

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



RYAN I. YAMANE
DIRECTOR
KA LUNA HO'OKELE

JOSEPH CAMPOS II
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

TRISTA SPEER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

March 12, 2025

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

FROM: Ryan I. Yamane, Director

SUBJECT: **HB 1349 HD1– RELATING TO MEDICAID.**

Hearing: March 17, 2025, 1:00 p.m.
Conference Room 225 & Videoconference, State Capitol

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) appreciates the bill's intent and offers comments. DHS respectfully requests that this program and appropriation not conflict with, reduce, or replace priorities identified in the executive budget. Additionally, DHS prefers that any increase in appropriation be included in the executive budget bill as a recurring appropriation so that the coverage could be ongoing.

PURPOSE: Appropriates funds to the Department of Human Services to authorize Medicaid coverage through the Children's Health Insurance Program to income-qualified pregnant persons and children regardless of immigration status.

The House Committee on Human Services and Homelessness amended the measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

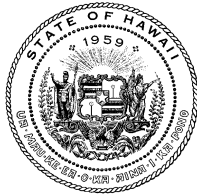
The House Finance Committee passed HB1349 HD1 unamended.

DHS believes there is a clear benefit to the State to ensure all residents, regardless of immigration status, have access to health care. Per [Senate Concurrent Resolution 183 SD1 \(2023\)](#), DHS completed its [report](#) on this matter. The general fund appropriations in the bill are based on cost estimates in the report to provide coverage for 500 pregnant women and 4,000 children.

The House Committee on Human Services and Homelessness Committee Report cited the DHS legislative report regarding the state funds needed to provide health insurance coverage for children regardless of their immigration status if DHS were able to get permission to use the CHIP State Plan Option or the CHIP Health Services Initiative (HSI) option. The amounts cited are (1) \$744,000 for pregnant persons (CHIP State Plan Option); (2) \$620,000 for pregnant persons, including ten months post-partum care (HSI); and (3) \$2,976,000 for children under the (HSI) option. Given the current federal administration's stance on immigration status and the Medicaid/CHIP program, it may be *unlikely* that DHS would be allowed to use the HSI option. If unable to use the HSI option, only state funds could be used for the populations in (2) and (3), and the amounts are (2) \$2,000,000 for pregnant persons' post-partum care and (3) \$9,600,000 for children.

DHS notes that any reductions to federal funding levels would impact our ability to execute programs at current levels and make execution of the changes proposed in this bill difficult or impossible to accomplish.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this measure.



**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'OKELE

JOHN C. (JACK) LEWIN, M.D.
ADMINISTRATOR

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

March 14, 2025

To: SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair
Senator Henry J.C. Aquino, Vice Chair and
Honorable Members

From: John C (Jack) Lewin MD, Administrator, SHPDA and
Senior Advisor to Governor Green on Healthcare Innovation

Re: **HB1349_HD1 - Relating to Medicaid**

Hearing: March 17, 2025 @ 1:00 pm; Conference Room 225

Position: SUPPORT, with COMMENTS

Testimony:

SHPDA clearly supports the need of these essential services for immigrant/refugee mothers and children. These funds should absolutely be provided for this purpose to the DHS/Med-QUEST program if the CHIP Health Services Initiative (HIS) federal funding option remains available.

We defer to DHS/MQD on their recommendations if that option is removed, which would drastically increase the cost of this humanitarian and appropriate investment.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.



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

From: Paula Arcena, External Affairs Vice President
Mike Nguyen, Director of Public Policy
Sarielyn Curtis, External Affairs Specialist

Hearing: Monday, March 17, 2025, 1:00 p.m., Conference Room 225

RE: **HB1349 HD1 Relating to Medicaid**

AlohaCare appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony in **strong support of HB1349 HD1**. This measure appropriates funds to the Department of Human Services to authorize Medicaid coverage through the Children's Health Insurance Program to income-qualified pregnant persons and children regardless of immigration status.

Founded in 1994 by Hawai'i's community health centers, AlohaCare is a community-rooted, non-profit health plan serving over 70,000 Medicaid and dual-eligible health plan members on all islands. Approximately 37 percent of our members are keiki. We are Hawai'i's only health plan exclusively dedicated to serving Medicaid and Medicaid-Medicare dually-eligible beneficiaries. Our mission is to serve individuals and communities in the true spirit of aloha by ensuring and advocating for access to quality, whole-person care for all.

Consistent with our mission and our values, AlohaCare is committed to promoting access to quality, whole-person healthcare for all of Hawai'i's residents, regardless of immigration status. An estimated 45,000 undocumented immigrants live in Hawai'i, making up 3% of the State's total population. Expanding coverage will contribute to our State's health equity and social determinants of health (SDOH) priorities at large by increasing healthcare access.¹ Under the SDOH framework, a person's social and community context are key factors that affect health outcomes. AlohaCare understands expanding coverage may improve our current member's health and well-being, specifically those that are family of undocumented immigrants, as they are often subject to trauma and various social and environmental stressors.² In 2014, approximately 60,202 people in Hawai'i lived with at least one undocumented family member.

¹ [Hawai'i Medicaid State Plan and Demonstration](#)

² [American Psychiatry Association. Stress & Trauma Toolkit for Treating Undocumented Immigrants in a Changing Political and Social Environment.](#)



Our neighbors, friends, and ‘ohana who are undocumented immigrants are working, contributing to Hawai‘i’s economy, and should not be subject to the risks of living without health insurance. The American Immigration Council estimates that undocumented workers are overrepresented in the State’s labor force at 4.5%, primarily in the leisure/hospitality and agriculture industries.³ In 2024, undocumented immigrants paid an estimated \$157 million in State and local tax contributions, and across the nation undocumented immigrants paid an estimated \$59.4 billion to the federal government.⁴

According to Hawai‘i Friends of Civil Rights testimony on the 2023 bill SB842, many of the 45,000 undocumented persons in Hawai‘i secure health insurance through the Hawai‘i Prepaid Health Care Act, while approximately 11,000 undocumented immigrants are uninsured—with 43% of these households reporting incomes below 200% of the federal poverty level—unable to access the care they need until they have a medical illness or condition that becomes an emergency.⁵

Expanding coverage will allow undocumented immigrants to access primary and preventative care and may decrease emergency room visits. Hawai‘i’s Medicaid program currently provides coverage of emergency medical services to individuals who are ineligible for Medicaid due to immigration status. This emergency coverage is provided to stabilize the emergency medical condition, but Medicaid does not cover any follow-up visits resulting from the emergency visit.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify in **strong support** of **HB1349 HD1**.

