



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## ‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

### Legislative Testimony

### Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Finance  
Thursday, March 30, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.

By

Lee Buenconsejo-Lum, MD, FAAFP, Interim Dean

John A. Burns School of Medicine

And

Michael Bruno, PhD

Provost

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

#### SB 62 SD2 HD1 – RELATING TO MEDICAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony today. The John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) **strongly supports SB 62 SD2 HD1**, which reestablishes the Hawai'i Medical Education special fund to provide funding for medical education and training in Hawai'i, provided that its passage does not impact priorities as indicated in the University's Board of Regents Approved Executive Biennium Budget. The measure also appropriates money to JABSOM to expand medical residency and training in Hawai'i with an emphasis on supporting residency training on the neighbor islands and in medically underserved communities, as well as funding to expand medical training in partnership with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

We respectfully request an amendment to Section 4 on page 6, beginning at line 12 to clarify the types of costs the funds may be used for. These items are consistent with HRS Section 304A-1704(4) which outlines the duties of the Hawai'i Medical Education Council (HMEC). Amending language appears in red font and is attached to this testimony.

#### **We also request the following sums to support medical education and training:**

In Section 3, JABSOM requests an appropriation of \$1,240,000 to the Hawai'i Medical Education special fund;

In Section 4, we request an appropriation of \$520,000 from the Hawai'i Medical Education special fund as well as the amendment requested above;

In Section 5, we request an appropriation of \$520,000 from the Hawai'i Medical Education special fund to support additional medical residencies and training

opportunities for medical students in counties with populations of no more than five hundred thousand; and

In Section 6, we request an appropriation of \$200,000 from the Hawai'i Medical Education special fund to expand training opportunities for medical students and residents in partnership with the Veterans Affairs.

The HMEC is tasked with monitoring the state's graduate medical education (GME) programs, physician residency and fellowship training, and their ability to meet the healthcare workforce needs. According to HMEC's 2022 report to the legislature, GME programs, especially those in primary care, geriatrics, psychiatry (adults and children) and addiction serve a high proportion of the state's most vulnerable populations. Yet, there has been a reduction in the overall civilian GME positions offered in Hawai'i from 241 in 2009 to 230 in 2021. Nationally, Hawai'i is in the bottom quintile of GME positions per population. Decreased federal and state funding has had a significant impact on the number of available training positions.

Many Hawai'i residents are unable to obtain timely and appropriate health care due to shortages of physicians and other health care providers in the State. These shortages threaten individual health. The State's neighbor islands, which have been designated by the federal government as medically underserved areas, have been disproportionately adversely affected by shortages of physicians in all areas of practice.

Based on the most recent data from the Hawai'i physician workforce assessment project, the State has a shortage of nearly 800 full-time equivalent physicians. Primary care, internal medicine, and some specialty physician shortages represent Hawai'i's disciplines of greatest need. Without these physicians, the people of Hawai'i do not have access to the health care they need. JABSOM has shown that eighty percent of graduates who complete their medical school and residency training in the State remain in Hawai'i to practice. Medical students and medical residents who perform their training on the neighbor islands are more likely to open practices and remain on the neighbor islands. Expanding capacity for year-round medical education training will create a pipeline of new physicians who are poised to enter practice on the neighbor islands. Similarly, expanding the training capacity in partnership with the Veterans Affairs would enable JABSOM to offer residency positions to more students.

Ongoing funding of both undergraduate medical education (medical school) and GME is vital in addressing the physician shortage in Hawai'i. Reestablishing the Hawai'i Medical Education special fund will allow optimal use of state funding to support GME and assure close monitoring by the university and legislature of the specific application of state funds for GME programs, especially those focused on enhancing neighbor island workforce needs.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

SB 62, SD2, HD1

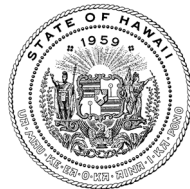
PROPOSED HD2

**Page 6, beginning at Line 12:**

SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the Hawaii medical educational special fund the sum of \$520,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 ~~[for]~~ to support graduate medical education and training programs established under chapter 304A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, including but not limited to establishing partnerships on the neighbor islands to expand training opportunities, faculty development and salaries, travel to the neighbor islands, housing on the neighbor islands for residents and faculty, and other operational expenses.

