

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
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**Testimony COMMENTING on HB1446  
RELATING TO HEALTH.**

REPRESENTATIVE DELLA BELATTI, CHAIR  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Hearing Date: February 14, 2017

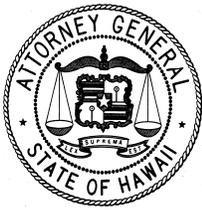
Room Number: 329

- 1 **Fiscal Implications:** \$3,900,000 general fund appropriation to the Department of Health.
- 2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health defers to the Governor's Executive Budget  
3 Request for its fiscal priorities, but acknowledges that uninterrupted emergency services, long  
4 term care, and geriatric care are priorities for Central Oahu and North Shore residents.
- 5 Any discussion on Wahiawa General Hospital's long-term viability should involve substantial  
6 partnership with private sector health systems, and a facility model that does not rely on acute  
7 care. Findings from consultant's reports shared with the department corroborate those  
8 assumptions and may offer a path forward.
- 9 The Department of Health also sees tremendous potential for collaboration with the Wahiawa  
10 Center for Community Health, an emerging federal qualified health center, to assure a service and  
11 sustainability along the continuum of preventive health for the region.
- 12 Nevertheless, the department wishes to advise the Legislature of ongoing contracts that support  
13 Wahiawa General Hospital:
- 14 • \$3,630,090 contract as of June 1, 2016 for a non-competitive procurement starting in  
15 2013 for comprehensive medical and health care services; and
  - 16 • \$2,375,000 in additional funds pursuant to a \$2,500,000 non-recurring appropriation  
17 pursuant to Act 124, Session Laws of Hawaii 2016.

1 Lastly, the department defers to other state agencies with regard to the appropriate and legal  
2 mechanisms by which public funds may be expended for the benefit of a private entity.

3 **Offered Amendments:** N/A.

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**TESTIMONY OF  
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE, 2017**

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**ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:**

H.B. NO. 1446, RELATING TO HEALTH.

**BEFORE THE:**

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

**DATE:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017      **TIME:** 10:00 a.m.

**LOCATION:** State Capitol, Room 329

**TESTIFIER(S):** Douglas S. Chin, Attorney General, or  
Angela A. Tokuda, Deputy Attorney General

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Chair Belatti and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General provides the following comments.

The purpose of this bill is to appropriate \$3,900,000 for the 2017-2018 fiscal year to Wahiawa General Hospital for temporary financial assistance in order to ensure the health, welfare, and safety of the community.

While we appreciate the intent of this bill, as currently written, the means for the State to expend the funds could be challenged as violating article VII, section 4, of the Hawaii Constitution. That section provides, in part, that “[n]o grant of public money or property shall be made except pursuant to standards provided by law.”

We recommend that, if Wahiawa General Hospital applied to the Legislature for a grant and is eligible pursuant to the standards of chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the Legislature could appropriate funds for a grant to Wahiawa General Hospital to achieve the goals intended by this bill. Possible wording to accomplish this is to add the following underlined phrase in section 2, at page 6, line 9:

There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$3,900,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 as a grant pursuant to chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to Wahiawa General Hospital, for support of basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services, at Wahiawa General Hospital.

If the Committee decides to proceed with this bill, we respectfully ask the Committee to amend the funding provision of the bill to meet the requirements of article VII, section 4, of the Hawaii Constitution.

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



WESLEY K. MACHIDA  
DIRECTOR

LAUREL A. JOHNSTON  
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**  
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 (OFAM)

**WRITTEN COMMENTS**  
TESTIMONY BY WESLEY K. MACHIDA  
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
ON  
HOUSE BILL NO. 1446

**February 14, 2017**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
**Room 329**

**RELATING TO HEALTH**

House Bill No. 1446 proposes to provide general funds of \$3.9 million to subsidize operations of the Wahiawa General Hospital. The funds are to be expended by the Department of Health.

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) defers to the Department of Health regarding their position on this measure. However, B&F requests the legislature's consideration in providing clear guidelines codified in law about their intent for ongoing subsidies to a private entity. Without clear guidelines, such subsidies could become an ongoing commitment within the state budget that will be competing with equally important state programs funded by general revenues.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.



## OFFICE OF REPRESENTATIVE MARCUS R. OSHIRO

State Capitol, Room 424, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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### Testimony to the House Committee on Health

Tuesday, February 14 at 10:00 a.m.

State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

#### RE: HOUSE BILL 1446, RELATING TO HEALTH

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Marcus Oshiro, and I am the Representative of the 46<sup>th</sup> District of the State of Hawaii (Wahiawa, Whitmore Village, Launani Valley). I am testifying in support of House Bill 1446, which was co-introduced by Representatives Fukumoto, Matsumoto, Mizuno, and Quinlan.

I write in favor of an appropriation out of the State of Hawaii's general revenues in order to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital (WGH).

In order to explain why this appropriation is needed, I wish to review the recent history of WGH in the context of developments in the delivery of healthcare in Hawaii.

#### I. THE PROBLEM

Over the past ten years, WGH has experienced severe financial difficulties due to a convergence of circumstances that were beyond its control:

- (1) **The opening of Queen's Medical Center West in May 2014 resulted in declines of \$7.5 million in 2015.** When the Hawaii Medical Center West Campus (St. Francis Ewa) closed in 2012, WGH experienced nearly double the cases for emergency inpatient care. Its tiny emergency room, which was accustomed to approximately 10,000 cases per year, treated over 20,000 that year as patients who would have been transported to St. Francis Ewa were brought to WGH. To meet this increase in demand, WGH hired more staff and expanded its emergency room facilities. However, when Queen's Medical Center reopened the former St. Francis Ewa facility in May 2014, WGH experienced a patient revenue drop of approximately 20% per month for the first six months of Fiscal Year 2015.

Overall, the revenue decline was about \$5.3 million for the six-month period through December 2014, reaching a total of about \$7.5 million for that fiscal year. In 2015-2016, the WGH made important staffing and service adjustments to maintain the 24/7 hours and routinely serves over 20,000 patients each year. It has become a major treatment facility for about 1/3 of the North Shore and Central Oahu areas.

- (2) **Declines in Medicare/Medicaid and private insurance reimbursements have precipitated losses of over \$3 million per year for the past three years.** Over 85% of WGH patients are covered under Medicare or Medicaid. With only 14% of admissions being private insurance patients, there are far too few who are available to offset the losses experienced from the Medicare and Medicaid patients. Similar to the thirteen Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) hospitals, WGH cannot, at the present time, operate without some government assistance and support.
- (3) **The shortage of private care physicians on Oahu forced WGH to spend \$1.7 million per year to acquire specialized inpatient Hospitalists and On-Call Surgeons to treat patients.** WGH serves a community having a higher shortage of doctors than Hawaii island, Molokai, and most of Maui. In 2012, the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration designated Wahiawa as a Medical Underserved Population. In 2013, the Wahiawa community was granted a Medical Underserved Population Governor's Exceptional Designation (HSPA). Research shows that the Wahiawa census tract has a population-to-provider FTE ratio of 5,900:1. The bottom range, adjusted, for HPSA may be as low as 3,000:1. Because 95% of inpatient admissions are through emergency services, WGH has experienced higher costs in attracting and retaining qualified physicians. Recruitment and retention of qualified doctors are also features of HHSC rural hospitals and WGH should be viewed in the same light.
- (4) **New Hawaii Medical Service Association (HMSA) policies have increased WGH costs and cut payments.** Under the Affordable Care Act, HMSA increased WGH's employee health insurance costs by over \$1 million per year. In addition, HMSA has recently begun to aggressively deny reimbursement for inpatient and outpatient services, further reducing patient reimbursements.
- (5) **Indigent care for the homeless and poor have gone up.** By law, WGH is required to admit patients for emergency care regardless of the patient's ability to pay. As the homeless population surrounding Wahiawa grew, the number of indigent care cases have also grown. Without any reimbursement available for these cases, costs for care have been absorbed by WGH. WGH has been watching this growing trend of servicing homeless patients through its Emergency Department and like Queens or Hawaii Pacific Health, has

experienced the “frequent flyer” phenomenon in its Emergency Department. This trend and effect is expected to increase as Point-in-Time surveys portend a growing homeless population in the Mililani, Wahiawa, and North Shore communities.

Despite taking the steps of reducing staff by approximately 75 full-time equivalent positions, eliminating the long-running Family Practice Residency Teaching Program, and ultimately cutting more than \$9 million from the annual budget, WGH is currently facing its worst financial crisis in its long and storied history. The margin is so slim that a sudden influx of one or two more high-cost indigent care cases could impact the payment of receivables, salary, and other commitments for the patients and staff.

## **II. THE IMPACT**

If WGH does not obtain assistance from the State, it will be forced to further eliminate programs and services, and reduce hours of operations. This would significantly jeopardize the health, welfare, and safety for people living in Central and North Shore Oahu. Here are some facts:

- (1) WGH is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Waialua, Sunset, and Kahuku – an area encompassing nearly one-third of the entire island of Oahu.
- (2) If WGH was to close, the nearest emergency room for a person living in Wahiawa would be either Pali Momi near Pearlridge, or Queen’s Medical Center West – both of which are approximately 13 miles away.
- (3) For a person living in Mokuleia or Sunset or Kahuku, the distance would be 40 miles, or double the distance it currently takes to go to WGH.

WGH is also one of the largest private employers in Central Oahu providing over 500 good-paying jobs. More than 90% of WGH’s employees live in our communities of Mililani, Wahiawa, and the North Shore with most of the full-time employees being members of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union, the United Public Workers, and the Hawaii Nurses Association. The closure of WGH would be devastating to entire families as heads of households would need to seek reemployment while keeping up payments for the rent, mortgage, putting food on the table, and doing all they can to make life “normal” for their children and families.

## **III. COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

Community support for WGH is wide and deep. Most impressive has been the strong support over a short period of time. For example, last year when the word got out that the House Committee

on Health would schedule a public hearing on House Concurrent Resolution No. 118 and House Resolution No. 73, REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR AND THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII TO PROVIDE IMMEDIATE AND EMERGENT FINANCIAL ASSISTNCE TO WAHIAWA GENERAL HOSPITAL, the communities of Central and North Shore Oahu rallied and submitted over 7,000 written testimonies in support of these resolutions. (See attached articles and Capitol website for HCR 118 [http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/Session2016/Testimony/HCR118\\_TESTIMONY\\_HLT\\_03-23-16\\_.PDF](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/Session2016/Testimony/HCR118_TESTIMONY_HLT_03-23-16_.PDF) and HR 73 [http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/Session2016/Testimony/HCR73\\_TESTIMONY\\_VMI\\_03-21-16\\_.PDF](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/Session2016/Testimony/HCR73_TESTIMONY_VMI_03-21-16_.PDF) (2016).)

In addition to individuals, various labor organizations such as the ILWU Local 142, the Hawaii Nurses Association, UPW AFSCME Local 646, the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades, the Hawaii Laborers-Employers Corporation and Education Trust, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 1260, OPEIU Local 50, and the Hawaii State AFL-CIO all testified in support of public funding for WGH.

Likewise did the Hawaii State Department of Health, the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation, the Office of the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu, the Chairman of the Honolulu City Council, the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine, the Wahiawa-Whitmore Village Neighborhood Board No. 26, the North Shore Chamber of Commerce, Lanakila Pacific, the Hawaii Academy of Family Physicians, the Hawaii Academy College of Emergency Physicians, the Wahiawa Community and Business Association, the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, the Wahiawa Center for Community Health, American Medical Response, Pacific Resource Partnership, Wahiawa Community Based Development Organization, and ALEA Bridge.

Also, noteworthy was supportive testimony from former Senate President Robert Bunda, former Councilmember Rene Mansho, former Representative Marilyn Lee, and Neighborhood Board Members Kathleen M. Pahinui, Lei Learmont, Roberts Leinau, Jake Ng, and Jeannie Ishikawa.

