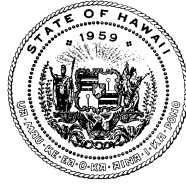


HB 1161 HD1

Measure Title:	RELATING TO HEALTH.
Report Title:	Community Health Centers; Appropriations; Affordable Care Act; Medicaid; Health Homes; Med-QUEST Programs; Healthcare (\$)
Description:	Appropriates funds to the department of human services to restore basic adult dental benefits to medicaid enrollees and to provide outreach and eligibility services for individuals and families at federally qualified health centers. Appropriates funds from the community health centers special fund to establish health homes. (HB1161 HD1)
Companion:	SB908
Package:	None
Current Referral:	HSH/HTH, WAM
Introducer(s):	MORIKAWA, AQUINO, BROWER, CACHOLA, CREAGAN, EVANS, HASHEM, JOHANSON, KAWAKAMI, KOBAYASHI, MIZUNO, NAKASHIMA, OSHIRO, RHOADS, SAIKI, TAKUMI, YAMANE



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

WRITTEN ONLY

**Testimony COMMENTING on H.B. 1161, H.D. 1
RELATING TO HEALTH**

SENATOR SUZANNE CHUN OAKLAND, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES & HOUSING
SENATOR JOSH GREEN, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Hearing Date: March 17, 2015

Room Number: 308

1 **Fiscal Implications:** Section 5 of this measure appropriates unspecified sum of monies in fiscal
2 years 2016 and 2017 to be transferred from the Department of Health to the Department of
3 Human Services (“DHS”) to be expended for the establishment of health homes for Medicaid
4 enrollees at federally qualified community health centers.

5 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health defers all sections of this measure to the
6 DHS with exception to Section 5 which it supports. Based on current revenue and expenditure
7 projections for the community health centers special fund account, the Department is able to
8 transfer a sum of monies not to exceed \$1,000,000 in each of fiscal years 2016 and 2017 to the
9 DHS for the establishment of health homes for Medicaid enrollees at federally qualified health
10 centers. Section 321-1.65, Hawaii Revised Statutes indicates that moneys in the community
11 health centers special fund shall be used by the Department of Health for the operations of
12 federally qualified community health centers.

13 Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this measure.

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STATE OF HAWAII
STATE COUNCIL
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
919 ALA MOANA BOULEVARD, ROOM 113
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543
March 17, 2015

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senate Committee on Human Services and Housing
and

The Honorable Josh Green, Chair
Senate Committee on Health
Twenty-Eighth Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Chun Oakland, Senator Green, and Members of the Committees:

SUBJECT: HB 1161 HD1 – Relating to Health

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD) **SUPPORTS HB 1161 HD1**. The bill appropriates funds to the Department of Human Services to restore basic adult dental benefits to Medicaid enrollees, provide outreach and eligibility services for individuals and families at federally qualified health centers, and appropriates funds from the community health centers' special funds to establish health care homes for Medicaid enrollees.

This bill represents a comprehensive package of medical, dental, and behavioral health care services with emphasis on obtaining the maximum Federal matching funds available for the appropriations. The Council is especially pleased that Section 3 on Page 4, lines 5-13, addresses restoring basic adult dental benefits to Medicaid enrollees. This provision would directly benefit adults with DD in providing oral health services that includes preventive, restorative, and prosthetic services.

The Council cannot emphasize enough the importance of comprehensive dental care services that include preventive, restorative, prosthetic, and emergency services for people with DD. We are all aware of how oral health, or the lack thereof, affects all aspects (emotional, psychological, and social) of our lives. Numerous individuals can share with you their experience of having a tooth or teeth extracted or acquiring serious health problems because necessary dental services were not available because of the termination of the Medicaid adult dental benefit coverage in 1996. Compounding the challenges is the limited number of dentists on the Neighbor Islands who are available and accessible to serve Medicaid and QUEST recipients.

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland
The Honorable Josh Green
Page 2
March 17, 2015

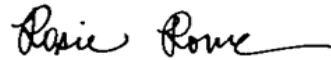
We applaud the Legislature's initiative in restoring basic adult dental benefits to Medicaid enrollees through HB 1161 HD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **support of HB 1161 HD1**.

Sincerely,



Waynette K.Y. Cabral, M.S.W.
Executive Administrator



Rosie Rowe
Chair



HPCA

HAWAII PRIMARY CARE ASSOCIATION

Senate Committee on Human Services and Housing

The Hon. Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair

The Hon. Josh Green, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Health

The Hon. Josh Green, Chair

The Hon. Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

Testimony on House Bill 1161 HD1

Relating to Health

Submitted by Robert Hirokawa, Chief Executive Officer

March 17, 2015, 1:45pm, Room 016

The Hawaii Primary Care Association (HPCA), which represents the federally qualified community health centers in Hawaii, supports House Bill 1161, making appropriations to the Department of Human Services for services to qualified individuals and families.

We offer the following comments in addition to our overall support:

- Section 3 of this measure appropriates \$4.8 million dollars to restore an adult dental benefit in Medicaid. A clear correlation exists between dental health and other physical maladies, including cardiac disease and premature births. To help alleviate these conditions, all fourteen community health centers provide dental services. Given that 50% of health center patients are Medicaid enrollees, a full restoration of dental benefits will allow for a more robust provision of services and better health outcomes throughout the state.
- Section 4 appropriates \$800,000 in funding for outreach and eligibility services at community health centers. Outreach workers at community health centers provide an essential service by assisting individuals and families in applying for not just Medicaid, but other state assistance programs. These include SNAP, TANF, and other essential services that speak to the social determinants of health and their direct impact on the well-being of communities in Hawaii.