The sums appropriated shall be expended by the University of Hawaii at Manoa John A. Burns school of medicine for the purposes of this Act.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR



LUIS P. SALAVERIA  
DIRECTOR

SABRINA NASIR  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM  
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND  
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
*Ka 'Oihana Mālama Mo'ohelu a Kālā*  
P.O. BOX 150  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE  
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT DIVISION  
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION  
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT

**WRITTEN ONLY**  
TESTIMONY BY LUIS P. SALAVERIA  
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE  
ON  
SENATE BILL NO. 62, S.D. 2, H.D. 1

**March 30, 2023**  
**3.00 p.m.**  
**Room 308 and Videoconference**

RELATING TO MEDICAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) offers comments on this bill.

Senate Bill (S.B.) No. 62, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, adds a new section to Chapter 304A, HRS, to establish the Hawai'i Medical Education Special Fund (HMESF) to be administered by the University of Hawai'i, John A. Burns School of Medicine, for the purposes of providing graduate medical education and training programs. The HMESF would collect all monies received by the Hawai'i Medical Education Council, including funds from the federal Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services and other federal agencies; appropriations by the Legislature; and grants, contracts, donations, and private contributions. This bill also appropriates an unspecified amount of general funds for deposit into the HMESF for FY 24 and FY 25; appropriates an unspecified amount of special funds out of the HMESF for FY 24 and FY 25 for graduate medical education and training programs established under Chapter 304A, HRS; appropriates an unspecified amount of special funds out of the HMESF for FY 24 and FY 25 for the creation of additional medical residencies and training opportunities in counties with

populations of 500,000 or less; and appropriates an unspecified amount of special funds out of the HMESF for FY 24 and FY 25 for the expansion of medical residencies and training opportunities in partnership with the United States Department of Veteran Affairs (VA).

As a matter of general policy, B&F does not support the creation of any special fund which does not meet the requirements of Section 37-52.3, HRS. Special funds should: 1) serve a need as demonstrated by the purpose, scope of work and an explanation why the program cannot be implemented successfully under the general fund appropriation process; 2) reflect a clear nexus between the benefits sought and charges made upon the users or beneficiaries or a clear link between the program and the sources of revenue; 3) provide an appropriate means of financing for the program or activity; and 4) demonstrate the capacity to be financially self-sustaining. Regarding S.B. No. 62, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, it is difficult to determine whether the proposed special fund would be self-sustaining.

In addition, B&F does not support the deposit of federal funds into any special fund as federal funds should be kept separate for compliance and reporting purposes. Further, the purpose of the federal grant may not be totally aligned with statutory uses of the special fund.

Lastly, B&F notes that the proposed FB 2023-25 Executive Budget adds 4.00 permanent positions and \$2,660,000 in general funds for FY 24 and FY 25 to continue the efforts of Act 262, SLH 2022, which appropriated funding in FY 23 to increase medical residencies and training in underserved areas and expand medical residency opportunities through a partnership with the VA.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.



**Testimony to the House Committee on Finance  
Thursday, March 30, 2023; 3:00 p.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 308  
Via Videoconference**

**RE: SENATE BILL NO. 0062, SENATE DRAFT 2, HOUSE DRAFT 1, RELATING TO MEDICAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING.**

Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Kitagawa, 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. 0062, Senate Draft 2, House Draft 1, RELATING TO MEDICAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING.