³ [Pew Research Center, “U.S. unauthorized immigrant population estimates by state, 2016,” February 5, 2019.](#)

⁴ [Tax Payments by Undocumented Immigrants – ITEP](#)

⁵ [capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/Session2023/Testimony/SB842_TESTIMONY_HHS_02-13-23_.PDF](#)



Statement Before The
Monday, March 17, 2025
1:00 PM
Conference Room 225 & Videoconference

in consideration of
HB1349, HD1

RELATING TO MEDICAID.

Chair SAN BUENAVENTURA, Vice Chair AQUINO, and Members of the
Senate Health and Human Services Committee

The Legal Clinic (TLC) supports HB1349, HD1, which appropriates funds to the Department of Human Services to authorize Medicaid coverage through the Children's Health Insurance Program to income-qualified pregnant persons and children regardless of immigration status. This is a much-needed social safety net measure.

TLC is a Hawai'i nonprofit, nonpartisan organization. TLC is a direct legal services provider, representing those in Hawai'i who meet income eligibility guidelines without regard to immigration status, national origin, ethnic background, race, religion, ideology, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, or disability. TLC works alongside immigrants so they can attain authorization to work and live with dignity, reunite with their families after years of separation and escape horrific violence to find refuge in the United States. TLC recognizes that every person needs and deserves to feel a sense of trust, welcome, and belonging.

According to the 2020 U.S. Census, Hawai'i is the most diverse state in the nation.¹ In 2023, Hawai'i had about 256,000 immigrants, which is approx. 18% of the State population.² The top countries of origin for immigrants were the Philippines (45 percent of immigrants), China (9 percent), Japan (8 percent), Korea (6 percent), and the Pacific Island Nations (4 percent).³

¹ See <https://thehill.com/homenews/state-watch/567625-hawaii-california-and-nevada-are-most-diverse-states-in-the-us-census/> (retrieved 1/14/2025).

² See <https://usafacts.org/answers/how-many-immigrants-are-in-the-us/state/hawaii/> and <https://data.census.gov/profile/Hawaii?g=040XX00US15#populations-and-people> (retrieved 1/14/2025).

³ See https://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/sites/default/files/research/immigrants_in_hawaii.pdf (retrieved 1/14/2025).

There are between 41,000 -50,500 undocumented immigrants in Hawai'i.⁴ Hawaii is the only state where undocumented women (55%) outnumber men.⁵

Approximately 500 pregnant persons and 4,000 income qualified children in Hawaii are denied access to affordable health care through Medicaid, the children's health insurance program, and health insurance exchanges established under Affordable Care Act, solely due to their immigration status.

Low-income immigrants without prenatal care are 7 times more likely to give birth prematurely and 5 times more likely to experience neonatal death, demonstrating that limited access to health care for pregnant persons and their newborn children significantly increases risk of exposure to life-threatening situations. Providing access to health insurance coverage for income-qualified pregnant persons will help lower barriers and increase access to health care for resident immigrant populations in the State. It will also increase health outcomes.

Low-income immigrant children without access to health care services experience a higher rate of preventable hospitalizations during childhood. Without appropriate medical management, chronic conditions such as asthma and diabetes may lead to life-threatening medical emergencies. Inadequate access to preventative care such as immunizations and well-being and well-child visits may aggravate various health conditions increasing the occurrence of acute and chronic conditions and can leave developmental health conditions undiagnosed and untreated.

As of June 2024, 24 states and the District of Columbia provide Medicaid coverage to income-eligible children regardless of immigration status. A 2024 report by the Department of Human Services found that the state may “leverage the Unborn Children Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) State Plan option. This Medicaid option allows states to cover the unborn child of pregnant persons who are not traditionally eligible for coverage due to their immigration status. This option is supported with a federal matching rate of just over 69%.”⁶

As for children, “[s]tates do have the option to cover immigrant children who do not meet the immigration criteria for Medicaid or CHIP using state-only funds. This option does not require CMS approval or reporting but is a larger financial commitment from the state to fund the benefits. Several states, like Illinois, California, New York, and Oregon, use state-only funds to cover all children regardless of immigration status.”⁷

⁴⁴ See <https://www.civilbeat.org/2024/12/data-dive-hawai%CA%BBi-deportation-cases-hit-quarter-century-high/> (retrieved 1/14/2025).

⁵⁵ See <https://mchb.tvisdata.hrsa.gov/Narratives/Overview/a0ac94c0-8538-417e-85c9-da6ac5c06603> (retrieved 1/14/2025).

⁶ See https://data.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/session2024/bills/DC202_.PDF (retrieved 1/16/2025).

⁷ See https://data.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/session2024/bills/DC202_.PDF (retrieved 1/16/2025).

TLC understands that it may be more fiscally feasible at this time to only provide coverage to pregnant persons through HB1349, HD1 and will support a clarifying amendment to this bill stating that HB1349, HD1 appropriates funds to the Department of Human Services to authorize Medicaid coverage through the Children's Health Insurance Program to income-qualified pregnant persons, omitting children, regardless of immigration status.