#### **IV. PLIGHT OF HOSPITALS IN RURAL COMMUNITIES**

The recent financial problems at Wahiawa General Hospital show how vulnerable rural communities are. The Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) manages most of the publicly-run hospitals in the State. Most of HHSC's facilities are on the neighbor islands in rural communities.

Since 2000, HHSC requested emergency appropriations totaling over \$70.3 million to cover budget shortfalls caused by declining Medicare and Medicaid reimbursements, increases in indigent care and bad debt, and greater employee costs attributed to the Affordable Care Act and a severe physician shortage. The distribution of these appropriations is as follows:

**Table 1. Emergency Appropriations for Hilo Medical Center**

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>AMOUNT FUNDED</u>
Act 30, Session Laws of Hawaii 2008	\$7,528,000
Act 67, Session Laws of Hawaii 2009	\$7,000,000
Act 79, Session Laws of Hawaii 2014	\$4,103,000
Act 51, Session Laws of Hawaii 2015	\$3,001,000
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$21,632,000</b>

**Table 2. Emergency Appropriations for Kau Hospital**

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>AMOUNT FUNDED</u>
Act 30, Session Laws of Hawaii 2008	\$6,000
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$6,000</b>

**Table 3. Emergency Appropriations for Kona Community Hospital**

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>AMOUNT FUNDED</u>
Act 30, Session Laws of Hawaii 2008	\$5,072,000
Act 67, Session Laws of Hawaii 2009	\$3,700,000
Act 79, Session Laws of Hawaii 2014	\$1,730,000
Act 51, Session Laws of Hawaii 2015	\$2,746,000
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$13,248,000</b>

**Table 4. Emergency Appropriations for Kohala Hospital**

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>AMOUNT FUNDED</u>
Act 30, Session Laws of Hawaii 2008	\$81,000
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$81,000</b>

**Table 5. Emergency Appropriations for Maui Memorial Medical Center**

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>AMOUNT FUNDED</u>
Act 79, Session Laws of Hawaii 2014	\$5,000,000
Act 51, Session Laws of Hawaii 2015	\$5,801,000
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$10,801,000</b>

**Table 6. Emergency Appropriations for Kula Hospital**

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>AMOUNT FUNDED</u>
Act 79, Session Laws of Hawaii 2014	\$263,000
Act 51, Session Laws of Hawaii 2015	\$774,000
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$1,037,000</b>

**Table 7. Emergency Appropriations for Lanai Community Hospital**

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>AMOUNTS FUNDED</u>
Act 30, Session Laws of Hawaii 2008	\$464,000
Act 79, Session Laws of Hawaii 2014	\$220,000
Act 51, Session Laws of Hawaii 2015	\$267,000
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$951,000</b>

**Table 8. Emergency Appropriations for Kauai Veterans Memorial Hospital**

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>AMOUNTS FUNDED</u>
Act 67, Session Laws of Hawaii 2009	\$3,300,000
Act 4, Special Session Laws of Hawaii 2013	\$6,800,000
Act 79, Session Laws of Hawaii 2014	\$2,338,000
Act 51, Session Laws of Hawaii 2015	\$433,440
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$12,871,440</b>

**Table 9. Emergency Appropriations for Samuel Mahelona Memorial Hospital**

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>AMOUNTS FUNDED</u>
Act 30, Session Laws of Hawaii 2008	\$203,000
Act 4, Special Session Laws of Hawaii 2013	\$500,000
Act 79, Session Laws of Hawaii 2014	\$460,000
Act 51, Session Laws of Hawaii 2015	\$168,560
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$1,331,560</b>

**Table 10. Emergency Appropriations for Leahi Hospital**

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>AMOUNTS FUNDED</u>
Act 30, Session Laws of Hawaii 2008	\$189,000
Act 79, Session Laws of Hawaii 2014	\$600,000
Act 51, Session Laws of Hawaii 2015	\$1,300,000
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$2,089,000</b>

**Table 11. Emergency Appropriations for Maluhia**

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>AMOUNTS FUNDED</u>
Act 30, Session Laws of Hawaii 2008	\$457,000
Act 79, Session Laws of Hawaii 2014	\$286,000
Act 51, Session Laws of Hawaii 2015	\$509,000
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$1,252,000</b>

In the cases of Kona Community Hospital and Maui Memorial Medical Center, both hospitals announced that without the immediate infusion of cash, operations would have to cease. Because of

public uproar and the realization by lawmakers that large geographic areas would no longer be served, the State took drastic steps to keep these hospitals running.

For Kona Community Hospital, more than \$13 million was provided over a seven-year period to stabilize its finances.

For Maui Memorial Medical Center, not only did the State appropriate more than \$30 million over a two-year period, it also changed laws in 2015 to allow a private entity, Kaiser Permanente, to manage the hospital and seek State funding for operations and capital development for ten years. (See HRS 323F-58, Operating Support, and HRS 323F-59, Capital Project Support.)

Many of the problems that Kona Community Hospital and Maui Memorial Medical Center experienced are the same that Wahiawa General Hospital faces today. And as was the case for Kona Community Hospital and Maui Memorial Medical Center, if the State does not provide the “bridge” financing for Wahiawa General, the hospital and surrounding communities of 120,000 people may face a health care crisis.

#### **V. SHORT TERM BRIDGE FUNDING FROM THE STATE OF HAWAII**

Since May 2016 several important developments affecting WGH have occurred. The Community Hospital Corporation (CHC) has been hired to provide management services to WGH for three years. CHC completed a comprehensive assessment, and it created a financial plan for financial sustainability for WGH to execute. The WGH board approved this three-year detailed plan for at least break even financial operations.

In the short term bridge funding will allow operational and capital costs to be addressed promptly. Operationally, the cost of uncompensated care and securing primary services are challenges. WGH’s capital needs are a basic roof, HVAC, and diagnostic equipment upgrades.

In the longer term WGH will continue to seek to partner with a local or Mainland/International medical service network.

WGH desperately needs assistance from the State to help it adjust to the requirements of the Affordable Care Act, integrate with the centralized services of a larger health care system, and restructure its clinical services as necessary.

“Bridge” financial assistance from the State would provide WGH with positive cash flows and financial stability while it continues to transition to a new business model. Without such assistance,

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WGH will run out of cash and not be able to meet its payroll demands and contractual obligations. Furthermore, because of its current financial position, WGH cannot access the debt market to meet its needs.

WGH seeks financial assistance from the State in the amount of about \$3 million per year for a two-year period for a total request of around \$6 million. This would give WGH two years to formalize a partnership with an affiliated network, restructure its operations and services, and develop additional revenue streams.

Without this assistance, programs and services will continue to be reduced and hospital hours may have to be cut back. Similarly, employees may have to be laid off and key employees may leave for more secure jobs elsewhere – even to off-island locations. At this point, WGH may quickly enter a “death spiral” and eventually have to seek bankruptcy protection to discharge debt obligations to protect its remaining assets.

Accordingly, on behalf of my constituents of the 46<sup>th</sup> District of the State of Hawaii (Wahiawa, Whitmore Village, Launani Valley), and the more than 100,000 residents of the geographical region – Mililani, Wahiawa, Waialua, Sunset, and Kahuku - serviced by Wahiawa General Hospital, I respectfully ask that you pass this bill making an appropriation to support operations at the Wahiawa General Hospital.



## Supporters push state for \$3M in aid to Wahiawa hospital

By Kevin Dayton  
March 24, 2016

Supporters and staff of Wahiawa General Hospital turned out in force Wednesday to ask lawmakers to fund a \$3 million bailout of the private, nonprofit facility, which has been struggling to stay afloat during the past nine years of increasing financial strains.

The hospital began in 1944 as an outpatient clinic for plantation workers, military personnel and rural Central Oahu residents, and it has grown into a 57-bed acute care hospital with an emergency room and a 107-bed, long-term care skilled nursing facility.

“If we don’t obtain assistance from the state, we’re going to be forced to further eliminate programs, services, or reduce hours of operation and consider closing our doors.” – R. Don Olden, Chief executive, Wahiawa General Hospital

R. Don Olden, chief executive officer of the hospital, said revenue at Wahiawa in 2015 abruptly dropped by \$7.5 million after the Queen’s Medical Center West opened in May.

The hospital, which is the largest private employer in Wahiawa, has had to cut its staffing by the equivalent of about 75 employees and needs state support, Olden said.

“We cut our budget by \$9 million, and we are still at a point where we are running a deficit,” Olden said. “If we don’t obtain assistance from the state, we’re going to be forced to further eliminate programs, services, or reduce hours of operation and consider closing our doors.”

A standing-room-only crowd of hospital supporters and employees applauded as people testified before lawmakers about the value of the hospital to the Wahiawa and North Shore communities. One carried a sign imploring lawmakers, “DO NOT Send Us To the MORGUE.”

Many in the crowd were hospital employees, including Paul Seery, a radiology technologist. Seery recounted an incident several months ago in which a man appeared in the hospital emergency room with

the right side of his throat cut. He described it as “just one case which is typical of what I see almost daily.”

“He was going down fast,” Seery told the committee. “It was so bad that the guy probably flat-lined three times, and the great emergency room staff at Wahiawa, we worked on him for two hours at least.”

He added: “For two hours, everybody was sweating. We just didn’t give up, and I’ve seen that kind of effort many, many times there. Many, many people that I’ve seen come through there would not make it, won’t make it to any other hospital.”

Olden said Wahiawa General serves a largely low-income and elderly population, with about 85 percent of the hospital’s patients on Medicare or Medicaid. The hospital loses money on those patients and does not have enough private-pay patients to offset those losses, he said.

The House Health Committee approved House Concurrent Resolution 118 and House Resolution 73, which urge Gov. David Ige “to provide financial assistance to WGH in a sufficient amount to enable it to operate while developing a new business model.”



Hawaii News | Lee Cataluna

## **Wahiawa General Hospital faces life-or-death struggle**

**By Lee Cataluna**  
**April 3, 2016**

Nurse Diane Canon retired from Wahiawa General Hospital three times, the last time in 2014, but she’s still on call to fill in.

As she walks down the hall of the hospital, past framed photos of old Wahiawa landmarks — Top Hat, Casters and the old Wahiawa Drug Store — she recognizes one of her former patients shuffling down the hall. They share a long hug in the hallway while hospital staff and visitors file past.

Wahiawa Hospital is, for better and for worse, a reflection of the community it serves. It is absolutely beloved by the old-timers who had their babies here, said final goodbyes here, rushed to the emergency room to wait for news here. It grew when the town grew and struggled when the town struggled. And it has been overlooked, always an afterthought to whatever was going on in busy, important Honolulu.

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Canon started at Wahiawa General in high school as a volunteer candy striper. Her daughter is now administrator for the nursing facility at the hospital.

“In all my years here, 40-plus years, Wahiawa always struggles, but we’re always able to pull through somehow. But this time, I’m really, really scared.”

To stay open, Wahiawa General Hospital is asking the state Legislature for \$3 million a year for the next two years.

This is not the story of yet another state hospital with budget troubles. Wahiawa is an independent, nonprofit, unaffiliated with a larger organization like Queen’s or Kaiser Permanente. It is a true community hospital with neighbors who sit on the board of directors and a thrift shop run by a volunteer auxiliary. That \$6 million would help keep the place running until its leaders can put together a long-term solution.

Wahiawa General started in 1944 as an outpatient clinic for plantation workers, military personnel and other Central Oahu and North Shore residents, back when Honolulu was an hour’s ride away on two-lane roads. Wahiawa was dramatically affected by the war, and the need for health care was clear, so community members made it happen. The wards were built and an emergency room with a station wagon ambulance driven by a hospital employee stood at the ready.