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:

- (1) Reestablish the Hawaii Medical Education Special Fund to enable the John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM), in conjunction with the Hawaii Medical Education Council, to provide funding for medical education and training in Hawaii;
- (2) Appropriate funds to expand medical residency and training in Hawaii, with an emphasis on supporting residency training on the neighbor islands and in medical underserved populations throughout the State; and
- (3) Appropriate funds to create further medical residency and training opportunities through a partnership between JABSOM and the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

**Testimony on Senate Bill No. 0062, Senate Draft 2, House Draft 1**  
**Thursday, March 30, 2023; 3:00 p.m.**  
**Page 2**

This bill would take effect on June 30, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

The State of Hawaii is experiencing a severe shortage of health care professionals in the workforce, especially in rural areas. Recent studies note that the current shortage of physicians is at 20% of the total full-time equivalent positions throughout the State. The shortage is especially severe in the fields of primary care, infectious diseases, colorectal surgery, pathology, general surgery, pulmonology, neurology, neurosurgery, orthopedic surgery, family medicine, cardiothoracic surgery, rheumatology, cardiology, hematology/oncology, and pediatric subspecialties of endocrinology, cardiology, neurology, hematology/oncology, and gastroenterology.

This bill would provide the resources to develop the quality and stock of Hawaii's future healthcare workforce. Accordingly, we commend this effort and wish to participate in any and all discussions concerning workforce development.

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).



# 'Ahahui o nā Kauka

677 Ala Moana Blvd., Suite 1015

Honolulu HI 96813

Phone 808.548.0270

E-mail [huikauka@gmail.com](mailto:huikauka@gmail.com)

## 2022-2023 Advocacy Committee

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March 28, 2023

## COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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## Group Testimony in Support of SB 62 SD2 HD1 RELATING TO MEDICAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING.

'Ahahui o nā Kauka is an organization of Native Hawaiian physicians dedicated the health of the people of Hawai'i and Native Hawaiians in particular. We strongly support SB 62 SD2 as we see the need to provide health care to underserved areas in Hawai'i as one of the highest priorities for the pae 'āina of Hawai'i. We recently mourned the loss of our former president, Dr. Emmett Aluli, and beloved hui member, Dr. William Thomas, who both provided integral health care to much of the rural, underserved island of Moloka'i demonstrating how vulnerable some of our communities are to the loss of just a few key physicians. Members of our board have dedicated their careers to providing health care for all the other neighbor islands as well as underserved areas of O'ahu, and many of us are involved in medical training aimed at encouraging budding physicians to follow our footsteps by working in these areas as well. We support this legislative effort to mitigate the potential effects of the looming primary care crisis in Hawai'i on our rural and underserved communities.





# Hawaii Residency PROGRAMS, INC.

The Queen's Medical Center · Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children · Straub Medical Center · Pali Momi Medical Center  
Kuakini Medical Center · Wahiawa General Hospital · Kaiser Foundation Hospital · University of Hawai'i at Manoa, John A. Burns School of Medicine

## Testimony Presented Before the House Committee on Finance

March 30, 2023; 3:00 pm

By

Natalie Talamoa, Executive Director  
Hawai'i Residency Programs, Inc.

SB 62, SD2, HD1 – RELATING TO MEDICAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING.

Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and members of the committee:

The Hawai'i Residency Programs, Inc. (HRP) is an independent, not-for-profit corporation that 1) supports the advancement of medical education and training for medical residents in Hawai'i, 2) coordinates the administration of the residency programs and 3) acts as a liaison between the residency programs and the affiliated hospitals and healthcare systems. HRP works closely with the John A. Burns school of medicine (JABSOM) to ensure the quality and consistency of residency training. Additionally, in partnership with JABSOM, HRP has been striving to have medical residents and students rotate to the neighbor islands for training.

The Hawai'i Residency Program Inc. **strongly supports SB 62, SD2, HD1** which reestablishes the Hawai'i Medical Education special fund to provide funding for medical education and training in Hawaii. The measure also appropriates money to JABSOM to expand medical residency and training in Hawai'i with an emphasis on supporting residency training on the neighbor islands and in medically underserved communities, as well as funding to expand medical training in partnership with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. HRP concurs with the amendments requested by JABSOM and the appropriation amounts specified.

Many Hawai'i residents are unable to obtain timely and appropriate health care due to shortages of physicians and other health care providers in the State. These shortages threaten individual health. The State's neighbor islands, which have been designated by the federal government as medically underserved areas, have been disproportionately adversely affected by shortages of physicians in all areas of practice.