This bill will ensure that people are afforded some measure of medical care for health and welfare for themselves, their families and their communities, and for our basic human rights and dignity.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB1349, HD1 with clarifying language, and I respectfully urge the Committee members to pass HB1349, HD1 out of your Committee. If you have questions of me, please contact me at sma@tlchawaii.org.

Very respectfully yours,

Sandy Ma

Sandy Ma
Community & Policy Advocate
The Legal Clinic

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 3:53:09 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
amy agbayani/patricia mcmanaman	Testifying for Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights	Support	In Person

Comments:

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HB 1349

Sybmitted by The Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights

Co-Chairs Amy Agbayani and Pat McManaman

The Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights works to achieve equity, justice, inclusion, uphold civil rights, and eliminate discrimination. We stand in **Strong Support of H.B. 1349**

Long-established medical consensus holds that prenatal care is fundamental to reproductive and infant health. The lack of access to prenatal care increases the risk of premature birth and low birth weight and is a factor in a range of poor health outcomes experienced by undocumented pregnant women and their babies, including higher rates of labor and delivery complications and premature births. Many of these negative outcomes pose long-term development risks to newborn U.S. citizen children and could be avoided with full access to prenatal care.

A recently released report, the Hawai'i Department of Health reported that from 2018 to 2021, the maternal death rate in the United States increased from 17.4 to 32.9 per 100,000 live births and that disadvantaged populations including Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders, Black, and American Indian and Alaska Native persons have the highest rates of pregnancy-related deaths. The report further noted that approximately 80% of pregnancy-related deaths are preventable requiring a multilevel approach that includes ensuring quality care for all pregnant and postpartum persons. Additionally, the Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF) noted that expanding Medicaid coverage regardless of immigration status resulted in improved outcomes including increases in average gestation and birth weight among newborns. Med-Quest's estimate for providing Medicaid coverage for an estimated cohort of 500 undocumented pregnant persons is \$744,000 in state funds for pregnancy-related services and 2 months of postpartum care. Extending postpartum care an additional 10 months would increase state-funded costs to \$1,364,000.

With one of the lowest national rates of uninsured persons and a leader in healthcare, Hawai'i has the opportunity to reaffirm its commitment to healthcare through this measure and to recognize the substantial federal and state tax contributions made by Hawai'i's undocumented residents.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair

Senator Henry J.C. Aquino, Vice Chair

Monday, March 17, 2025, 1:00 PM – Conference Room 225

Testimony in Support of House Bill 1349 House Draft 1 Relating to Medicaid

The American Lung Association represents thousands of patients and families with lung disease in Hawaii and is committed to ensuring that Med-QUEST provides adequate, affordable, and accessible health care coverage. The Lung Association urges Hawaii lawmakers to support HB1349 HD1.

The American Lung Association opposes discriminatory barriers to healthcare coverage and firmly believes that **all** people living within the United States should have access to affordable, adequate, and accessible health care. Years of policies that target people because of their immigration status have deterred immigrant families, which include millions of U.S. citizen children, from accessing health care and other basic needs.ⁱ

Undocumented immigrants are currently ineligible for coverage options in most states due to their immigration status. Approximately 50% of likely undocumented immigrants and 18% of lawfully present immigrants report being uninsured compared to 6% and 8% of naturalized and U.S.-born citizens, respectively.ⁱⁱ In the absence of coverage, individuals remain reliant on safety net clinics and hospitals for care and often go without needed care.² HB 1349 would extend Medicaid coverage to children and pregnant women regardless of immigration status, improving equitable access to care in Hawaii.

An estimated 19% of immigrant adults with lower incomes reported having a health condition that requires regular treatment.² Additionally, studies have shown that migrant workers also have high rates of lung diseases, such as asthma, and are at a higher risk for mental illness.^{iii,iv} It is critical that these individuals have access to comprehensive healthcare services to treat lung diseases and other health conditions.

The American Lung Association is committed to working with you to expand access to quality and affordable health coverage to everyone living in Hawaii. By increasing eligibility for coverage among this underserved population, can improve health equity and reduce disparities in coverage. The Lung Association urges members to support legislation that would expand access to Medicaid for eligible residents regardless of immigration status.

Pedro Haro
Executive Director
American Lung Association in Hawai'i
pedro.haro@lung.org

ⁱ <https://protectingimmigrantfamilies.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/FINAL-LIFT-the-BAR-Sign-on-Letter.pdf>

ⁱⁱ KFF. Key Facts on Health Coverage of Immigrants. September 2023. Available at: <https://www.kff.org/racial-equity-and-health-policy/fact-sheet/health-coverage-of-immigrants/>.

ⁱⁱⁱ Holguin, Fernando et al. "Respiratory Health in Migrant Populations: A Crisis Overlooked." *Annals of the American Thoracic Society* vol. 14,2 (2017): 153-159. doi:10.1513/AnnalsATS.201608-592PS

^{iv} Close, Ciara et al. "The mental health and wellbeing of first generation migrants: a systematic-narrative review of reviews." *Globalization and health* vol. 12,1 47. 25 Aug. 2016, doi:10.1186/s12992-016-0187-3

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 10:51:40 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Veronica Mendoza	Testifying for Roots Reborn Maui	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Re: Urgent Support for HB 1349, Relating to Medicaid

To: Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair

Senator Henry J.C. Aquino, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: Monday, March 17, 2025, 1:00 PM

Dear Senators San Buenaventura and Aquino,

As the founding director of Maui Roots Reborn, I've witnessed firsthand the resilience and vulnerability of our migrant and immigrant community. Forged in the fires of the 2023 Maui wildfires, our organization, comprised entirely of bilingual and bicultural migrants and children of immigrants, has become a lifeline for over a thousand individuals. We are trusted, we understand the cultural nuances, and we share the lived experiences of those we serve.

Hawai'i has a rich and diverse immigrant community, with many families working hard to contribute to our economy and society. However, due to restrictive federal policies, many immigrants—even those who have lived in our state for many years—are excluded from critical healthcare programs. Given Hawai'i's already high cost of living, many families are forced to make impossible choices between rent, food, and medical care. This bill ensures that all children and expecting parents have access to essential health services, regardless of where they were born.