Of special note here is that outreach funding differs greatly from any assistance rendered by the KOKUA program administered by the Hawaii Health Connector. Those funds are for the specific purpose of providing assistance to health insurance enrollment only, saying nothing of the other vital social programs housed in the Department of Human Services.

In addition, not all fourteen health centers currently participate in the Connector KOKUA program.

- Section 5 allocates \$1 million dollars from the community health center special fund as an interdepartmental transfer from the Department of Health to the Department of Human Services. These funds are intended to be used as the state match for a Medicaid health home state plan amendment to provide health home services to qualified patients at community health centers.

Community health centers have worked extensively to both research and implement health homes in recent years, having completed a standalone pilot project with quantifiable positive results. To date, ten separate community health centers have been awarded recognition as health home providers by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA), the federal accrediting body.

The release of this funding will not only allow for enhanced services for patients at community health centers, it will take advantage of a 9-to-1 federal match that will bring a total of \$20M into the Hawaii healthcare infrastructure. Such funding could prove vital to closing any existing health inequities in the state.

- Additionally, under Section 5, the HPCA requests that an amendment be made to provide administrative funding to the Department of Human Services for the health home program. As such, the HPCA suggests the following amendment to House Bill 1161:

“There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,000,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal years 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 to establish health homes in Medicaid as provided in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; provided that no funds appropriated under this section shall be expended unless the department of human services obtains the maximum amount of federal matching funds for each fiscal year available for this expenditure, as provided in Act , Session Laws of Hawaii 2015, the Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2015.”

For these reasons the HPCA supports this measure and thanks you for the opportunity to testify.



THE QUEEN'S HEALTH SYSTEMS

To: Chair Suzanne Chun Oakland
Vice Chair Josh Green
Senate Committee on Human Services and Housing

Chair Josh Green
Vice Chair Glenn Wakai
Senate Committee on Health

From: Paula Yoshioka
Senior Vice President
The Queen's Health Systems

Re: HB 1161 HD 1, Relating to Health
Hearing—March 17, 2015 at 1:45 PM

The Queen's Health Systems would like to offer support for HB 1161 HD 1, which would provide state Medicaid funds to expand access to dental health services for low-income adults in Hawaii.

The Queen's Medical Center-Punchbowl provides dental services to a primarily low-income population. The majority of the adult patients seen at the dental clinic on the hospital's campus are enrolled in Medicaid. While this legislation focuses on many of the services provided by community health centers, it is important to note that there are other providers such as QHS that join in supporting this important program.

Providing dental health services to Hawaii's low-income adult population promotes community health and prevents costly emergency and specialty services. That is why we ask for your support for this measure. Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

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

March 13, 2015

Ref: HB1161/HD1

Subject: Continue & Refund Medicaid Adult Dental.

I, Paul Kaleolani Smith, am in favor of the approval of this House Bill & Senate companion bill.

After the decision of the State of Hawaii, in 2009, to drop Adult Dental from Medicaid, there has been a long and difficult battle for Medicaid/Community Health Center patients to obtain adequate dental care. Both preventive and reparative work. It my feeling & the feeling of many of the patients (and families), that the state's decision to eliminate Adult Dental access was wrong & costly. Both to the state & especially to the Adult clients that truly depend on this specific type of care.

We all know how important it is to eat well, but without good teeth to chew these foods, it can be a challenge. Worse is the fact lack of proper dental care has been linked to many chronic illness like heart disease, HBP and lead to infections that can lead to death.

Without proper dental care, people on required medication cannot eat proper diets needed to stave off the harsh effects of individual chronic illnesses. HIV+, Cancer, Lupus and many unforgiving diagnosis, require healthy proper diets to aid in the healing of the patient along with medical treatments & medications.

The other thing I find critically important. Many Adult Medicaid recipients here in our state & an especially large number of are Community Health Center patients, are unemployed or temporary employed looking for work or better paying work. Those individuals are hard pressed in getting a job if in fact they appear lacking proper nutrition due to bad teeth or worse, can't get a job because they have bad teeth. Think about it, no one wants to have or see bad teeth, even if the smile is beautiful.

I leave you with these last thoughts about providing Adult Dental to all our state residents. Without good teeth we cannot chew our food properly. We cannot & shouldn't take for granted that good & proper dental care both preventive & upkeep is incredibly important and a basic life necessity.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HSH Testimony](#)
Cc: babyjean@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1161 on Mar 17, 2015 13:45PM
Date: Monday, March 16, 2015 2:07:14 PM

HB1161

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for HSH/HTH on Mar 17, 2015 13:45PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ronnie Perry	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support this bill. If the intent of the legislature when they eliminated dental cleaning from being covered was the intent to save money, it has not. It is as they say "penny wise but pound foolish" It is Preventive care that saves money and unnecessary suffering. Preventative dental care in the form of regular cleanings saves money because cleaning your teeth regularly prevents periodontal disease, loss of permanent teeth and prevents infections that could be life threatening. Without regular dental cleaning, more expensive procedures will have to be done, including emergency procedures. Please restore preventive care to our people. It is the right thing to do. Mahalo, Ronnie Perry

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HSH Testimony](#)
Cc: teresa.parsons@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1161 on Mar 17, 2015 13:45PM*
Date: Sunday, March 15, 2015 11:30:48 PM

HB1161

Submitted on: 3/15/2015

Testimony for HSH/HTH on Mar 17, 2015 13:45PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Teresa Parsons	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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