient care that is constantly advancing through education and research.

Queen's appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB3129, establishing the Hui Ho'omano task force within the SHPDA (DOH) to develop a comprehensive plan to provide universal access to healthcare for residents of Hawaii.

Hawai'i has been a leader in providing residents quality healthcare due in large part to the Prepaid Healthcare Act of 1974. While by no means perfect, our state remains one of the archetypes for providing broad healthcare services across a diverse social and cultural landscape. As evolving technology and new challenges to access confront our state, this task force presents an opportunity to have key public and private stakeholders align key strategies to confront ongoing and future barriers to access.

We view the proposed goals of the task force as being aligned with The Queen's Health System's mission to "fulfill the intent of Queen Emma and King Kamehameha IV to provide in perpetuity quality health care services to improve the well-being of Native Hawaiians and all of the people of Hawai'i;" we welcome the opportunity to be a named member of this team and look forward to the work ahead.

The mission of The Queen's Health System is to fulfill the intent of Queen Emma and King Kamehameha IV to provide in perpetuity quality health care services to improve the well-being of Native Hawaiians and all of the people of Hawai'i.



January 29, 2024

The Honorable Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair
The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

Re: SB 3129 – RELATING TO HEALTH

Dear Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chair Aquino, and Members of the Committee:

Hawaii Medical Service Association (HMSA) appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 3129, which will establish a task force known as Hui Ho`omana placed within and convened by the State Health Planning and Development Agency to make recommendations to achieve universal access and equity to quality healthcare at an affordable cost for state residents.

HMSA is supportive of the legislature's proactive approach to addressing healthcare that is equitable and affordable while maintaining the highest quality. We are appreciative of the opportunity to serve as a member of this working group.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

Sincerely,

Dawn Kurisu
Assistant Vice President
Community and Government Relations

Monday, January 29, 2024; 1:00pm
Conference Room 225 & Videoconference

Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

To: Senator Joy San Buenaventura, Chair
Senator Henry Aquino, Vice Chair

From: Michael Robinson
Vice President, Government Relations & Community Affairs

Re: **Comments on SB 3129
Relating To Health**

My name is Michael Robinson, and I am the Vice President of Government Relations & Community Affairs at Hawai'i Pacific Health. Hawai'i Pacific Health is a not-for-profit health care system comprised of its four medical centers – Kapi'olani, Pali Momi, Straub and Wilcox and over 70 locations statewide with a mission of creating a healthier Hawai'i.

I write to provide comments on SB 3129 that establishes the Hui Ho'omana task force to develop a comprehensive plan to provide universal access to equitable and affordable high-quality healthcare for state residents. The purpose of the task force is to make recommendations to achieve universal access and equity to quality healthcare at an affordable cost for our residents.

When compared to other states, Hawai'i has an exceptional healthcare system that provides low-cost quality care and high rates of insurance coverage. However, HPH recognizes the existence of challenges to access to care for portions of our population who live in rural communities and due to social inequities for the underserved groups.

HPH has been working with SHPDA on similar issues related to access to healthcare through the Universal Access Advisory Council and is also a member of the Data Advisory Council, a subcommittee of the Universal Access Advisory Council. We are happy to have been invited and appreciate the opportunity to be a member of the Hui Ho'omana task force. We look forward to addressing the issues that would make Hawai'i's healthcare system stronger.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



Monday, January 29, 2024 at 1:00 pm
Conference Room 225

Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

To: Chair Joy A. San Buenaventura
Vice Chair Henry J.C. Aquino

From: Paige Heckathorn Choy
Associate Vice President, Government Affairs
Healthcare Association of Hawaii

Re: **Submitting Comments**
SB 3129, Relating to Health

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii (HAH), established in 1939, serves as the leading voice of healthcare on behalf of 170 member organizations who represent almost every aspect of the healthcare continuum in Hawaii. Members include acute care hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, home health agencies, hospices, assisted living facilities and durable medical equipment suppliers. In addition to providing access to appropriate, affordable, high-quality care to all of Hawaii's residents, our members contribute significantly to Hawaii's economy by employing over 30,000 people statewide.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide **comments** on this measure, which seeks to establish a task force known as the hui ho`omana to achieve universal access to quality, equitable care at an affordable cost for the state of Hawaii.

Hawaii has long been a leader in visionary healthcare policy making. As noted in the findings of this measure, we are marking the 50th anniversary of the passage of the *Prepaid Health Healthcare Act*, a landmark law that has made access to affordable care a reality for most residents in the state. We have also, for many years, had the distinction of holding one of the lowest uninsured rates in the nation. By many measures, Hawaii is one of the healthiest states in the country, with high quality care delivered at much lower costs.

We appreciate the opportunity to be included in any discussions on the future of healthcare in the state, especially as it relates to how we can best support providers and ensure continued access to care for all residents. Thank you for the opportunity for us to comment on this measure, and for your continued focus on building a sustainable healthcare system.