Other states, including California, Illinois, New York, and Oregon, have already expanded Medicaid-like coverage to all income-eligible pregnant persons and children, recognizing that denying healthcare based on immigration status is both inequitable and harmful to public health. Hawai‘i should follow suit and uphold its values of fairness, inclusivity, and compassion.

The consequences of inadequate prenatal and pediatric care are devastating and costly. Lack of access to affordable healthcare dramatically increases the risk of premature births, low birth weight, and neonatal death, leading to long-term health complications for children and financial burdens on families and the state.

Studies have proven that preventative care is far more cost-effective than emergency interventions, which often become the only option for uninsured families. Expanding coverage will reduce avoidable hospitalizations, improve maternal and child health outcomes, and lower overall healthcare costs for the state.

As someone who works closely with Maui’s immigrant community, I have witnessed firsthand how gaps in coverage put lives at risk. Every child deserves the chance to grow up healthy, and every parent should have the medical support they need during pregnancy, regardless of their immigration status.

Passing HB1349 is a moral and economic imperative. It is an investment in the health, safety, and future of our communities. I urge the committee to support this bill and ensure that no child or pregnant mother in Hawai‘i is left without the care they need.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Veronica Mendoza Jachowski

Executive Director

Roots Reborn

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 5:21:32 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nancy Redfeather	Testifying for Ka Ohana O Na Pua	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Funding for Medicaid services for women and children regardless of immigration status is incredibly important at this time. Mahalo.



www.hicir.org | Instagram @hicir
hicoalitionforimmigrantrights@gmail.com

Testimony of Liza Ryan-Gill in SUPPORT of HB1349 HD1
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Sen. San Buenaventura Chair
Sen. Henry Aquino, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: March 14th, 2025

Dear Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committees,

The Hawai‘i Coalition for Immigrant Rights (HCIR) submits this testimony in **strong support of HB1349 HD1**, which seeks to expand Medicaid coverage through the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) to income-qualified pregnant persons and children, regardless of immigration status.

HCIR is committed to advancing the rights and well-being of immigrants in Hawai‘i by advocating for policies that promote equity, healthcare access, and full participation in society. A key part of our mission is ensuring that all individuals—regardless of where they were born—have the opportunity to live healthy lives and become productive members of our community. However, many immigrant families in Hawai‘i lack access to basic healthcare due to their immigration status, putting them and their children at serious risk.

Hawai‘i is home to a significant immigrant population, many of whom contribute to our economy in essential industries such as agriculture, healthcare, construction, and hospitality. Yet, despite their contributions, many immigrant families are excluded from critical healthcare programs. This is especially harmful to pregnant individuals and children, who require consistent, quality medical care to thrive. Without access to affordable healthcare, many forego necessary prenatal checkups, vaccinations, and routine pediatric care, leading to severe and preventable health complications.

States such as California, Illinois, New York, and Oregon have already recognized this inequity and expanded Medicaid-like coverage to all income-eligible pregnant persons and children, regardless of immigration status. Hawai‘i must follow suit and reaffirm its values of inclusion, equity, and compassion.

The public health and economic benefits of passing HB1349 are undeniable:

- **Reducing premature births and neonatal deaths:** Lack of prenatal care is one of the leading causes of low birth weight, complications during delivery, and long-term health issues for infants. These preventable outcomes place a heavy emotional and financial burden on families and increase costs for the state’s healthcare system.

- **Lowering emergency healthcare costs:** When families cannot access routine care, they are forced to rely on emergency rooms for preventable conditions, which is far more expensive and places additional strain on Hawai‘i’s hospitals and public health resources.
- **Improving economic stability for families:** Ensuring that children and expecting parents have medical coverage allows families to focus on work, education, and their future, rather than living in fear of a medical crisis they cannot afford.

At HCIR, we believe that no child and no expecting parent should be denied healthcare simply because of their immigration status. HB1349 is a common-sense, compassionate, and cost-effective solution that will improve health outcomes, reduce disparities, and strengthen Hawai‘i’s communities.

We strongly urge the committee to pass this bill and ensure that every child and every pregnant person in Hawai‘i has access to the healthcare they need to thrive.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Liza Ryan-Gill
Executive Director
Hawai‘i Coalition for Immigrant Rights



Hawaii Medical Association

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

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair

Senator Henry J.C. Aquino, Vice Chair

Date: March 17, 2025

From: Hawaii Medical Association (HMA)

Jerald Garcia MD - Chair, HMA Public Policy Committee

RE HB 1349 HD 1 RELATING TO MEDICAID - DHS; Medicaid Coverage; Children's Health Insurance Program; Pregnant Persons; Children; Immigration Status; Appropriation

Position: Support

This measure would appropriate funds to the Department of Human Services to authorize Medicaid coverage through the Children's Health Insurance Program to income-qualified pregnant persons and children regardless of immigration status.

Hawaii Medicaid provides coverage for health and other related services for low-income adults and keiki, pregnant women, kupuna, and people with disabilities - over 450,000 Hawaii citizens in 2024. These groups are more affected by the social determinants of health than the general population, including low education levels, transportation needs, violence in the home and community, housing quality and instability and food insecurity. Medicaid is an especially important source of coverage for underserved communities as well as those who fall below the Federal Poverty Level. Medicaid health coverage facilitates access to care, improves health outcomes, and provides financial protection from medical debt. Hawaii must maintain the Children's Health Insurance Program of Medicaid for the health and well being of our most vulnerable patients.

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

REFERENCES AND QUICK LINKS

State of Hawaii Department of human Services. [MedQuest Division. Enrollment Reports.](#) Accessed March 11, 2025.

Kaiser Family Foundation. [Health Care in Hawaii. KFF.org.](#) Accessed March 11, 2025.

