

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

HONOLULU

July 13, 2004

GOV. MSG. NO. 736

STATEMENT OF OBJECTIONS TO SENATE BILL NO. 2608

Honorable Members  
Twenty-Second Legislature  
State of Hawaii

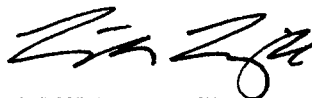
Pursuant to Section 16 of Article III of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii, I am returning herewith, without my approval, Senate Bill No. 2608, entitled "A Bill for an Act Relating to Critical Access Hospitals."

The purpose of this bill is to amend Act 226, Session Laws of Hawaii 2000, to eliminate the sunset of provisions exempting critical access hospitals from the revised reimbursement methodology for long-term care services, which requires hospital-based and nonhospital-based Medicaid reimbursement rates for institutionalized long-term care to be equal.

Senate Bill No. 2929, entitled "A Bill for an Act Relating to Medicaid Reimbursement," which I have approved, also achieves the same purpose. Therefore, this bill is unnecessary.

For the foregoing reason, I am returning Senate Bill No. 2608 without my approval.

Respectfully,



LINDA LINGLE  
Governor of Hawaii