Based on the most recent data from the Hawai'i physician workforce assessment project, the State has a shortage of nearly 800 full-time equivalent physicians. Primary

care, internal medicine, and some specialty physician shortages represent Hawai'i's disciplines of greatest need. Without these physicians, the people of Hawai'i do not have access to the health care they need. JABSOM has shown that eighty percent of graduates who complete their medical school and residency training in the State remain in Hawai'i to practice. Medical students and medical residents who perform their training on the neighbor islands are more likely to open practices and remain on the neighbor islands. Expanding capacity for year-round medical education training will create a pipeline of new physicians who are poised to enter practice on the neighbor islands. Similarly, expanding the training capacity in partnership with the Veterans Affairs would enable JABSOM to offer residency positions to more students.

With ongoing funding, more residents will be able to train on the neighbor islands. From 2021-2022, thirteen (13) residents were sent to the neighbor islands for rotation experiences on Maui and Hawai'i Island. Rotations consist of residents or fellows spending four weeks working under the guidance of physicians on the neighbor islands. Through the state funding received in 2022, the number of residents rotating to the neighbor islands will increase to thirty-two (32). This includes twelve (12) residents who are sent to the neighbor islands to shadow a practicing physician for a shorter duration than the typical four week rotation. The experience enables the resident to learn the actual mechanics of the practice of medicine within an office setting. Residents have been placed on Hawai'i Island, Maui, and Kauai.

Ongoing funding of both undergraduate medical education (medical school) and GME is vital in addressing the physician shortage in Hawai'i. Reestablishing the Hawai'i Medical Education special fund will allow optimal use of state funding to support GME, especially those focused on enhancing neighbor island workforce needs.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Thursday, March 30, 2023 at 3:00 PM  
Via Video Conference; Conference Room 308

**House Committee on Finance**

To: Representative Kyle Yamashita, Chair  
Representative Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair

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

Re: **SB 62, SD2, HD1 – Testimony In Support  
Relating to Medical Education and Training**

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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 am writing in SUPPORT of SB 62, SD2, HD1 which reestablishes the Hawaii Medical Education Special Fund to provide funding for medical education and training in Hawaii. The measure also appropriates moneys to JABSOM to expand medical residency and training in Hawai'i with an emphasis on supporting residency training on the neighbor islands and in medically underserved communities, as well as funding to expand medical training in partnership with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

The Hawaii Medical Education Council (HMEC) is tasked with overseeing the state's graduate medical education programs and the programs' ability to meet the health care workforce requirements. Additionally, HMEC must ensure adequate funding of health care training programs, in particular graduate medical education. According to HMEC's 2022 report to the legislature, graduate medical education programs, especially those in primary care, geriatrics, psychiatry (adults and children) and addiction serve a high proportion of the most vulnerable populations. Yet, there has been a reduction in the overall graduate medical education positions in Hawaii from 241 in 2009 to 230 in 2021. Nationally, Hawaii is in the bottom quintile of the graduate medical education positions per population. Decreased federal and state funding has had a significant impact on the number of available training positions.

Ongoing funding of medical education is vital in addressing the physician shortage in Hawaii. There are considerable public outcomes achieved by expanding capacity for training medical students especially on the neighbor island with the goal of having these students ultimately remain in Hawaii to practice. Reestablishing the Hawaii Medical Education special fund which may be utilized as a means of funding graduate medical education and training is a key component to supporting an expansion of graduate medical education positions and opportunities which is a matter of statewide concern.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Testimony of  
Jonathan Ching  
Government Relations Director

Before:  
House Committee on Finance  
The Honorable Kyle T. Yamashita, Chair  
The Honorable Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair

March 30, 2023  
3:00 p.m.  
Conference Room 308 & Via Videoconference

**Re: SB 62, SD2, HD1, Relating to Medical Education and Training**

Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and committee members, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on SB 62, SD2, HD1, which reestablishes the Hawaii Medical Education Special Fund to provide funding for medical education and training in Hawaii. The measure also appropriates moneys to JABSOM to expand medical residency and training in Hawai'i with an emphasis on supporting residency training on the neighbor islands and in medically underserved communities, as well as funding to expand medical training in partnership with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

**Kaiser Permanente Hawai'i SUPPORTS SB 62, SD2, HD1.**

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 269,000 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 20+ 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.