2025 Hawaii Medical Association Officers

Elizabeth Ann Ignacio, MD, President • Nadine Tenn-Salle, MD, President Elect • Angela Pratt, MD, Immediate Past President
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2025 Hawaii Medical Association Public Policy Coordination Team

Jerald Garcia, MD, Chair
Linda Rosehill, JD, Government Relations • Marc Alexander, Executive Director

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 11:31:43 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Doris Segal Matsunaga	Testifying for Save Medicaid Hawaii	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Save Medicaid Hawaii supports HB1349 HD1

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 11:29:33 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Doris Matsunaga	Testifying for North Hawaii Community Action Network	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

North Hawaii Community Action Network supports HB1349 HD1

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 10:57:13 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Thaddeus Pham	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chair Aquino, and HHS Committee Members,

As a public health professional and son of refugees, I write in **strong support of HB1349 HD1**, which seeks to expand Medicaid coverage through the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) to income-qualified pregnant persons and children, regardless of immigration status. This bill is not just about healthcare—it is about equity, public health, and the well-being of our most vulnerable residents.

Hawai‘i has a rich and diverse immigrant community, with many families working hard to contribute to our economy and society. However, due to restrictive federal policies, many immigrants—even those who have lived in our state for years—are excluded from critical healthcare programs. Given Hawai‘i’s already high cost of living, many families are forced to make impossible choices between rent, food, and medical care. This bill ensures that all children and expecting parents have access to essential health services, regardless of where they were born.

The consequences of inadequate prenatal and pediatric care are devastating and costly. Lack of access to affordable healthcare dramatically increases the risk of premature births, low birth weight, and neonatal death, leading to long-term health complications for children and financial burdens on families and the state. Studies show that preventative care is far more cost-effective than emergency interventions, which often become the only option for uninsured families. Expanding coverage will reduce avoidable hospitalizations, improve maternal and child health outcomes, and lower overall healthcare costs for the state.

As someone who grew up in an immigrant family and continues work with these communities, I have witnessed firsthand how gaps in coverage put lives at risk. Every child deserves the chance to grow up healthy, and every parent should have the medical support they need during pregnancy, regardless of their immigration status.

Passing HB1349 HD1 is a moral and economic imperative. It is an investment in the health, safety, and future of our communities. I urge the committee to support this bill and ensure that no child or pregnant person in Hawai‘i is left without the care they need.

Mahalo,

Thaddeus Pham (he/him)

Makiki, HI

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 10:13:21 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cynthia J. Goto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strong support.

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 8:56:34 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Amy Wake	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am the pastor at Wesley United Methodist Church in Kahala. I'm writing in support of HB1349 because all people deserve health care. This bill will provide health insurance coverage for income-qualified pregnant persons to help lower barriers and increase access to health care for resident immigrant populations in the State. This bill will also increase health outcomes for people. Access to healthcare during pregnancy and childhood is critical for healthy development and long-term well-being. Denying coverage based on immigration status exacerbates health disparities and places a strain on emergency healthcare systems by having preventable conditions go untreated.

Sincerely,

Rev. Amy Chieko Wake

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 6:54:20 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kayla Marie	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this measure

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 8:33:17 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mecca Monson-Gere	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Non-citizens, including undocumented migrants, pay taxes and contribute to our shared resources and economy. It is especially important to treat pregnant persons and children with the utmost care and dignity. We are well when ALL of us are well.

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 8:54:57 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Zea Hope Galacgac	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support the bill because healthcare is a human right and shouldn't be stripped away from the lives of my community. No one is less deserving of receiving such basic fundamentals that support the well being because such matters can drastically hinder families, including my own.

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 8:56:09 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
James E Raymond	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Non-citizens, including undocumented migrants, pay taxes and contribute to our shared resources and economy. It is especially important to treat pregnant persons and children with the utmost care and dignity. We are well when ALL of us are well.

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 4:20:25 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marty-Jean Bender	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Non-citizens, including undocumented migrants, pay taxes and contribute to our shared resources and economy. It is especially important to treat pregnant persons and children with the utmost care and dignity. We are well when ALL of us are well.

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 8:58:52 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Laureen Joyce Coletto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I state that I support the bill HB 1349 Relating to Medicaid because it helps our diverse community become eligible for and have access to health insurance. With this bill, many people, especially pregnant women will have the opportunity to receive essential healthcare services. By ensuring that those with special needs have access to treatment, support, and preventative care, Medicaid expansion enhances our community's general health and well-being. This bill will protect humanity rights, allowing our community members to have full access to their rights, especially in terms of the healthcare system. This will not only enhance public health, but also improve overall communities well being, contributing to long term improvements for both individuals and society as a whole.

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 9:02:00 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jaelynn Salvador	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill as it promotes sustainability and protects Hawaii's environment. This bill focuses on renewable energy and conservation efforts, which can improve the quality of life for residents. By backing this legislation, we show our commitment to a healthier community and a stronger economy for everyone in Hawaii. People should be able to have access to affordable healthcare, no matter what they are identified as. As a 17 year old, it does not matter if you are an immigrant, you should be able to be able to have health insurance.

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 8:56:07 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dan Gardner	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Marten and Members of the Human Services & Homelessness Committee.

My wife Deborah and I are strongly in support off HB1349. This important legislation will allow Medicaid for Children's Health Insurance Program to be provide support to income qualified pregnant persons and children regardless of their immigration status. This is a prudent and humane approach to this troubling challenge. Please pass this legislation. Thank you

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 9:03:08 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rianne Margarette J Melchor	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hawai‘i is home to a rich blend of ethnicities, shaped by generations of immigrants who have contributed to the diverse culture we see today. This history dates back to the sugar plantation era when immigrants were brought to the islands to work on farms and provide for their families. As a result, healthcare programs, including insurance coverage, were established to support these workers.