The hospital is now licensed for 160 beds — 53 acute care and 107 skilled nursing. The emergency room sees more than 20,000 people per year.

When the emergency rooms at the region’s other hospitals are full, Wahiawa takes the overflow, accepting patients from the Waianae Coast, North Shore and all the way to the airport.

“And we handle it,” said Dr. Danny Bamber, who grew up in Ewa Beach, lives on the North Shore and has been medical director of emergency for eight years.

His emergency room is brand new and shining. Renovations were completed two months ago, and now there are 18 private beds. For years, it was just four beds separated by curtains and a waiting room so tiny that people would wait outside despite the heat of the day or a blowing rain.

“We did what we had to do. I did stitches outside sometimes,” Bamber said.

Don Olden, a veteran of many different hospitals, was brought in as CEO nine years ago.

“Here, we identify a need and adapt to it that day,” Olden said. “Other places, it’s brought up through committees, and change can take months.”

Bamber agrees. “Here, I’ve heard nurses say, ‘Hey, I’ve got to go talk to Don about that.’ I’ve never seen that at any other hospital.”

When Hawaii Medical Center West shut down, Wahiawa’s emergency staff first heard about it on a radio dispatch: “HMC West closed, so brace yourselves.” They increased their staff the next day.

The impact was immediate. The number of ambulances that came to the ER went from six or eight a day to 13. The number of patients admitted doubled in a week.

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“When West closed, we had to expand quickly. When Queen’s reopened it, we started to contract. It got complicated,” Bamber said.

Overall, though, the hospital is seeing more emergency cases. When Bamber first started, the ER saw 42 patients a day. Now, the average is 60.

The reasons for Wahiawa’s financial straits are complex yet familiar. Almost 85 percent of Wahiawa’s patients are on Medicaid or Medicare, which reimburse the hospital at a much lower rate than private insurance.

As the number of primary care doctors in Wahiawa has declined, so have their patient admissions. Now most of the admissions come through the ER, and the hospital has had to hire hospitalists to staff the floor, which come at a much greater cost. There have been layoffs in recent years as Wahiawa tried to adapt.

“It’s going to be a real challenge to balance between the business of health care and the family model,” Olden said. “But we’re convinced we need to be affiliated with a larger organization. A lot of the costs will go away in a larger system.”

There are some numbers they don’t want to change:

Average wait time in the emergency room, “from door to doc” is 13 minutes.

Closest parking space to the front door: 30 feet.

Cost of visitor parking: Nothing.

Olden had been working on a plan on how to phase down if the hospital couldn’t make payroll. State Rep. Marcus Oshiro (D, Wahiawa-Whitmore-Poamoho) told him every option had to be exhausted before taking away this life-and-death facility from rural Oahu.

“Before you throw in the towel, give the Legislature and the governor a chance to rise up and shine and do the right thing and save the hospital,” Oshiro said. On Tuesday, the Senate Ways and Means Committee is holding a hearing on the bill to help Wahiawa Hospital.

Olden said, “We have an insurmountable task if this doesn’t come through.



## **\$13.5B draft budget would fund hospitals**

By Kevin Dayton  
April 6, 2016

State senators announced a new proposed draft of next year's state budget Tuesday that includes money for a bailout of Wahiawa General Hospital as well as \$160 million to rebuild much of the Hawaii State Hospital for the mentally ill in Kaneohe.

The proposed new \$13.5 billion budget would leave the state on track to spend more money next year than it collects in taxes and other revenue, but Senate Ways and Means Chairwoman Jill Tokuda said she did not immediately know how much revenues would lag behind expenses.

Both Gov. David Ige and House lawmakers also proposed budgets for next year that would have the state spending more cash than it takes in, but the final amounts won't be decided until later in the session.

Lawmakers still haven't decided whether they will accept a number of Ige administration proposals that would increase the amount the state spends next year.

Ige has proposed that the state prepay nearly \$163 million next year in future retirement health care costs, and also proposed banking \$100 million in the state's "Rainy Day" budget reserve fund. Tokuda said she did not include either of those big-ticket items in the latest budget draft, but lawmakers could partially or fully fund those initiatives later by passing separate appropriations bills.

Also still pending are separate bills to fund new union contracts for thousands of public workers.

So far, lawmakers have received requests from the Ige administration for more than \$22 million from the general treasury next year to pay for increases in wages and fringe benefits for unionized state law enforcement officers; water safety officers; and administrative, technical and professional employees in the University of Hawaii system.

Those costs are not included in the Senate budget, and more money might be required to cover the cost of at least one additional union settlement that is pending.

**Testimony on House Bill 1446**  
**Tuesday, February 14, 2017**  
**Page 14**

This would not be the first time in recent years the state has spent more than it collected. The Ige administration projected in December the state will spend about \$63 million more this year than it will collect in taxes. The state is able to do that because it has a cash surplus that carried over from last year.

Tokuda (D, Kailua-Kaneohe) described the Senate's draft budget as "a well-rounded and very balanced request."

"We looked for ways that we could create a budget that balanced multiple priorities, programs and services without adding unsustainable costs going forward, and this required looking carefully at base appropriations and ensuring that existing funds are first being considered before more are appropriated," she said.

She said the Senate draft of the budget includes an appropriation of \$4.5 million to subsidize the University of Hawaii Cancer Center, but said UH will have to produce \$1.5 million of that from its existing funding.

Tokuda also said the Senate budget includes more than \$7.3 million in general funds for homeless services and programs, including \$3 million for the Housing First Program, \$1.1 million for outreach services for the homeless and \$2 million for rapid rehousing.

The budget also includes \$1.1 million in general funds for 16 new rental assistance positions for employees who will try to "leverage more federal housing vouchers going forward," Tokuda said.

The second-floor Ways and Means Committee hearing room and lanai at the Capitol was crowded with supporters of Wahiawa General Hospital, which has requested help from the state to allow it to avoid bankruptcy.

Hospital officials have asked lawmakers to fund a \$3 million bailout of the private, nonprofit facility this year and provide another \$3 million to support the hospital next year. They say revenue at Wahiawa in 2015 abruptly dropped by \$7.5 million after the Queen's Medical Center-West opened in May.

Sen. Donovan Dela Cruz (D, Wahiawa-Whitmore-Mililani Mauka) announced that the new draft budget includes \$5 million to buy the land under a parking area at the hospital, which would give the hospital an injection of cash. The state can then lease the land back to the hospital for a nominal amount, he said.

R. Don Olden, chief executive officer of the hospital, said he will discuss that proposal with his board of directors.

Dela Cruz said the draft Senate budget also includes \$40 million for a new secondary school in Kapolei and \$38 million for continued construction of a new high school in Kihei, Maui.

To address the shortage of affordable housing, the Ways and Means committee included allocation of more than \$35 million to the Hawaii Public Housing Authority and \$50 million to the Rental Housing Trust Fund to develop affordable rentals, Dela Cruz said.

He said the draft budget also includes \$160 million going to Hawaii State Hospital “for a new and much-needed forensic facility to house high-risk patients.”

The new draft of the budget now goes to the full Senate for further consideration.



## **Loss of Wahiawa General Hospital would be felt statewide**

**By Dr. James Ireland**  
**April 6, 2016**

### **What would happen if Wahiawa General Closes?**

The most immediate fallout would be layoffs for staff and emergency patients having to travel much farther to get help, which could make the difference between life and death.

Other effects would be felt farther away: First, medical care in the entire state of Hawaii would be impacted — not just Central Oahu. Second, the fallout of a closure would cost the state much more than the \$3 million a year proposed as the current support needed to keep the hospital open.

My perspective comes from both the hospital and pre-hospital setting. As an internist, nephrologist and former emergency room physician, I have worked in every hospital on Oahu through the years with the exceptions of Kaiser and Kahuku. And from 2010-2012, I was the director of Emergency Services for the City and County of Honolulu overseeing EMS and Ocean Safety.

It was in that role as the director that I received notification on Dec. 19, 2011, that the emergency rooms at both Hawaii Medical Centers would be closing their doors and no longer accepting patients. As a community, we not only lost those emergency rooms, but also

hundreds of inpatient hospital beds.

What happened next was predictable: EMS ambulances from West Oahu, no longer able to stop in Ewa, descended on Wahiawa General Hospital and Pali Momi Medical Center.

Once Wahiawa and Pali Momi were full, ambulances were then rerouted to Kaiser Medical Center, Tripler Army Medical Center and downtown. Once downtown was over capacity, EMS units would take people over the mountain to Castle Medical Center. It was not uncommon to have six Oahu hospitals on ambulance-divert status, meaning those ERs would not receive any ambulance patients unless the patient was extremely critical or a trauma patient.

Because so many ambulances were bringing patients downtown, they were out of their primary-response regions for extended periods of time — hours — leaving their areas potentially uncovered for 911 responses. We immediately staffed two to three additional ambulances daily; and because EMS is funded by the state, we had to go to the Legislature for an emergency appropriation to keep these extra ambulance units staffed and running. Each 24-hour ambulance on Oahu comes at a cost of about \$2 million a year.

Another group who depends on our Oahu specialty hospitals are neighbor island patients with certain complex medical needs. Not every hospital in the state has the various medical and surgical subspecialties that are found in certain Oahu hospitals. However, if the large Oahu hospitals are full due to the lack of hospital beds on Oahu, they are not able to accept those neighbor island transfer patients, even if they need life-saving care.

Clearly, hospitals today have a difficult time balancing patient care and financial stability. Wahiawa General is the only hospital to care for hemodialysis patients in West and Central Oahu, so perhaps this is contributing to its financial losses. The currently proposed state funding is clearly the best way forward and would help patients throughout Hawaii.



[Hawaii News](#) | [Lee Cataluna](#)

## Hospital's facilities manager is the one who makes it work

By [Lee Cataluna](#)  
April 8, 2016

One of the challenges writers face is what to leave out.

Sometimes, good stuff gets cut so the essential stuff can get in. I've been a writer long enough for this not to bother me, but on one recent story, it did.

Here's what else I wanted to write about Wahiawa General Hospital:

Leigh Cruz is the person who keeps the aging facility going.

She is a Leilehua grad who describes her back story as, "surfer girl who hung out with my brothers and fixed cars." She has worked at Wahiawa General since 1984, and she fixes stuff. She gets calls in the middle of the night if a fire alarm goes off or an elevator is stuck. She handles the boilers and the generators and the medical gas inspections and keeps records on the minutiae of each repair. She trained nine new facilities managers over 11 years, telling them about the idiosyncrasies of the buildings. In 2007 she finally was named facilities manager when it was clear she knew more about the place than anyone they could bring in.

"This is my home," Cruz says. "I spend more time here than at my own house." When she says that, she's not complaining.

The stories of the things Wahiawa General has endured are told with pride. When CEO Don Olden first visited the hospital, years before he took the job, there was a 22-gallon red bucket smack in the middle of the lobby. A hose ran from a huge hole in the ceiling down to the bucket to catch rain. "The ceiling looked like a meteorite came through," Olden says. Four years later, when he took the job at Wahiawa, the red bucket was still there.

It's gone now. The roof has been repaired. The hospital used to have a brigade of 25 buckets to deploy during the rainy season.

"How many buckets do we have now?" Olden asks.

"Maybe two," Cruz says, grinning.

**Testimony on House Bill 1446**  
**Tuesday, February 14, 2017**  
**Page 18**

There was an obstetrics department that is long gone, though former OB nurses happily come running from their current assignments to help when there's a baby about to be born in the emergency room.

Martha Peterson of the Peterson Upland Egg Farm family is president of the hospital auxiliary. Her first connection to the hospital was when she got in a car crash as a teen and was taken to Wahiawa General in a station-wagon-style ambulance driven by a hospital orderly. Peterson comes to visit family in long-term care every day. "People who live in Wahiawa don't want to get on the freeway and fight traffic into town to visit ailing relatives, and they certainly don't want to ride that far in an ambulance to get to an emergency room," she said.