We support SB 62, SD2, HD1 because it will appropriate monies to the John A. Burns School of Medicine to expand medical residency and training in Hawaii, with an emphasis on supporting residency training on the neighbor islands, where healthcare providers are most needed. Hawai'i has a shortage of about 776 doctors, and almost all other types of primary care and behavioral healthcare workers. In 2022, approximately 60 physicians were found to have retired, 212 decreased their work hours, and 84 physicians left the state, further contributing to the physician shortage. Without these doctors and other healthcare providers, the people of Hawai'i do not have access to the healthcare they need. The shortage is most acute for those on neighbor islands and underserved areas served by rural health centers. We believe that expanding residency



Government Relations

opportunities on the neighbor islands will acquaint graduate physicians with medicine in rural settings.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.



**Hawaii Medical Association**

1360 South Beretania Street, Suite 200 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96814  
Phone: 808.536.7702 • Fax: 808.528.2376 • hawaiimedicalassociation.org

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE  
Representative Kyle T Yamashita, Chair  
Representative Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair

Date: March 30, 2022  
From: Hawaii Medical Association  
Beth England, MD - Chair, HMA Legislative Committee

**Re: SB 62 SD2 HD 1 RELATING TO MEDICAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

**Position: Support**

This measure would appropriate money to the John A. Burns School of Medicine for the purpose of supporting and expanding medical education and residency training.

Hawaii has a statewide physician shortage of 776 Full Time Equivalents (FTEs), as reported in the UH System Annual Report on Findings from the Hawai'i Physician Workforce Assessment Project. This deficit is 44 FTEs greater than in last year's report. By county, the physician shortages are most critical on the neighbor islands (see chart below):

**UH AHEC 2022 Physician Shortage by County**

2022	Hawai'i	Honolulu	Kaua'i	Maui	Statewide
Shortage	183	382	45	167	776
Percent	37%	15%	26%	40%	22%

HMA supports appropriation of funding to create additional residency positions and training opportunities. Over 50% of physicians who complete their residency training in Hawaii will stay to practice locally. This number increases further when students also complete medical school in Hawaii. It is vital that Hawaii have an adequate physician workforce to deliver medical care to our entire state, particularly underserved areas on neighbor islands. This measure will help address our critical physician workforce shortage.

Thank you for allowing the Hawaii Medical Association to testify in support of this measure.

**2023 Hawaii Medical Association Officers**

Angela M. Pratt, MD, President • Elizabeth Ann Ignacio, MD, President Elect • Michael Champion, MD, Immediate Past President  
Nadine Tenn-Salle, MD, Treasurer • Thomas Kosasa, MD, Secretary • Marc Alexander, Executive Director

**2023 Hawaii Medical Association Public Policy Coordination Team**

Elizabeth Ann Ignacio, MD, Chair • Beth England, MD, Co-Chair  
Linda Rosehill, JD, Government Relations • Marc Alexander, Executive Director

## References

Withy K et al . UH System Annual Report to the 2023 Legislature on Findings from the Hawai'i Physician Workforce Assessment Project.

Moore B. Bringing students home to fix Hawaii's doctor shortage. KHON 2 Jan 5 2023. <https://www.khon2.com/local-news/bringing-students-home-to-fix-hawaiis-doctor-shortage/>

Hiraishi K. "Hawai'i Doctor Shortage Worsens Under Pandemic. " Hawaii Public Radio. Jan 5, 2021. <https://www.hawaiipublicradio.org/post/hawai-i-doctor-shortage-worsens-under-pandemic>

Table C6. Physician Retention in State of Residency Training, by .... (n.d.). Retrieved February 13, 2023, from <https://www.aamc.org/data-reports/students-residents/interactive-data/report-residents/2019/table-c6-physician-retention-state-residency-training-state>.