The immigrant population in Hawai‘i has continued to grow since the arrival of early sugar plantation laborers. Many immigrants step into an unfamiliar environment, rebuilding their lives from the ground up. To safeguard their well-being, they qualify for Medicaid—a crucial healthcare program that has supported over 70 million people nationwide, providing essential medical services at no cost.

Medicaid allows individuals to prioritize their work, housing, and overall stability without the added burden of unaffordable healthcare. Eliminating this program would have devastating consequences, particularly for children and women, leading to a ripple effect that strains the entire healthcare system.

Preserving Medicaid is not just about healthcare; it’s about ensuring the well-being of Hawai‘i’s communities, honoring the legacy of immigrant contributions, and upholding the values of care and support that define our islands.

Therefore, as a woman immigrant, I fully support this bill to ensure a better future for the next generations of incoming immigrants in Hawai‘i.

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 3:50:31 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Janian K Thurman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Non-citizens, including undocumented migrants, pay taxes and contribute to our shared resources and economy. We are well when ALL of us are well.

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 8:09:49 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anne P Albert, D.C.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It's in our citizens' best health, ethical and moral interest to provide Medicaid healthcare to pregnant persons and children in our Hawaii communities, regardless of immigration status.

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 3:50:17 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jade DeCosta	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Non-citizens, including undocumented migrants, pay taxes and contribute to our shared resources and economy. It is especially important to treat pregnant persons and children with the utmost care and dignity. In addition, affording preventative healthcare will keep folks out of emergency rooms or babies out of the NICU's where costs can be astronomical. We are well when ALL of us are well so I do urge you to pass this bill. Thank you for your time.

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 5:53:27 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lois Langham	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill. Healthcare is a human right. Keep the spirit of aloha alive in Hawaii.

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 9:06:17 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alwyn Pagdilao	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly believe that children, women, and immigrants deserve access to medical insurance. Good healthcare is a basic human right, and everyone should have access to it.

First, children should have access to healthcare because they are our future. Limiting their access to healthcare isn't an option. They need good health to grow, learn, and thrive. When children are healthy, they can focus on their education and development. This, in turn, helps them become productive members of society.

Secondly, pregnant women should have medical insurance. They're carrying the future, and their health affects the baby's health too. Access to prenatal care ensures that both mother and baby receive the necessary care for a healthy start.

Lastly, immigrants deserve medical insurance. They work hard to provide for their families, often leaving their homeland to find better opportunities. They deserve to be healthy and happy. Access to healthcare helps immigrants stay productive, support their families, and contribute to their communities.

In addition, providing medical insurance to these groups benefits society as a whole. Healthy children grow into healthy adults, reducing healthcare costs in the long run. Healthy mothers and babies reduce infant mortality rates and promote a healthier next generation. Healthy immigrants contribute to a more productive workforce and economy.

In conclusion, access to medical insurance is essential for children, women, and immigrants. It's a matter of human rights and basic dignity. Everyone deserves good healthcare, regardless of age, gender, or background and by providing medical insurance to these groups, we're investing in a healthier society.

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 9:05:16 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Princess	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I, student, one of people for the future generation's health worker is supporting the bill because I strongly believe that future generations would be affected if this will not be supported. I believe that there are many people who were in this situation before, but was not taken away and was underlying in this. Therefore, they survived the life and achieve their positions nowadays. Thus, I believe that we, everyone should be able to have an access to affordable health cares.

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 1:21:22 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jesse Hutchison	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Non-citizens, including undocumented migrants, pay taxes and contribute to our shared resources and economy. It is especially important to treat pregnant persons and children with the utmost care and dignity. We are well when ALL of us are well.

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 8:07:38 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Terri Gately	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Non-citizens, including undocumented migrants, pay taxes and contribute to our shared resources and economy. It is especially important to treat pregnant persons and children with the utmost care and dignity. We are well when ALL of us are well.

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 9:09:31 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ashlie Del Rosario	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

I am a student and about to get my certification as a Community Health Worker and as a community health worker I STRONGLY believe that healthcare SHOULD BE available and accessible for everyone no matter what their immigration status is. I support this bill because of its ability and power to help a community, where in fact they also contribute something into this state. If you were to remove this, you are removing the rights of hundreds and thousands of immigrants who are affected by this.

Kindly consider all possible consequences and outcomes that may negatively affect immigrants before deciding.

Thank you so much for your time!

Aloha, members of the Hawaii State Legislature,

My name is Prince Bantolina, and I am an immigrant from the Philippines. I am writing in strong support of HB1349, a bill that would significantly expand access to health insurance for marginalized communities like mine.

As an immigrant, navigating the complex health insurance system in Hawaii has been a constant challenge. I have faced financial barriers and limited access to services, and I often feel like I am left behind when it comes to healthcare. Being part of a marginalized community, I often find myself choosing between necessities like food and housing and essential healthcare needs. This is a reality that many of us, especially immigrants, are facing daily.

The provisions of HB1349 are crucial to improving the lives of people like me. By expanding access to health insurance for those who are often excluded, this bill acknowledges that everyone, regardless of their background or status, deserves to receive proper healthcare. Health is a basic human right, not a privilege, and no one should have to go without the care they need simply because they are unable to afford it or because they face systemic barriers.

I am hopeful that HB1349 will help to provide immigrants like myself access to affordable health insurance. This will not only improve individual well-being but will also strengthen our communities, allowing us to contribute fully to the success and prosperity of Hawaii.

I respectfully urge you to support this bill, as it will bring much-needed change to marginalized communities and ensure that no one is left behind in receiving the healthcare they deserve.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Prince

princebantolina@yahoo.com

(808) 256-2576

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 7:24:38 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jason Ellinwood	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Non-citizens, including undocumented migrants, pay taxes and contribute to our shared resources and economy. It is especially important to treat pregnant persons and children with the utmost care and dignity.