There is familiarity here, and continuity — that measure of stability that people want when they're not feeling well.

"I had a procedure here 10 years ago, and then I went in again two months ago. I had the same nurse," Peterson said. "And she remembered me."

It's that kind of place.

## Wahiawa General Hospital

By Dr. James Ireland

Near the end of 2011, when both Hawaii Medical Center East and West closed, it took just about everyone by surprise. Many knew the former St. Francis hospitals were struggling financially, but when they actually locked the ER doors and turned out the lights, health care was significantly impacted in Hawaii.

My perspective comes from both the hospital and pre-hospital setting. As an internist, nephrologist and former emergency room physician, I have worked in every hospital on Oahu through the years with the exceptions of Kaiser and Kahuku. And from 2010-2012, I was the director of Emergency Services for the City and County of Honolulu overseeing EMS and Ocean Safety.

It was in that role as the director that I received notification on Dec. 19, 2011, that the emergency rooms at both Hawaii Medical Centers would be closing their doors and no longer accepting patients. As a community, we not only lost those emergency rooms, but also about 300 inpatient hospital beds.

By the time the hospitals announced the closure, it was too late for anyone to step in and save them. Queen's Medical Center reopened the West Hospital in Ewa three years later, which has helped immensely, but as a community we still haven't fully recovered from those closures.

What seems to be different today, with the possible closure of Wahiawa General Hospital, is the level of community support. People have very clearly let our elected officials know that State-support is a must if we are going to keep this important and life-saving community resource open. I can't imagine EMS ambulances taking critical patients from the North Shore all the way to Ewa or Aiea.

The loss of additional hospital beds anywhere on Oahu further strains the remaining hospitals, which are often already full.

When hospitals on Oahu are full, and their resources stretched beyond their capabilities, they are allowed to go on ambulance-divert status. When this occurs, ambulance are not permitted to bring that hospital patients unless they are extremely critical. For much of 2012 and 2013, ambulance-divert became a daily occurrence on Oahu because the system was so strained. There were times when 6-7 hospitals on Oahu were on divert status. We had patients from Makaha and Waianae being taken to downtown hospitals and even Castle Medical Center in Kailua.

Because so many ambulances were bringing patients downtown, they were out of their primary-response regions for extended periods of time — hours — leaving their areas potentially uncovered for 911 responses. We immediately staffed two to three additional ambulances daily; and because EMS is funded by the state, we had to go to the Legisla-

ture for an emergency appropriation to keep these extra ambulance units staffed and running. Each 24-hour ambulance on Oahu comes at a cost of about \$2 million a year.

Clearly, hospitals today have a difficult time balancing patient care and financial stability. Wahiawa General is the only hospital to care for hemodialysis patients in West and Central Oahu, so perhaps this is contributing to its financial losses. The currently proposed state funding is clearly the best way forward and would help patients throughout Hawaii.



James Ireland is a practicing physician on Oahu specializing in Nephrology (kidney disease) and Internal Medicine. He is the former Director of Emergency Services for the City and County of Honolulu.

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May 1 - 6, 2016

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"Creating characters so real, you'll be tempted to claim them on your tax return" Led by literary agent Jeff Kleinman

Wednesday, May 4 ~ 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

"With delicacy and damnation: Navigating relationships with sources in narrative journalism" A discussion with journalists Julie Checkoway, Constance Hale, and Michael Shapiro

Thursday, May 5 ~ 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

"Artful Prose: Sentences, semicolons, synesthesia, and more!" Led by writer, editor, and coach Kate Brubeck

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Faculty readings by Kate Brubeck, Zoe FitzGerald Carter, Steven Goldsberry, Constance Hale, Brenda Kwon, and Kathryn Ma

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Thursday, May 5, 7 PM

Readings by island writers Chris McKinney, Shawna Yang Ryan, Don Wallace, and Kevin Won

Wahiawa General Hospital

Testimony to the House Committee on Health

Tuesday, February 14, 2017

State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: TO WAHIAWA GENERAL HOSPITAL

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the House Committee on Health:

My name is Doug DeGraaf and I serve as the Chief Executive Officer of Wahiawa General Hospital. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operational needs related to medical services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, thank you for listening to your constituents with regards to Wahiawa General Hospital during last year's session.

Today, I am here to describe how the bridge funding requested in HB 1446 can sustain essential safety-net health services to our patients and the communities we serve.

Temporary financial assistance is requested in the form of bridge funding to enable the hospital to transition to a sustainable business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities of services and jobs at Koa Ridge.

Wahiawa General has undergone a change in management, leading to the development of a turnaround plan aimed at stabilizing the hospital's financial performance. This plan is key to sustaining services and protecting jobs. The plan has the support of the Board, management team, employees, civic leaders and unions.

Bridge funding will allow operational needs to be addressed. These include the cost of uncompensated care, securing primary care services and funding staff salaries and benefits. All these needs represent elements of our mission to provide safe, accessible and affordable care.

Wahiawa General Hospital is an essential medical facility in Central and North Shore Oahu. It is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Waialua, Sunset, and Kahuku. This area encompasses nearly one-third of the entire island of Oahu.

Furthermore, Wahiawa General Hospital is one of the largest employers in Central Oahu, providing 518 jobs with approximately 90% of its workers residing in the surrounding areas. Most of the employees are members of the ILWU, UPW, and HNA unions. These are very good-paying, professional jobs.

It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain available 24 hours per day/7 days a week to render medical care.

For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to support it.

Doug DeGraaf

CEO

Wahiawa General Hospital

808.621.4210

[doug.degraaf@wahiawageneral.org](mailto:doug.degraaf@wahiawageneral.org)

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2017 3:33 PM  
To: HLTtestimony  
Cc: dan.nellis@dole.com  
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1446 on Feb 14, 2017 10:00AM

**HB1446**

Submitted on: 2/10/2017

Testimony for HLT on Feb 14, 2017 10:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Daniel Nellis	Dole Food Co. Hawaii	Support	No

Comments: Dole Food Co. Hawaii fully supports HB1446. It is critical to Central Oahu and the North Shore that Wahiawa General Hospital (WGH) is funded and continues to serve the community. Our employees work on our farms in Wahiawa and Waiialua; if they need emergency treatment WGH is close by and prepared to handle anything. Without WGH we would be considering another 20 miles of travel to reach the nearest Hospital and that is too far.

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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Testimony of  
Christopher Delaunay  
Pacific Resource Partnership

State of Hawaii  
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HB 1446 – Relating to Health

Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
10:00 A.M.  
State Capitol – Conference Room 329

Aloha Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi and Members of the Committee:

PRP supports HB 1446, Relating to Wahiawa General Hospital, which would appropriate funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital (WGH).

WGH is the largest private employer in Wahiawa employing approximately 600 employees with approximately 90% of its employees living within Wahiawa, Kahuku, Haleiwa, Waialua, Wahiawa, Mililani, and West Oahu. The survival of the hospital is crucial not only to the town itself and its residents economically, but necessary in terms of the public health, safety and welfare to the residents and visitors.

The next closest emergency services facility and hospital is approximately 13-14 miles away from WGH and thus could affect over 60,000 residents and visitors to the area. The inability to access a nearby hospital could be an issue of life and death for emergency patients.

Thank you for allowing us to share our views with you and we respectfully ask for your support in keeping WGH up and running.



(Continued From Page 1)

About PRP

*Pacific Resource Partnership (PRP) is a not-for-profit organization that represents the Hawaii Regional Council of Carpenters, the largest construction union in the state, and more than 240 of Hawaii's top contractors. Through this unique partnership, PRP has become an influential voice for responsible construction and an advocate for creating a stronger, more sustainable Hawaii in a way that promotes a vibrant economy, creates jobs and enhances the quality of life for all residents.*

kobayashi1- Oshiro

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2017 3:37 PM  
To: HLTtestimony  
Cc: rebecca.canon-fratis@wahiawageneral.org  
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1446 on Feb 14, 2017 10:00AM

**HB1446**

Submitted on: 2/10/2017

Testimony for HLT on Feb 14, 2017 10:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rebecca Canon-Fratis	Wahiawa Nursing and Rehabilitation Center/WGH LTC	Support	No

Comments: We are part of the Wahiawa General Hospital 'Ohana of services. We have 107 skilled and intermediate level beds and our average census is 102. We must continue to be a part of this community and the hospital. The hospital will serve as a location for our nursing home residents when they need acute care. Please kokua. Thank you for your time.

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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# IBEW1260

‘A‘OHE HANA NUI KE ALU ‘IA

February 14, 2017

The Twenty-Ninth Legislature, State of Hawaii  
Hawaii State House of Representatives  
Committee on Health

HB1446 - RELATING TO HEALTH

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and Members of the Committee,

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 1260, AFL-CIO (IBEW1260), represents more than 3500 members, has advocated for all workers in the State of Hawaii for over 75 years and respectfully offers the following testimony in **SUPPORT** of House Bill 1446 (HB1446) which appropriates funds to support basic operations, and staff salaries at Wahiawa General Hospital.

As the only medical facility providing emergency medical services in Mililani, Wahiawa, Waialua, Sunset and Kahuku, communities which encompass nearly a third of the entire island; closure of Wahiawa General Hospital would be detrimental to the health, welfare and safety of anyone living, working or traveling through these communities. Those bearing the brunt of this impact will be our kupuna, keiki and the chronically ill. Additionally, closure of Wahiawa General Hospital, one of the largest employers in Central Oahu, would serve a serious financial blow to the Central Oahu community as Wahiawa General Hospital provides well-paying, middle-class jobs to over 600 employees most of whom live within the surrounding communities.

For these reasons, IBEW1260 respectfully ask the Committee to support HB1446 allowing Wahiawa General Hospital to continue serving our community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this issue,

Respectfully,



Michael M. Brittain  
Asst. Business Manager  
IBEW1260 / AFL-CIO

# Hawai'i Construction Alliance

P.O. Box 179441  
Honolulu, HI 96817  
(808) 348-8885

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February 12, 2017

The Honorable Della Au Belatti, Chair  
The Honorable Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair  
and members  
House Committee on Health  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

**RE: Support for HB1446, Relating to Health**

Dear Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members:

The Hawai'i Construction Alliance is comprised of the Hawai'i Regional Council of Carpenters; the Laborers' International Union of North America, Local 368; the Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' Union, Local 630; International Union of Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers, Local 1; and the Operating Engineers, Local Union No. 3. Together, the member unions of the Hawai'i Construction Alliance represent 15,000 working men and women in the basic crafts of Hawai'i's construction industry, of whom many live in the Central Oahu and North Shore areas serviced by Wahiawa General Hospital.

We **support HB1446**, which would appropriate funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

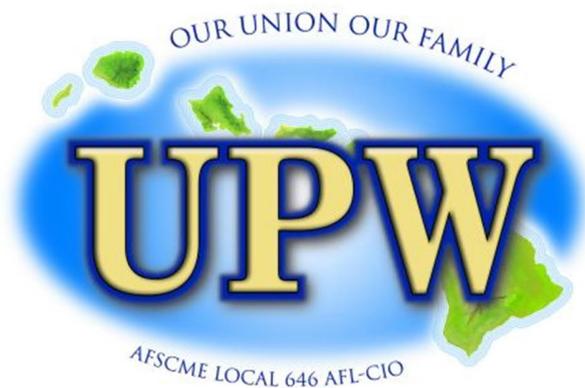
We appreciate the action the legislature took last session to provide necessary funding to Wahiawa General Hospital. As Wahiawa General Hospital is the only facility providing emergency medical services for much of Central Oahu and the North Shore, we believe it is critical that additional bridge funding be provided to enable the hospital to transition to a sustainable business model and to continue its tradition of providing high-quality care to the area's many residents.

