

**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

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April 9, 2025

TO: Senate Health and Human Services Committee  
Senator Joy San Buenaventura, Chair;  
Senator Henry Aquino, Vice Chair; and  
Honorable Members

FROM: Jack Lewin MD, Administrator

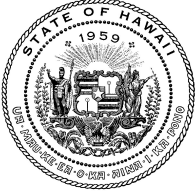
RE:

HEARING: HHS Friday April 11 Room 225

POSITION: SUPPORT  
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Testimony:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



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April 8, 2025

To: SENATE COMMITTEE ON 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: **HCR 91 – REQUESTING HEALTH INSURERS AND MANAGED CARE  
PROVIDERS TO COVER PROSTHETIC AND ORTHOTIC DEVICES**

Hearing: Friday, April 11, 2025 @ 1:01 pm; Conference Room 225

Position: Support

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Testimony:

SHPDA supports coverage for orthotic devices for those patients who require and need them to support their activities of daily living. Prosthetic devices can be extremely expensive. A prosthetic leg typically costs about \$10,000, but those with advanced computerized muscle movement can cost \$70,000. Orthotic devices usually range between \$300-\$800 but are also essential for patients who require them.

We defer to our state health insurers to estimate how much insurance rates will be affected by requiring this coverage, but we believe they should be available for those who require them to function effectively.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**HCR-91**

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 5:20:39 PM

Testimony for HHS on 4/11/2025 1:01:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
David Ball	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To the members of the committee,

As a parent and as an educator, I write in stornng support of this resolution, which provides needed equity for students with physical disabilities. I hope it will be a necessary first step ensuring legislation mandating this coverage in the near future.

With aloha,

David Ball, Waialae-Kahala

**HCR-91**

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 5:56:07 AM

Testimony for HHS on 4/11/2025 1:01:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Megan Severn	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Hello. My name is Meg Severn and I am a 14 year old amputee. I am a local representative of So Every Body Can Move. As an athlete and an amputee, I have experienced what it is like to not be able to participate in certain sports. I lost my leg two years ago due to a rare cancerous bone tumor. Insurance companies say that it is only “medically necessary” for me to be able to walk, therefore only providing a walking prosthetic. Do you think this is fair? The only way that I am able to participate in any sports or PE at school is because of other peoples’ charity. If not for the generosity of others, I would be sitting on the side watching my peers be physically active and running. One of my friends had knee surgery last month to be able to run again. Insurance paid for her to have knee surgery, but insurance won’t pay for me to run. If it were up to insurance companies, I would not be able to run. Being able to run as an amputee is a luxury, but it shouldn’t have to be. This resolution is asking insurance companies to provide people like me with sports prosthetics. Eight states have already passed similar bills, and I would love to have your support to introduce it as a resolution in Hawaii. This legislation is not just about prosthetics—it’s about ensuring people with limb loss or limb differences can thrive, not just survive. It’s about promoting physical and mental health, reducing long-term healthcare costs, and ensuring a full and active life. By supporting "So Every BODY Can Move," you’ll ensure that no one in Hawaii is held back from participating in physical activity. I respectfully ask you to help us pass this resolution, and in doing so, support people like me.