Senate Committee on Health and Human Services Hearing
Monday, March 17, 2025 at 1:00 p.m.
Conference Room 225 & Videoconference
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

RE: HB 1349, HD1 - RELATING TO MEDICAID.

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT

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

My name is Christine Andrews, and I submit this testimony today in SUPPORT of HB 1349, HD1 - Relating to Medicaid.

Every year, approximately five hundred pregnant persons in Hawai'i are denied access to affordable health care through Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program, and health insurance exchanges established under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, P.L. 111—148, because of their immigration status. Evidence-based studies show that low-income immigrants without access to prenatal care are seven times more likely to give birth prematurely and five times more likely to experience neonatal death. Improving maternal and neonatal outcomes is not only a highly-desirable public health goal, it is also a cost-saving measure, as providing health coverage to improve outcomes avoids the costs of avoidable intensive medical interventions.

While providing health coverage to low-income pregnant persons regardless of immigrant status provides public health benefits and save costs, as of May 2024, Hawai'i was not among the community of twenty-four states plus the District of Columbia to provide medicaid coverage to all income-qualified pregnant residents regardless of their immigrant status. The Department of Human Services estimates the cost of providing income-qualified pregnant persons with health insurance coverage and twelve months of postpartum care at \$1,364,000 annually.

Increasing access to health insurance coverage to include income-qualified pregnant persons will reduce barriers and increase access to health care for resident immigrant populations in the State. To estimate the potential cost savings of the proposal, I will discuss the financial benefits of avoiding costs associated with preterm births. According to the CDC's National Center for Health Statistics, in 2022, Hawai'i ranked 18th nationwide for preterm births, with a preterm birth rate of 9.82%. For the approximate five hundred pregnant persons in Hawai'i currently denied access to affordable health care, that comes to approximately 49 preterm births. According to "Preterm birth lifetime costs in the United States in 2016: An update", the annual societal economic cost (medical, educational, and lost productivity) associated with preterm birth in Hawaii was an estimated \$73,000, or over \$97,200 in today's dollars. So, while the cost of the proposed bill, which is the cost of providing income-qualified pregnant persons with health insurance coverage and twelve months of postpartum care, is cost-effective when considering

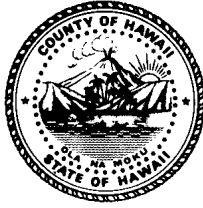
potential avoided preterm birth costs alone, which could be as much as 49 preterm births times \$97,200, or \$4,762,800. Health care provided to income-qualified pregnant persons ultimately avoids greater public health care costs.

I SUPPORT HB 1349, HD1 as both a financially prudent public health care investment as well as a moral imperative to support our community members regardless of immigrant status.

Mahalo for considering my testimony. I humbly request that you PASS HB 1349, HD1.

Aloha,

Christine L. Andrews, J.D.
Wailuku, Maui



HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL - DISTRICT 2

25 Aupuni Street • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

DATE: March 14, 2025

TO: House Committee on Health and Human Services

FROM: Jennifer Kagiwada, Council Member
Council District 2

SUBJECT: HB 1349 HD1

Aloha Chair Buenaventura, Vice Chair Aquino, and members of the Committee,

I am writing to you in strong support of HB 1349 HD1, which seeks to expand Medicaid coverage through the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) to income-qualified pregnant persons and children, regardless of immigration status.

Hawai'i has a rich and diverse immigrant community, with many families working hard to contribute to our economy and society. This bill ensures that all children and expecting parents have access to essential health services, regardless of where they were born. Lack of access to affordable healthcare dramatically increases the risk of premature births, low birth weight, and neonatal death, leading to long-term health complications for children and financial burdens on families and the state. Studies show that preventative care is far more cost-effective than emergency interventions, which often become the only option for uninsured families. Expanding coverage will reduce avoidable hospitalizations, improve maternal and child health outcomes, and lower overall healthcare costs for the state.

Passing HB1349 HD1 is not just about healthcare, it is about equity, public health, and the well-being of our most vulnerable residents. It is an investment in the health, safety, and future of our communities. I urge the committee to support this bill and ensure that no child or pregnant person in Hawai'i is left without essential care.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jenn Kagiwada", written in a cursive style.

Jenn Kagiwada

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 10:57:51 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gail Morrison	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Non-citizens, including undocumented migrants, pay taxes and contribute to our shared resources and economy. It is especially important to treat pregnant persons and children with the utmost care and dignity. We are well when ALL of us are well.

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 9:39:01 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Darlene Rodrigues	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of this measure. We must provide healthcare for pregnant women and children of our islands regardless of their immigration status. Healthcare is a human right and every child deserves care. Providing health care ensures that our communities are stronger in every way possible. Pregnant mothers need health care because they are carrying the future generations. We need to ensure a healthy pregnancy and that a mother can carry her child to term. Every member of our society deserves a chance to be productive members. Providing health care access enhances the living conditions in which people regardless of their immigrant status can positively contribute to our island society.

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 9:20:20 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Milika Huahulu	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Immigrant should recieve medicaid because they have done a lot to this country. I believe that pregnant women should absolutely have medicaid because they are the next generation that would change the world for the better.

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 9:17:00 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Micaela Coletto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I believe that everyone needs a medical insurance, especially the keikis and pregnant women. This will allow them to receive a better medical treatment, ensuring that they access vital prenatal care, regular check ups, and necessary vaccinations.

Supporting HB1349 will not only help improve individual's health outcomes but also benefit our society as a whole. By providing coverage for these vulnerable groups, we can reduce health disparities, lower rates of preventable diseases, and ultimately decrease healthcare costs in the long run. Healthy children and mothers contribute to a stronger workforce, promoting economic stability and growth. Ensuring access to medical care fosters a healthier community, which is the foundation of a thriving society.