In closing, we request your committee's **favorable action on HB1446**.

Mahalo,



Tyler Dos Santos-Tam  
Executive Director  
Hawai'i Construction Alliance  
execdir@hawaiiiconstructionalliance.org



THE HAWAII STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
The Twenty-Ninth Legislature  
Regular Session of 2017

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair  
Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

DATE OF HEARING: Tuesday, February 14, 2017

TIME OF HEARING: 10:00 a.m.

PLACE OF HEARING: State Capitol, Rm. 329  
415 South Beretania Street

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 1446 RELATING TO HEALTH

By DAYTON M. NAKANELUA,  
State Director of the United Public Workers,  
AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO ("UPW")

My name is Dayton M. Nakanelua, State Director of the United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646 AFL-CIO (UPW). The UPW is the exclusive bargaining representative for approximately 14,000 public employees, which include blue collar, non-supervisory employees in Bargaining Unit 01 and institutional, health and correctional employees in Bargaining Unit 10, in the State of Hawaii and various counties. The UPW also represents about 1,500 members of the private sector.

HB1446 makes an appropriation of \$3,900,000 for FY 2017-2018 to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

The UPW strongly supports this bill to provide bridge funding to the hospital.

In 2016, the State Legislature provided a timely and extremely important funding support to the Wahiawa General Hospital. We thank the Legislators for this action. Wahiawa General

Hospital has served the healthcare needs of the people of Central Oahu and North Shore areas since 1944 and remains the only rural independent nonprofit, general acute care hospital within the state. However, we understand that there still remains a serious threat of the hospital closing down and terminating needed health care services to almost one-third of the island of Oahu in the near future. If it does occur, it could be devastating to the health of the community and to individuals who need and rely upon the Wahiawa General Hospital for emergency and long-term care service. A closing would also cripple the economy in Wahiawa and the surrounding communities. More importantly, there is no real substitute for a full service hospital in the rural communities like Wahiawa.

The UPW requests the committee to pass HB1446.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.



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## State of Hawaii Hawaii State House of Representatives

Committee on and Health  
Rep. Belatti, Chair  
Rep Kobayashi, Vice Chair

February 14, 2017; 10:00 a.m.  
Conference Room 329

### HB1446 Relating to Wahiawa General Hospital

Good morning, Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi and members of the Committee on Health.

Lanakila Pacific supports **HB1446**. Lack of funding for Wahiawa General Hospital will create a vacuum of care that would be devastating. It would leave hundreds of people not only in Wahiawa but in surrounding areas from North Shore to Mililani without quick access to emergency services. The time difference between dispatching from Wahiawa General Hospital versus the next closest hospital in Ewa or Aiea could literally become an issue of life and death for patients.

Additionally, Wahiawa General Hospital is the largest private employer in Wahiawa, creating and maintaining a workforce of approximately 518 employees. About 90% of its employees live within Wahiawa, or its surrounding North and West communities. Wahiawa General Hospital is not only vital to the town itself in terms of public health and welfare but absolutely necessary to its residents economically.

Lanakila Pacific is a 78-year old Hawaii-based non-profit organization, whose mission is to build independence for challenged lives. Our Teaching and Learning Centers (TLC) teach over 110 adults with disabilities how to become more independent in both Wahiawa and Honolulu. Our Meals on Wheels (MOW) program serves kupuna by providing Home Delivered Meals, as well as senior lifestyle and wellness activities at our Kupuna Wellness Centers, throughout the island, including Wahiawa. Lanakila Pacific participants, including those in our Wahiawa programs, have a variety of disabilities and health needs that could be compromised should they be required to travel a great distance for emergency medical care.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of the intent of this measure.

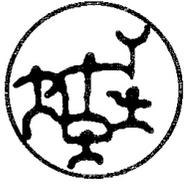
Respectfully submitted,

Marian E. Tsuji  
President & CEO

Lori Lutu  
Director of Teaching and Learning  
Centers

Lori Lau  
Director of Meals on Wheels

Randall M. Suzuka M.D., A.B.F.M  
Vanessa M. Aagsalda- Rosenbush M.D., A.B.F.M  
Summer R. Teruya, M.D., A.B.F.M  
Jodi P. Goh, M.D., A.B.I.M  
Masahisa Amano, M.D., A.B.F.M.  
Bradlee Sako, M.D., A.B.F.M.  
Irene Hwang, M.D., A.B.F.M.



## *Haleiwa Family Health Center*

February 13, 2017

Dear Representative Bella Au Bellati, Representative Bertrand Kobayashi and the other members of the House Health Committee:

My name is Randall Suzuka MD and I strongly support HB 1446. I have been a Mililani resident and Family Physician in Haleiwa and Mililani for 30 years. I was the past board chair for Wahiawa General Hospital for 10 years. Wahiawa General Hospital provides services that are critical for the health and well being of the residents of the North Shore and Central Oahu. Wahiawa has engaged the services of Community Hospital Corporation (CHC) to manage the hospital and develop a "turn around" plan. The Board of the hospital has approved that plan, but it will need time to be implemented. HB 1446, will allow implementation of CHC's management plan and stabilization of health services for a critical part of Oahu's health delivery system. Thank you for your past support and for your consideration of HB 1446.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randall Suzuka". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Randall Suzuka, M.D.



## THE QUEEN'S HEALTH SYSTEMS

---

To: The Honorable Della Au Belatti, Chair  
The Honorable Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair  
Members, Committee on Health

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

Date: February 13, 2017

Hrg: House Committee on Health Hearing; Tuesday, February 14, 2017 at 10:00AM in Room 329

Re: **Support for HB 1446, Relating to Health**

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My name is Paula Yoshioka, and I am a Senior Vice President at The Queen's Health Systems (Queen's). We would like to express our support for HB 1446, which would provide resources for hospital operations and physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

According to the 2010 U.S. Census, it is projected that nearly 50% of Oahu's population will reside in the central and western regions. For our community in central Oahu and the North Shore, Wahiawa General Hospital is a critical access point to health care services. In previous years, community ED visits at Wahiawa General Hospital exceeded 20,000 annually. There is a high need in the community to maintain access to health care services at Wahiawa General Hospital, especially since the Wahiawa region was designated a Medically Underserved Population by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) in 2012.

Although the Queen's Medical Center-West Oahu (QMCWO) is a full service community hospital, it primarily serves the central and western regions of Oahu. QMCWO cannot serve all the medical needs of the Wahiawa and North Shore community. Population growth in the western region has frequently kept our census at capacity. Thus, we believe that this bill is important in ensuring continued access to health care services in this region.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important issue.

*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.*



302 California Ave., Ste 106, Wahiawa HI, 96786  
[www.wahiawahealth.org](http://www.wahiawahealth.org)

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2017

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

DATE: Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
TIME: 10:00 AM  
PLACE: Conference Room 329  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

**HB 1446**  
**RELATING TO HEALTH**

Good morning Chairs Belatti and Kobayashi and members of the committee:

I am Bev Harbin and I am the Executive Director for Wahiawa Health, a community health center. Thank you for inviting The Wahiawa Center for Community Health (Wahiawa Health) to participate in this discussion regarding the Wahiawa General Hospital and HB 1446.

Wahiawa Health is a nonprofit corporation with a local Board of Directors. It operates a community health center at 302 California Avenue, Wahiawa. Wahiawa Health currently serves about 9,000 people from Wahiawa, Mililani, Waialua, and Kunia. Our catchment area incorporates 120,000 lives of which 46,000 live below the 200% federal median income line. Wahiawa Health commenced medical operations on August 1, 2016 with the purchase of two retiring physicians' offices and practices. Wahiawa Health has worked diligently with partners, including Wahiawa General Hospital, to: conduct thorough needs assessments of health disparities and socioeconomic barriers to the area's residents; obtain US Department of Agriculture (USDA) designation as a rural community, and; have the community designated by the US Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) as a Medically Underserved Population. This work has laid the foundation for Wahiawa Health to apply for status as a Federally Qualified Health Center. Wahiawa Health's services consist of primary care (including

pediatrics, adults and seniors, including OB/GYN), behavioral health, oral health care, care coordination, and on-site pharmacy. At this time, many of the non-core, HRSA required services are outsourced to other organizations, including Wahiawa General Hospital (diagnostic laboratory, diagnostic radiology, occupational and physical therapy and speech pathology). Over time, and with your consistent support, Wahiawa Health will build capacity and expertise in a full range of in-clinic primary care services. Wahiawa Health turns no one away due to an inability to pay for our services. Wahiawa Health considers Wahiawa General Hospital a very important part of our health delivery collaboration.

We have been asked to comment on House Bill 1446 and to address an assertion in the bill that, “The Wahiawa Center for Community Health can assist patients who might lose services by the downsize of Wahiawa General Hospital. Although the hospital will downsize, services will be available for the community of Wahiawa.”

This statement is true. Yet it belies a more complex situation. Further, assisting is not always the same as “treating” and “availability” is a relative term.

The health care delivery system of Central Oahu is complex and has many participants. Already, Wahiawa Health is an integral part of that delivery system. Once at full capacity and with its full set of services in place, Wahiawa Health will provide significant medical, behavioral and social services for the community of Wahiawa in collaboration with other health care service organizations; hopefully including Wahiawa General Hospital.

As a primary care community clinic, our physicians provide follow up care for those recently discharged from an acute care setting (hospital). Our providers assist residents manage chronic illnesses, such as diabetes, and heart disease, thereby reducing the number of acute care cases that emerge in our community. Our providers provide preventative care and patient education, again thereby, reducing acute care events, over time. Wahiawa Health will not be providing acute (tertiary) care for patients. Rather, we work with all the area hospitals to admit our patients needing acute care; follow our patients while in an acute care setting; receive our patients for follow up care upon discharge; and assist them manage whatever illness or injury from which they are recovering. In the event that Wahiawa General Hospital ceases to intake

acute care cases, Wahiawa Health will work with other area hospitals for admitting our patients.

Additionally, while Wahiawa Health will provide minor emergency services (cuts, scrapes, bruises, stings) in a primary care setting, it is imperative that the community of Wahiawa have full emergency services available.

Specialty medical care (as opposed to primary medical care) is especially expensive and difficult to access by under-insured people. We worry that specialists that currently maintain offices or serve at Wahiawa General Hospital will no longer provide secondary care in Wahiawa. This loss of access could impact the health of the community over time. Wahiawa Health will have a limited ability to expand its scope of services into most secondary care specialties.

We understand that times change and that Wahiawa General Hospital is being asked to change too. As a historically integral part of our health care delivery system, its benefits are woven tightly into the fabric of our community. Great care is required as we propose to change that system. Without appropriate study and thoughtful adjustments to Wahiawa General Hospital's services, it is possible that unintended consequences could set back the health outlook of our community.

We urge your thoughtful support of Wahiawa General Hospital as it changes and your continuing support for Wahiawa Health as it grows to fill the gaps.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bev Harbin

Executive Director

BTH:jwe



Randy Perreira  
President

# HAWAII STATE AFL-CIO

345 Queen Street, Suite 500 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Telephone: (808) 597-1441

Fax: (808) 593-2149

The Twenty-Ninth Legislature, State of Hawaii  
Hawaii State House of Representatives  
Committee on Health

Testimony by  
Hawaii State AFL-CIO  
February 14, 2017

## H.B. 1446– RELATING TO HEALTH

The Hawaii State AFL-CIO supports H.B. 1446 which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

Wahiawa General Hospital employs over 600 workers – many of whom are ILWU, UPW, and HNA union members. Most of these jobs provide good wages and benefits that many of these workers rely on to pay their mortgages, rent, and many other bills. Furthermore, Wahiawa General Hospital provides essential emergency medical services to the thousands of residents that live in the area including the North Shore and other rural areas. Ensuring the hospital remains open is important to the health and well-being of the community and to the hundreds of workers employed at Wahiawa General.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Perreira  
President



66-434 B. Kamehameha Highway  
Haleiwa, Hawaii 96712  
Phone: (808) 637-4558  
Email: [info@GoNorthShore.org](mailto:info@GoNorthShore.org)  
Website: [www.GoNorthShore.org](http://www.GoNorthShore.org)

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

On behalf of the North Shore Chamber of Commerce, I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will provide Wahiawa General Hospital with positive cash flows and financial stability while it transitions to a new business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities of services and jobs at Koa Ridge.