Testimony of
Jonathan Ching
Government Relations Director

Before:
Senate Committee on Health and Human Services
The Honorable Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair
The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Vice Chair

January 29, 2024
1:00 p.m.
Conference Room 225 & Via Videoconference

Re: SB 3129, Relating to Health.

Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chair Aquino, and committee members, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on SB 3129, which establishes the Hui Ho‘omana task force within the State Health Planning and Development Agency to develop a comprehensive plan to provide universal access to equitable and affordable high-quality healthcare for state residents, including defining action plan items, setting timeline and deadline for each action item, and identifying resources and funding options required.

Kaiser Permanente Hawai‘i provides the following COMMENTS on SB 3129.

Kaiser Permanente Hawai‘i is one of the nation’s largest not-for-profit health plans, serving 12.6 million members nationwide, and more than 274,000 members in Hawai‘i. In Hawai‘i, more than 4,200 dedicated employees and more than 650 Hawai‘i Permanente Medical Group physicians and advance practice providers work in our integrated health system to provide our members coordinated care and coverage. Kaiser Permanente Hawai‘i has more than 19 medical facilities, including our award-winning Moanalua Medical Center. We continue to provide high-quality coordinated care for our members and deliver on our commitment to improve the health of our members and the 1.4 million people living in the communities we serve.

The State of Hawai‘i has been a pioneer among the states in healthcare for decades. Notably, the Legislature’s passage of the Hawai‘i Prepaid Health Act (PHCA) in 1974 was the first in the nation to set minimum standards of healthcare coverage for workers. Under the PHCA, Hawaii has long boasted low uninsured rates. With the enactment of the ACA in 2010, many more residents obtained affordable health insurance. As part of one of the nation’s largest nonprofit integrated health care systems, Kaiser Permanente Hawai‘i seeks to make healthcare more affordable and available to everyone.



Government Relations

Kaiser Permanente Hawai'i appreciates the opportunity to be included in the Hui Ho'omana task force and looks forward to continuing discussions on how we can ensure universal access and equity to quality healthcare at an affordable cost for state residents.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.

SB-3129

Submitted on: 1/26/2024 4:38:23 PM

Testimony for HHS on 1/29/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Katherine F Davis	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I wholeheartedly support this bill.

SB-3129

Submitted on: 1/27/2024 9:23:06 AM

Testimony for HHS on 1/29/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Beth Giesting	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To: The Hon. Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair, and members of the Senate Committee on Health & Human Services

From: Beth Giesting

Re: Support for Senate Bill 3129

Thank you for the opportunity to support Senate Bill 3129. In addition to updating and expanding the role of the State Health Planning and Development Agency (SHPDA), as proposed in other measures before you, establishing a group to assess needs and oversee plans and actions to accomplish universal access to affordable, quality care is essential.

While the proposed members of Hui Ho‘omana come from appropriate agencies with diverse areas of expertise, I urge the committee to add to the list of invitees individuals who will bring **oral health and behavioral health service** issues to the work of the Hui.

SB-3129

Submitted on: 1/27/2024 9:48:23 AM

Testimony for HHS on 1/29/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marilyn Seely	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am supporting SB3129 which establishes a Task Force of highly qualified citizens to oversee and contribute to the expanded mandate of the State Health Planning and Development agency as it moves forward in assuring every Hawai'i citizen has access to quality health care. It addresses the issue of transparency in policy development and the participation of the public in building a more efficient effective health care system in Hawaii. It recognizes that the difficult task of sorting out and correcting weaknesses in our health system deserves a broad base of input from those who receive health care so that they have a role in assuring it meets the needs of the state.

Mahalo, Marilyn Seely

SB-3129

Submitted on: 1/27/2024 4:19:10 PM

Testimony for HHS on 1/29/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Wesley Sumida	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To the Honorable Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chair Aquino and members of the Health and Human Services Committee

My name is Wesley Sumida and I am the Chair of the Statewide Health Coordinating Council's (SHCC) Plan Development Committee (PDC) and a member of the Honolulu Subarea Health Planning Council (HONSAC). I appreciate the opportunity to offer my testimony as an individual in **strong support** of SB 3129, relating to health and establishing the Hui Ho'omana taskforce within the State Health Planning and Development Agency.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Wesley Sumida

SB-3129

Submitted on: 1/27/2024 8:19:55 PM

Testimony for HHS on 1/29/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Leimomi Khan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, Urge passage of this bill. Rationale on why this legislation is necessary is clearly articulated in Section 1 of the bill.

LATE

SB-3129

Submitted on: 1/28/2024 9:44:54 PM

Testimony for HHS on 1/29/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael EKM Olderr	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support the intent of this bill, and I hope they come to a speedy and recognizable descion.