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 9:08:51 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Emarie Domingo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Medical insurance is a type of coverage that helps pay for healthcare expenses, including doctor visits, hospital stays, medications, and preventive care. It can be provided by employers, purchased individually, or obtained through government programs like Medicare and Medicaid. Policies vary in terms of coverage, costs, and provider networks, often requiring premiums, deductibles, and copayments. Having medical insurance can protect individuals from high healthcare costs and ensure access to necessary treatments, improving overall health and financial stability.

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 8:00:29 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Linda Morgan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB1349 because non-citizens, including undocumented migrants, pay taxes and contribute to our shared resources and economy. It is especially important to treat pregnant persons and children with the utmost care and dignity. We are well when ALL of us are well.

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 6:26:18 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sarah Burns	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing in support. Non-citizens, including undocumented migrants, pay taxes and contribute to our shared resources and economy. It is especially important to treat pregnant persons and children with the utmost care and dignity. This is a matter of basic human rights. We must first do no harm. We are well when all of us are well.

Mahalo.

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 5:46:34 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marsha Hee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support HB1349. Non-citizens, including undocumented migrants, pay taxes and contribute to our shared resources and economy. It is especially important to treat pregnant persons and children with the utmost care and dignity. We are well when ALL of us are well."

Thank you - Mahalo.

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 3:45:42 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Eva McKinsey	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Non-citizens, including undocumented migrants, pay taxes and contribute to our shared resources and economy. It is especially important to treat pregnant persons and children with the utmost care and dignity. We are well when ALL of us are well.

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 9:19:52 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sheila Gallien	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Non-citizens, including undocumented migrants, pay taxes and contribute to our shared resources and economy. It is especially important to treat pregnant persons and children with the utmost care and dignity. We are well when ALL of us are well

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 9:10:55 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ellen Ebata	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Non-citizens, including undocumented migrants, pay taxes and contribute to our shared resources and economy. It is especially important to treat pregnant persons and children with the utmost care and dignity. We are well when ALL of us are well.

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 8:57:32 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jane Aquino	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Non-citizens, including undocumented migrants, pay taxes and contribute to our shared resources and economy. It is especially important to treat pregnant persons and children with the utmost care and dignity

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 8:57:15 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shana Laririt	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Non-citizens, including undocumented migrants, pay taxes and contribute to our shared resources and economy. It is especially important to treat pregnant persons and children with the utmost care and dignity. We are well when ALL of us are well.

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 8:57:03 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Thanya Al-Saadoon	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Non-citizens, including undocumented migrants, pay taxes and contribute to our shared resources and economy. It is especially important to treat pregnant persons and children with the utmost care and dignity. We are well when ALL of us are well."

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 8:38:01 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kanani Kai	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Non-citizens, including undocumented migrants, pay taxes and contribute to our shared resources and economy. It is especially important to treat pregnant persons and children with the utmost care and dignity. We are well when ALL of us are well.

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 7:59:01 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bradley Shields	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testifying in support of house bill 1349. It is simply the humane course of action.

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 7:54:18 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mary Lu Kelley	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha from a Kauai Indivisible member to ask for your support and passage of this important bill.

Non-citizens, including undocumented migrants, pay taxes and contribute to our shared resources and economy. It is especially important to treat pregnant persons and children with the utmost care and dignity. We are well when ALL of us are well.

Do the right thing.

Thank you.

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 7:40:41 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Leah Morse	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Non-citizens, including undocumented migrants, pay taxes and contribute to our shared resources and economy. It is especially important to treat pregnant persons and children with the utmost care and dignity. We are well when ALL of us are well." See [talking points](#) if you want to submit a lengthier one.

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 7:39:55 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
gabrielle davidson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Non-citizens, including undocumented migrants, pay taxes and contribute to our shared resources and economy. It is especially important to treat pregnant persons and children with the utmost care and dignity. We are well when ALL of us are well. Please support this bill, thank you!

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/13/2025 7:10:58 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Younghee Overly	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for hearing HB1349. Non-citizens, including undocumented migrants, pay taxes and contribute to our shared resources and economy. It is especially important to treat pregnant persons and children get the healthcare they need. Please pass this measure.

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 9:12:32 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tasman Kekai Mattox	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am on Medicaid and I support this bill. EVERYONE deserves healthcare, regardless of immigration status.

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 6:16:36 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sheryl Summers	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Non-citizens, including undocumented migrants, pay taxes and contribute to our shared resources and economy. It is especially important to treat pregnant persons and children with the utmost care and dignity. We are well when ALL of us are well.

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 10:17:58 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rachel Coles	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Non-citizens, including undocumented migrants, pay taxes and contribute to our shared resources and economy. It is especially important to treat pregnant persons and children with the utmost care and dignity. We are well when ALL of us are well.

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2025 10:26:49 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Adam Coles, MD	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to support HB1349, which will provide much needed safety net funding for care of children and families who might otherwise utilize emergency room settings, at much higher cost across the system.

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 11:24:21 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Richelle Paoli	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Non-citizens, including undocumented migrants, pay taxes and contribute to our shared resources and economy. It is especially important to treat pregnant persons and children with the utmost care and dignity. We are well when ALL of us are well.

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 1:01:55 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anne Leake	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Non-citizens, including undocumented migrants, pay taxes and contribute to our shared resources and economy. It is especially important to treat pregnant persons and children with the utmost care and dignity. We are well when ALL of us are well.

LATE

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 2:17:27 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nancy D Moser	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Everyone in our state benefits when mothers and babies of any status able to access medical care.

Nancy Moser, a resident of Waikoloa Village 96738

LATE

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 1:45:27 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
KELEN R CASEY	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Non-citizens, including undocumented migrants, pay taxes and contribute to our shared resources and economy. It is especially important to treat pregnant persons and children with the utmost care and dignity. We are well when ALL of us are well.

HB-1349-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 1:28:14 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/17/2025 1:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elena Vorm	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Non-citizens, including undocumented migrants, pay taxes and contribute to our shared resources and economy. It is especially important to treat pregnant persons and children with the utmost care and dignity. We are well when ALL of us are well.