Wahiawa General Hospital is an essential medical facility in Central and North Shore Oahu. It is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Waialua, Sunset, and Kahuku. This area encompasses nearly one-third of the entire Island of Oahu.

Wahiawa General Hospital is again seeking financial support as the closure would have enormous ramifications for the health, welfare, and safety of these communities. If Wahiawa General Hospital were to close, the nearest emergency room for a person situated in Wahiawa would be either Pali Momi near Pearlridge Center, or Queen's West – both of which are approximately 13 miles away.

For a person living in Waialua or Sunset or Kahuku, the distance would be 20 miles instead of the 8 miles it takes to go to Wahiawa General Hospital. In a case of a critical accident or sickness, the extra miles it takes to get a person to an emergency room might mean the difference between life and death.

Furthermore, Wahiawa General Hospital is one of the largest employers in Central Oahu, providing 518 jobs with approximately 90% of its workers residing in the surrounding areas. Most of the employees are members of the ILWU, UPW, and HNA unions. These are very good-paying, professional jobs. The closure of Wahiawa General Hospital would be devastating to entire families as heads of households will need to seek reemployment while keeping up

payments for their mortgages, putting food on the table, and doing all they can to make life "normal" for their children and families.

It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ed Korybski". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ed" being particularly prominent.

Ed Korybski  
Executive Director



**HAWAII LABORERS-EMPLOYERS COOPERATION AND EDUCATION TRUST**  
650 Iwilei Road, Suite 285 · Honolulu, HI 96817 · Phone: 808-845-3238 · Fax: 808-845-8300

**TESTIMONY OF HAWAII LECET  
CLYDE T. HAYASHI – DIRECTOR**

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. Della Au Bellatti, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
TIME: 10:00 a.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 329, State Capitol

**TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL NO. 1446, RELATING TO HEALTH-WAHIAWA GENERAL HOSPITAL.**

TO THE HONORABLE ROSALYN BAKER, CHAIR, CLARENCE NISHIHARA, VICE CHAIR, AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH:

My name is Clyde T. Hayashi, and I am the Director of Hawaii LECET. Hawaii LECET is a labor-management partnership between the Hawaii Laborers Union, Local 368, and its unionized contractors.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in **STRONG SUPPORT** of House Bill No. 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will provide Wahiawa General Hospital with positive cash flow and financial stability while it transitions to a new business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities for services and jobs at Koa Ridge.

Wahiawa General Hospital is the only medical facility that provides emergency medical services in the areas of Mililani to Wahiawa, Waialua, Sunset Beach and Kahuku. This area encompasses nearly one-third of the entire island of Oahu. The continued operation of Wahiawa General Hospital and its proximity to these communities oftentimes is the critical factor in determining whether a person in a life threatening accident or sickness will survive.

If Wahiawa General Hospital were to close, the nearest emergency room would be Pali Momi or Queen's Medical Center West, both of which are approximately 13 miles away from Wahiawa. For a person living in Waialua, Haleiwa, Sunset Beach, or Kahuku, or our members who may be working in those areas, or visitors and local residents who visit the area, the extra miles could be the difference between life or death.

The continued operation of Wahiawa General Hospital will also benefit the community by continuing to provide 518 good paying jobs, most of the employees are members of the ILWU, UPW, and HNA unions. Also, many of the positions are held by community residents. Closure of Wahiawa General Hospital would not only affect these individuals and their families, but also affect the larger community as residents will have less income to purchase goods and services, resulting in a decrease in sales and revenue for community and area businesses.

It is critical that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. Hawaii LECET strongly supports the request for funding to keep Wahiawa General Hospital operational for the next two years.

Hawaii LECET **STRONGLY SUPPORTS** Senate Bill No. 1308, and respectfully requests your favorable consideration.

The Twenty-Ninth Legislature  
Regular Session of 2017

**LATE**

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Committee on Health

Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair

Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

State Capitol, Conference Room 329

Tuesday, February 14, 2017; 10:00 a.m.

**STATEMENT OF THE ILWU LOCAL 142 ON H.B. 1446  
RELATING TO HEALTH**

The ILWU Local 142 **strongly supports** H.B. 1446, which appropriates funds to be expended by the Department of Health to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

The ILWU represents 60 full- and part-time employees who work at Wahiawa General Hospital performing various clerical functions in the business office, admissions, medical records, storeroom, and as unit clerks. In recent years, the hospital has cut back on its clerical staff due to financial challenges.

Wahiawa General Hospital has struggled for many years. Undercapitalized, the hospital has not been able to undertake the major renovations and upgrades that would help to make it more competitive.

Nevertheless, Wahiawa General Hospital serves a vital role in the community. It is the only hospital for most of Central Oahu. The nearest hospitals are Queen's Medical Center West and Pali Momi Medical Center to the south and west and Kahuku Hospital to the north, all more than a dozen miles from Wahiawa General and even further away for residents along the North Shore. Wahiawa General Hospital provides nearby communities like Mililani, Whitmore, Waialua, Haleiwa, and Pupukea with acute inpatient care, emergency room services, and long-term care. Wahiawa General is also the largest private employer in Central Oahu, employing some 600 employees.

Many of our members and retired members live and work in the area served by Wahiawa General Hospital. When they need emergency care, they are fortunate to have a fully staffed and recently modernized emergency room nearby. When their elderly parents need long-term care, they are relieved that a skilled nursing facility is close by to allow them to visit frequently. When they or their children need to be hospitalized for surgery or other medical issues, they are grateful to have acute care provided near their homes.

Hospitals like Wahiawa General are costly to operate but are vitally needed by the populations they serve. As a nonprofit corporation, Wahiawa General Hospital exists to serve the community's health care needs. If Wahiawa General closes, and the threat is real, thousands of Hawaii residents in Central Oahu will be left with minimal health care, jeopardizing the lives of cardiac patients and diminishing the well-being of a huge swath of the community.

The funding provided last year was a stop-gap measure, and the hospital is in need of another infusion of funds to allow Wahiawa General Hospital to continue operations. The ILWU strongly urges passage of H.B. 1446 for the sake of the residents in Central Oahu who need the services that Wahiawa General provides. Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony on this measure.

kobayashi1- Oshiro

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2017 3:34 PM  
To: HLTtestimony  
Cc: nimboy44@aol.com  
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1446 on Feb 14, 2017 10:00AM

**HB1446**

Submitted on: 2/10/2017

Testimony for HLT on Feb 14, 2017 10:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Bill Quinlan	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support Wahiawa General Hospital. It plays a major role for residents of the North Shore. Having the emergency room there is vital to save precious time rather than having to be transported to Queens.

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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kobayashi2 - Jessi

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Saturday, February 11, 2017 6:03 PM  
To: HLTtestimony  
Cc: joyamarshall0416@gmail.com  
Subject: \*Submitted testimony for HB1446 on Feb 14, 2017 10:00AM\*

**HB1446**

Submitted on: 2/11/2017

Testimony for HLT on Feb 14, 2017 10:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Joy Marshall	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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kobayashi1- Oshiro

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 7:21 AM  
To: HLTtestimony  
Cc: susanr@wahiawageneral.org  
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1446 on Feb 14, 2017 10:00AM

**HB1446**

Submitted on: 2/13/2017

Testimony for HLT on Feb 14, 2017 10:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Susan Rich	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support our hospital

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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Denise Okouchi  
94-1025 Koliiana Street  
Waipahu, HI 96797  
For  
Mary Tanaka  
1321-C Loko Drive  
Wahiawa, HI 96786

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Denise Okouchi and I am a resident of Waipio Gentry. On behalf of my mother, Mary Tanaka, who is a resident of Wahiawa, I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will provide Wahiawa General Hospital with positive cash flows and financial stability while it transitions to a new business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities of services and jobs at Koa Ridge.

Wahiawa General Hospital is an essential medical facility in Central and North Shore Oahu. It is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Waialua, Sunset, and Kahuku. This area encompasses nearly one-third of the entire Island of Oahu.

Wahiawa General Hospital is again seeking financial support as the closure would have enormous ramifications for the health, welfare, and safety of these communities. If Wahiawa General Hospital were to close, the nearest emergency room for a person situated in Wahiawa would be either Pali Momi near Pearlridge Center, or Queen's West – both of which are approximately 13 miles away.

For a person living in Waialua or Sunset or Kahuku, the distance would be 20 miles instead of the 8 miles it takes to go to Wahiawa General Hospital. In a case of a critical accident or sickness, the extra miles it takes to get a person to an emergency room might mean the difference between life and death.

Furthermore, Wahiawa General Hospital is one of the largest employers in Central Oahu, providing 518 jobs with approximately 90% of its workers residing in the surrounding areas. Most of the employees are members of the ILWU, UPW, and HNA unions. These are very good-paying, professional jobs. The closure of Wahiawa General Hospital would be devastating to entire families as heads of households will need to seek reemployment while keeping up payments for their mortgages, putting food on the table, and doing all they can to make life

"normal" for their children and families.

It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Michelle Ogata and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Mililani. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

**From:** [moshiro2-Elton](#)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** FW: HB 1446 testimony for Health hearing Tuesday, February 14 at 10:00 a.m.  
**Date:** Monday, February 13, 2017 12:06:06 PM

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I'm forwarding you this testimony for HB 1446 from Dr. Akiona.

---

**From:** CPH Testimony  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2017 9:30 AM  
**To:** moshiro2-Elton <moshiro2@capitol.hawaii.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: HB 1446

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**From:** Glenn Akiona [<mailto:glennakionamd@yahoo.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2017 9:00 AM  
**To:** CPH Testimony <[CPHTestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:CPHTestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov)>  
**Subject:** HB 1446

To: The Committee on Health Hearing

From: Glenn P. K. Akiona M.D., J.D.

Re: HB 1446 (Wahiawa General Hospital)

Please consider Wahiawa General Hospital is the only medical center serving the Wahiawa community and the nearby areas of the North Shore. Having experienced the closure of the Hawaii Medical Centers (East & West) in December of 2011 and the aftermath that followed; I am in support of Wahiawa General Hospital and the impact of HB 1446.



## Car wash to save hospital raises far more than money

The line of cars stretched down Center Street, around the corner to Lehua Street and back into the main parking lot of Wahiawa General Hospital. People were waiting 30 minutes or longer to have their car washed, and they looked happy to do it.

Herman's Car Wash, the wildly optimistic fundraiser organized by Herman Killi to raise money to

save Wahiawa General Hospital, was about as grass-roots, we-the-people, it-takes-a-village as anything ever gets.

One woman showed up first thing Saturday morning and told the volunteers she had driven all the way from Kaneohe to bring her \$10 and have her car washed. A little old lady showed up with a hundred dollars in cash but said her car was already clean. The

pickup trucks and older-model Fords and lots of Toyotas. The people doing the washing were hospital nurses and Lilehua sports teams and just regular neighbors from the community.

The hospital cafeteria had planned to make between 30 and 50 sandwiches to feed volunteers. By midmorning they had cranked out 150 sandwiches for everyone who came to help.

Both Kirk Caldwell and Charles Djou showed up, sensing the critical mass of real people, the kinds of folks who make their way to the polls on Election Day.