### **2023 Hawaii Medical Association Officers**

Angela M. Pratt, MD, President • Elizabeth Ann Ignacio, MD, President Elect • Michael Champion, MD, Immediate Past President  
Nadine Tenn-Salle, MD, Treasurer • Thomas Kosasa, MD, Secretary • Marc Alexander, Executive Director

### **2023 Hawaii Medical Association Public Policy Coordination Team**

Elizabeth Ann Ignacio, MD, Chair • Beth England, MD, Co-Chair  
Linda Rosehill, JD, Government Relations • Marc Alexander, Executive Director



# THE KŪPUNA CAUCUS



FIN\_03-30-23 3pm Fin med prog.

TO: COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Rep. Kyle T. Yamashita, Chair

Rep. Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair

CONCERNING: SB62 SD2 HD1 (HSCR1438) RELATING TO MEDICAL EDUCATION  
AND TRAINING,  
SB164 SD2 HD1 (HSCR1361) RELATING TO LOAN REPAYMENTS FOR  
HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS

POSITION: STRONG SUPPORT

Aloha Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and members of the committee

The Kūpuna Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i has a membership of more than 2,000 politically active and aware seniors and we support all programs which will help Hawaii expand and retain medical personnel at all levels in our state.

These bills will encourage medical students training in Hawaii to remain in Hawaii and hopefully begin to fill the enormous gaps in all health related area in our state. The availability of health services and professionals is directly related to the costs of education and in Hawaii the cost of living here and the additional GET taxes imposed on all medical procedures, supplies and earnings regardless of whether or not those taxes are paid by an insurance company.

These bills will address the first parts of the problem, which are the need for expanded programs, especially in nursing and the repayment of medical student loans which can be prohibitive and burden graduates for decades.

Please pass these bills

Martha Randolph for the  
Kupuna Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii



March 30, 2023

The Honorable Kyle T. Yamashita, Chair  
The Honorable Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair  
House Committee on Finance

Re: SB 62 SD2 HD1 – Relating to Medical Education and Training

Dear Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and Members of the Committee:

Hawaii Medical Service Association (HMSA) appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 62 SD2 HD1, which reestablishes the Hawaii medical education special fund and appropriates funds into and out of the Hawaii medical education special fund to the John A. Burns School of Medicine for graduate medical education and training programs, to create more residencies and training opportunities on the neighbor islands for medical students, and for medical student and residency training opportunities in partnership with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

HMSA recognizes the challenges our communities face due to the shortage of health care professionals. We appreciate the efforts that JABSOM continues to take to address workforce development and increase accessibility to health care across our state, particularly in rural and underserved areas. By supporting graduate medical education and training, Hawaii will be better equipped to create pathways and opportunities for students at JABSOM to remain in Hawaii and contribute to strengthening the health and well-being of our communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB62 SD2 HD1.

Sincerely,

Dawn Kurisu  
Assistant Vice President  
Community and Government Relations

**SB-62-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 8:30:17 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/30/2023 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Esther Smith	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Increasing student and resident interest in and exposure to Neighbor Island community healthcare is essential as there is a critical provider shortage.

**SB-62-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 12:57:59 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/30/2023 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Colleen Inouye	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Representative Yamashita, Chair, and Representative Kitagawa, Vice-Chair, and the members of the Committee on Finance,

I am asking for your support of SB62, SD2, HD1, the bill relating to medical education and training. As everyone knows there is a lack of adequate numbers of physicians on the neighbor islands. This bill would appropriate the funds that would create more training and educational opportunities for medical students and residents on the neighbor islands. It is well-known that most residents decide to practice in the area they had their residency program/training. This bill would increase the number of physicians and increase access to health care which are both sorely lacking and greatly needed on the neighbor islands.

Thank you for your kind attention and I hope you do support SB 62, SD2, HD1.

Colleen F Inouye MD MMM MS-PopH FACHE FAAPL FACOG