"I told them, 'Hey, you go support Herman first, Please see CAR WASH, B3



LEE CATALUNA / LCATALUNA@STARADVERTISER.COM

**Herman Killi, who organized the car wash and inspired a community to help save the aging Wahiawa General Hospital, poses with hospital facilities manager Leigh Cruz.**

This is me, Herman Killi. I am in strong support of SB1308. I am trying to raise money to save the hospital but need some help. Please support and pass SB1308 we really need a hospital in Wahiawa! Thank you very much for your time.

## CAR WASH

Continued from B1

and then you can shake hands," one volunteer said, chuckling. She watched them. They both donated to the cause.

Hospital CEO Don Olden did the math in his head. He figured they were washing five cars every six minutes. That meant between 36 and 40 cars an hour. At \$10 a car, he expected to collect between \$1,200 and \$1,500 over the three hours, plus an equal amount in donations from people who gave a little extra.

Hospital Facilities Manager Leigh Cruz came to work even though she was on vacation. She put splitters on the hospital's outside spigots so that each could supply two water hoses. Her phone rang in her pocket: It was the hospital reception desk asking whether there were any more car wash presale tickets. "Nope. All 300 sold out



LEE CATALUNA / LCATALUNA@STARADVERTISER.COM

**Members of Lilehua High School sports teams volunteered to help dry cars Saturday at Herman's Car Wash at Wahiawa General Hospital.**

already," Cruz said. "Tell them they can just get in line and pay when they get up here."

Cruz surveyed the washing and drying operation, decided all was well and headed into the hospital with a huge plastic jar. "I'm gonna go pass this around inside to the employees," Cruz said. "Lots of people said they wanted to be part of this but they had to work."

When the car wash was over, organizers counted

what they had gathered. It totaled more than \$7,000.

Which is quite impressive for a \$10 car wash, but not even a nick in the kind of money the hospital needs.

Of course, \$6 million was never the goal. If you're looking for that kind of money, you lobby government officials, shake down big corporations, tell rich philanthropists you'll put their name on a plaque. No, this was about putting control back into the hands of the people who need and love the hospital, and making the effort more tangible than a GoFundMe account.

Herman looked at all the wet, soapy, smiling people who had believed in his vision. He beamed. "We'll have a meeting next week to plan the next one," he said.

Reach Lee Cataluna at 529-4315 or lcataluna@staradvertiser.com

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**LATE**

Alyssa Imai  
1565 a Royal Palm Drive  
Wahiawa HI, 96786

Dear Chair and Vice chair,

I am testifying for the bill HB1446 for Wahiawa General Hospital. I have lived in Wahiawa my whole life, it has given me great comfort to know that if anything were to happen to my parents or myself that an emergency facility is a few miles away from me. If this hospital were to close due to lack of funding it would affect a lot of people.

The elderly population is growing in Wahiawa and without Wahiawa General Hospital the closet emergency facility would be Pali Momi. This would end up being at least a 30 minute drive to Wahiawa and at least another 30 minutes back to Pali Momi. That's too long of a time for someone to reach a hospital in case of an emergency.

Another population that would be affected would be people living on the North shore. Without Wahiawa General Hospital the closet facility would be too far away for them to get help. According to the bill the nearest hospital is 40 miles away

The last population that would be affected would be the homeless. The population is growing as the years go on and without Wahiawa General Hospital they wouldn't be able to get the help that they need.

Thank you for allowing me to testify.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Joel Okazaki and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Aiea, Hawaii. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will provide Wahiawa General Hospital with positive cash flows and financial stability while it transitions to a new business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities of services and jobs at Koa Ridge.

Wahiawa General Hospital is an essential medical facility in Central and North Shore Oahu. It is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Waialua, Sunset, and Kahuku. This area encompasses nearly one-third of the entire Island of Oahu.

Wahiawa General Hospital is again seeking financial support as the closure would have enormous ramifications for the health, welfare, and safety of these communities. If Wahiawa General Hospital were to close, the nearest emergency room for a person situated in Wahiawa would be either Pali Momi near Pearlridge Center, or Queen's West – both of which are approximately 13 miles away.

For a person living in Waialua or Sunset or Kahuku, the distance would be 20 miles instead of the 8 miles it takes to go to Wahiawa General Hospital. In a case of a critical accident or sickness, the extra miles it takes to get a person to an emergency room might mean the difference between life and death.

Furthermore, Wahiawa General Hospital is one of the largest employers in Central Oahu, providing 518 jobs with approximately 90% of its workers residing in the surrounding areas. Most of the employees are members of the ILWU, UPW, and HNA unions. These are very good-paying, professional jobs. The closure of Wahiawa General Hospital would be devastating to entire families as heads of households will need to seek reemployment while keeping up payments for their mortgages, putting food on the table, and doing all they can to make life "normal" for their children and families.

It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is ARMIN C. CASTRO and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

MILILANI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Josephine Mep and I am a resident of Whitmore

Whitmore. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is OSCAR Jimmy Wep and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_  
Whitmore

. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is mic Bmore and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is ANGELINA S. ATIBURCIO and I am a resident of WAHIAWA

REHABILITATION SERVICES. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health-Committee:

My name is Regina M. Rens and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa, Hawaii. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1448, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Tyenne Anquet and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa Gen. Hospital Long Term am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Michelle D. Gotay and I am a resident of WGH Long term. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Branden Lehrey and I am a resident of Ewa Beach. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Jason Fujinaka and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Mililani. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is PASSANOLLA FERRELL and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Ryan Chong and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Kaimuki. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Hester Vanderweff and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Mililani HI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Tamra Valmoja and I am a resident of Wahiawa

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is ERLINDA VELASCO and I am a resident of KAPOHEI.

I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is SANJOS Almir and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

WAIALUA. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Cindy Pedro and I am a resident of Waialeale.

I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Barbara Ibons and I am a resident of Wahiawa.

I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Charles Egesdal and I am a resident of Kaimuki, HI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Alan Crab and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Kailua. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Santiago, Sarah A. and I am a resident of BA

Kaunaloa pl Wahiawa 96786. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Joshua Freitas and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Kāneʻōhe, Oʻahu. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Kerny Little and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Kailua. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Furthermore, Wahiawa General Hospital is one of the largest employers in Central Oahu, providing 518 jobs with approximately 90% of its workers residing in the surrounding areas. Most of the employees are members of the ILWU, UPW, and HNA unions. These are very good-paying, professional jobs. The closure of Wahiawa General Hospital would be devastating to entire families as heads of households will need to seek reemployment while keeping up payments for their mortgages, putting food on the table, and doing all they can to make life "normal" for their children and families.

It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Denise Quinn and I am a resident of HAWAII  
KAI

\_\_\_\_\_ I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will provide Wahiawa General Hospital with positive cash flows and financial stability while it transitions to a new business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities of services and jobs at Koa Ridge.

Wahiawa General Hospital is an essential medical facility in Central and North Shore Oahu. It is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Waialua, Sunset, and Kahuku. This area encompasses nearly one-third of the entire Island of Oahu.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Ashley Pietschmann and I am a resident of Kapolei.

I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Florante Asep and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Kaunua. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Leslie Fitzgerald and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Kailua. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is DONALD R. GAGE and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

WAHIAWA. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Dustin Moraka and I am a resident of Haleiwa

Haleiwa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Diana Endo and I am a resident of Mililani.

I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Klynn K Keane and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Susan Bailey and I am a resident of Wahiawa

. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is David Bailey and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Malcolm Ramirez and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Ewa Beach. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Michelle Ramirez and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Ewa Beach. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Kevin R. Gativan and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Pearl City, HI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will provide Wahiawa General Hospital with positive cash flows and financial stability while it transitions to a new business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities of services and jobs at Koa Ridge.

Wahiawa General Hospital is an essential medical facility in Central and North Shore Oahu. It is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Waiialua, Sunset, and Kahuku. This area encompasses nearly one-third of the entire Island of Oahu.

Wahiawa General Hospital is again seeking financial support as the closure would have enormous ramifications for the health, welfare, and safety of these communities. If Wahiawa General Hospital were to close, the nearest emergency room for a person situated in Wahiawa would be either Pali Momi near Pearlridge Center, or Queen's West – both of which are approximately 13 miles away.

For a person living in Waiialua or Sunset or Kahuku, the distance would be 20 miles instead of the 8 miles it takes to go to Wahiawa General Hospital. In a case of a critical accident or sickness, the extra miles it takes to get a person to an emergency room might mean the difference between life and death.

Furthermore, Wahiawa General Hospital is one of the largest employers in Central Oahu, providing 518 jobs with approximately 90% of its workers residing in the surrounding areas. Most of the employees are members of the ILWU, UPW, and HNA unions. These are very good-paying, professional jobs. The closure of Wahiawa General Hospital would be devastating to entire families as heads of households will need to seek reemployment while keeping up payments for their mortgages, putting food on the table, and doing all they can to make life "normal" for their children and families.

It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Robert C. Michel and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Christian Kanda and I am a resident of Wahiawa.

I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Mark K. Kancla and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Michael Lightser and I am a resident of EWA BEACH. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Gail Perreira and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Mililani. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
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RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is AIYSSA KAYA and I am a resident of Mililani

Mililani. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Caren Ferrum and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Waiialua. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
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RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Patricia Sabum? and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

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Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
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RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Chris Kaululaau and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Nanakuli. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Darwin Arq and I am a resident of Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Siwayway Ramos and I am a resident of Waiialua HI.

I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
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RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Primo Ramoa and I am a resident of Waialua HI

. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Wahiawa General Hospital is again seeking financial support as the closure would have enormous ramifications for the health, welfare, and safety of these communities. If Wahiawa General Hospital were to close, the nearest emergency room for a person situated in Wahiawa would be either Pali Momi near Pearlridge Center, or Queen's West – both of which are approximately 13 miles away.

For a person living in Waialua or Sunset or Kahuku, the distance would be 20 miles instead of the 8 miles it takes to go to Wahiawa General Hospital. In a case of a critical accident or sickness, the extra miles it takes to get a person to an emergency room might mean the difference between life and death.

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It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Esperanza Cruzosomo and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Waikele HI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Virgilio Q. Onosotomo and I am a resident of Waialua HI

. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Gerald Rayner and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahi Beach HI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Rolando Borromeo and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Ewa Beach. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Catalina Borromeo and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Ewa Beach. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is LORLETEL WAIKUA and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

WAIKUA HI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Peter Duro and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is MAZUI DUVO and I am a resident of rose st. Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Jane C. Rayner and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Ena Beach of Waialua. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is May Ann Galang and I am a resident of Wahiawa

\_\_\_\_\_ I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Quenton Everette and I am a resident of Honolulu HI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Brianne Galapica and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Waialua. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Furthermore, Wahiawa General Hospital is one of the largest employers in Central Oahu, providing 518 jobs with approximately 90% of its workers residing in the surrounding areas. Most of the employees are members of the ILWU, UPW, and HNA unions. These are very good-paying, professional jobs. The closure of Wahiawa General Hospital would be devastating to entire families as heads of households will need to seek reemployment while keeping up payments for their mortgages, putting food on the table, and doing all they can to make life "normal" for their children and families.

It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Darrin Matsunaga and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will provide Wahiawa General Hospital with positive cash flows and financial stability while it transitions to a new business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities of services and jobs at Koa Ridge.

Wahiawa General Hospital is an essential medical facility in Central and North Shore Oahu. It is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Waialua, Sunset, and Kahuku. This area encompasses nearly one-third of the entire Island of Oahu.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Darric Makumiyā and I am a resident of Wahiawa.

I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is CHAD MATSUMIYA and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Leigh Cruz and I am a resident of 135

Karston Dr. Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is DARLENE MATSUMIYA and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is RUDY MAR IBANA and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

WAIALUA HI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Sydra Macadangdang and I am a resident of 94-125 Pahu St. # Waipahu, HI 96797. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Bob Hunter and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

WAHIWA. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Orlynn Hunk and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is ROSALINDA ITZANA and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

WAIALUA HI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Leeah J. and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is ROLANDO ACEBAYANI and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

WAIPIAAU HAWAII. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Russell Madamba and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Mililani. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will provide Wahiawa General Hospital with positive cash flows and financial stability while it transitions to a new business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities of services and jobs at Koa Ridge.

Wahiawa General Hospital is an essential medical facility in Central and North Shore Oahu. It is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Waialua, Sunset, and Kahuku. This area encompasses nearly one-third of the entire Island of Oahu.

Wahiawa General Hospital is again seeking financial support as the closure would have enormous ramifications for the health, welfare, and safety of these communities. If Wahiawa General Hospital were to close, the nearest emergency room for a person situated in Wahiawa would be either Pali Momi near Pearlridge Center, or Queen's West – both of which are approximately 13 miles away.

For a person living in Waialua or Sunset or Kahuku, the distance would be 20 miles instead of the 8 miles it takes to go to Wahiawa General Hospital. In a case of a critical accident or sickness, the extra miles it takes to get a person to an emergency room might mean the difference between life and death.

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It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Marjorie Madamba and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Mililani. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Wahiawa General Hospital is an essential medical facility in Central and North Shore Oahu. It is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Waialua, Sunset, and Kahuku. This area encompasses nearly one-third of the entire Island of Oahu.

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For a person living in Waialua or Sunset or Kahuku, the distance would be 20 miles instead of the 8 miles it takes to go to Wahiawa General Hospital. In a case of a critical accident or sickness, the extra miles it takes to get a person to an emergency room might mean the difference between life and death.

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It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Suair Aylowayani and I am a resident of 94-400 Kolohelele St. Waikeolu HI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will provide Wahiawa General Hospital with positive cash flows and financial stability while it transitions to a new business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities of services and jobs at Koa Ridge.

Wahiawa General Hospital is an essential medical facility in Central and North Shore Oahu. It is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Waialua, Sunset, and Kahuku. This area encompasses nearly one-third of the entire Island of Oahu.

Wahiawa General Hospital is again seeking financial support as the closure would have enormous ramifications for the health, welfare, and safety of these communities. If Wahiawa General Hospital were to close, the nearest emergency room for a person situated in Wahiawa would be either Pali Momi near Pearlridge Center, or Queen's West – both of which are approximately 13 miles away.

For a person living in Waialua or Sunset or Kahuku, the distance would be 20 miles instead of the 8 miles it takes to go to Wahiawa General Hospital. In a case of a critical accident or sickness, the extra miles it takes to get a person to an emergency room might mean the difference between life and death.

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It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.



Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Donna Ballera and I am a resident of Wahiawa.

I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will provide Wahiawa General Hospital with positive cash flows and financial stability while it transitions to a new business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities of services and jobs at Koa Ridge.

Wahiawa General Hospital is an essential medical facility in Central and North Shore Oahu. It is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Waialua, Sunset, and Kahuku. This area encompasses nearly one-third of the entire Island of Oahu.

Wahiawa General Hospital is again seeking financial support as the closure would have enormous ramifications for the health, welfare, and safety of these communities. If Wahiawa General Hospital were to close, the nearest emergency room for a person situated in Wahiawa would be either Pali Momi near Pearlridge Center, or Queen's West – both of which are approximately 13 miles away.

For a person living in Waialua or Sunset or Kahuku, the distance would be 20 miles instead of the 8 miles it takes to go to Wahiawa General Hospital. In a case of a critical accident or sickness, the extra miles it takes to get a person to an emergency room might mean the difference between life and death.

Furthermore, Wahiawa General Hospital is one of the largest employers in Central Oahu, providing 518 jobs with approximately 90% of its workers residing in the surrounding areas. Most of the employees are members of the ILWU, UPW, and HNA unions. These are very good-paying, professional jobs. The closure of Wahiawa General Hospital would be devastating to entire families as heads of households will need to seek reemployment while keeping up payments for their mortgages, putting food on the table, and doing all they can to make life "normal" for their children and families.

It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Aurora Romero and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will provide Wahiawa General Hospital with positive cash flows and financial stability while it transitions to a new business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities of services and jobs at Koa Ridge.

Wahiawa General Hospital is an essential medical facility in Central and North Shore Oahu. It is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Waialua, Sunset, and Kahuku. This area encompasses nearly one-third of the entire Island of Oahu.

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Furthermore, Wahiawa General Hospital is one of the largest employers in Central Oahu, providing 518 jobs with approximately 90% of its workers residing in the surrounding areas. Most of the employees are members of the ILWU, UPW, and HNA unions. These are very good-paying, professional jobs. The closure of Wahiawa General Hospital would be devastating to entire families as heads of households will need to seek reemployment while keeping up payments for their mortgages, putting food on the table, and doing all they can to make life "normal" for their children and families.

It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Leshi Claire Ballera and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.





Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is IAN DOMINGO and I am a resident of Kalihi.

I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will provide Wahiawa General Hospital with positive cash flows and financial stability while it transitions to a new business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities of services and jobs at Koa Ridge.

Wahiawa General Hospital is an essential medical facility in Central and North Shore Oahu. It is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Waialua, Sunset, and Kahuku. This area encompasses nearly one-third of the entire Island of Oahu.

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Furthermore, Wahiawa General Hospital is one of the largest employers in Central Oahu, providing 518 jobs with approximately 90% of its workers residing in the surrounding areas. Most of the employees are members of the ILWU, UPW, and HNA unions. These are very good-paying, professional jobs. The closure of Wahiawa General Hospital would be devastating to entire families as heads of households will need to seek reemployment while keeping up payments for their mortgages, putting food on the table, and doing all they can to make life "normal" for their children and families.

It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Cynthia Domingo and I am a resident of EWA BEACH. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will provide Wahiawa General Hospital with positive cash flows and financial stability while it transitions to a new business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities of services and jobs at Koa Ridge.

Wahiawa General Hospital is an essential medical facility in Central and North Shore Oahu. It is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Waialua, Sunset, and Kahuku. This area encompasses nearly one-third of the entire Island of Oahu.

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Furthermore, Wahiawa General Hospital is one of the largest employers in Central Oahu, providing 518 jobs with approximately 90% of its workers residing in the surrounding areas. Most of the employees are members of the ILWU, UPW, and HNA unions. These are very good-paying, professional jobs. The closure of Wahiawa General Hospital would be devastating to entire families as heads of households will need to seek reemployment while keeping up payments for their mortgages, putting food on the table, and doing all they can to make life "normal" for their children and families.

It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Eddie Domingo and I am a resident of EWING BEACH

EWING BEACH. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Mark Domingo and I am a resident of EW A BEACH. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Lisa Graham and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Lyle Kuradka and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wai'alu. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is STARON KURAKA and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wai'ialua. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will provide Wahiawa General Hospital with positive cash flows and financial stability while it transitions to a new business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities of services and jobs at Koa Ridge.

Wahiawa General Hospital is an essential medical facility in Central and North Shore Oahu. It is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Wai'ialua, Sunset, and Kahuku. This area encompasses nearly one-third of the entire Island of Oahu.

Wahiawa General Hospital is again seeking financial support as the closure would have enormous ramifications for the health, welfare, and safety of these communities. If Wahiawa General Hospital were to close, the nearest emergency room for a person situated in Wahiawa would be either Pali Momi near Pearlridge Center, or Queen's West – both of which are approximately 13 miles away.

For a person living in Wai'ialua or Sunset or Kahuku, the distance would be 20 miles instead of the 8 miles it takes to go to Wahiawa General Hospital. In a case of a critical accident or sickness, the extra miles it takes to get a person to an emergency room might mean the difference between life and death.

Furthermore, Wahiawa General Hospital is one of the largest employers in Central Oahu, providing 518 jobs with approximately 90% of its workers residing in the surrounding areas. Most of the employees are members of the ILWU, UPW, and HNA unions. These are very good-paying, professional jobs. The closure of Wahiawa General Hospital would be devastating to entire families as heads of households will need to seek reemployment while keeping up payments for their mortgages, putting food on the table, and doing all they can to make life "normal" for their children and families.

It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Patricia Reynolds and I am a resident of Waialua.

I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Madison Maestas and I am a resident of Waiakua.

I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Cara Scoville and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Robert Asan and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Dawn Lee and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Thamara Gallati - Rodriguez and I am a resident of Kapolei, HI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Shannon Oxtan and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Honolulu. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is BRIAN EASTON and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

KAILUA, HI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Rachel Hornmann and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Honolulu, HI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is David Naone and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Mililani. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Paul Shum and I am a resident of Waipahu

. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Joanne Galang and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Wahiawa General Hospital is again seeking financial support as the closure would have enormous ramifications for the health, welfare, and safety of these communities. If Wahiawa General Hospital were to close, the nearest emergency room for a person situated in Wahiawa would be either Pali Momi near Pearlridge Center, or Queen's West – both of which are approximately 13 miles away.

For a person living in Waialua or Sunset or Kahuku, the distance would be 20 miles instead of the 8 miles it takes to go to Wahiawa General Hospital. In a case of a critical accident or sickness, the extra miles it takes to get a person to an emergency room might mean the difference between life and death.

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It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is James Domingo and I am a resident of Wahiawa.

I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is David Damas and I am a resident of Wahiawa.

I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Shea Freedman and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Mike Freydeman and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is MURIEL BLEWIE DE SUMNER and I am a resident of 94-421

16200101A ST. MARY'S MURKUMU. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is JULIANA GOWERO and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

MILILANI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Mary Duarte and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

WGH Long-term. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Branden Galaposa and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Robert Chavesma, Jr and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Honolulu. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Debra Agos and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Mililani. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Andrea Barayuga and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wai'alu. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Florentina Barayuga and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Furthermore, Wahiawa General Hospital is one of the largest employers in Central Oahu, providing 518 jobs with approximately 90% of its workers residing in the surrounding areas. Most of the employees are members of the ILWU, UPW, and HNA unions. These are very good-paying, professional jobs. The closure of Wahiawa General Hospital would be devastating to entire families as heads of households will need to seek reemployment while keeping up payments for their mortgages, putting food on the table, and doing all they can to make life "normal" for their children and families.

It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Randal Galois and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Waialua, HI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will provide Wahiawa General Hospital with positive cash flows and financial stability while it transitions to a new business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities of services and jobs at Koa Ridge.

Wahiawa General Hospital is an essential medical facility in Central and North Shore Oahu. It is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Waialua, Sunset, and Kahuku. This area encompasses nearly one-third of the entire Island of Oahu.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Beverly Yamada and I am a resident of Honolulu HI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Katerin Hele and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is FLOR ORIELLO and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Haleiwa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Lester Lele and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Hakima. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Tafao Lele and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Haleima. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Tinei Fau and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Waiialua. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Andrew Pasqua and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Waiapu HI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is ALICIA FARINAC and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

WAIHAWA HAWAII. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is WILSON LAYUAN and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is SAMUEL FARINHA and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

WAHIAWA HAWAII. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Dolores U. Gana! and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Waipahu HI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Cherie Liboy and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_  
Oregon. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT  
of House Bill #446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and  
benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving  
Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa  
General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community.  
Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will  
provide Wahiawa General Hospital with positive cash flows and financial stability while it  
transitions to a new business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities of services and  
jobs at Koa Ridge.

Wahiawa General Hospital is an essential medical facility in Central and North Shore  
Oahu. It is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area  
extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Waialua, Sunset, and Kahuku. This area encompasses  
nearly one-third of the entire Island of Oahu.

Wahiawa General Hospital is again seeking financial support as the closure would have  
enormous ramifications for the health, welfare, and safety of these communities. If Wahiawa  
General Hospital were to close, the nearest emergency room for a person situated in Wahiawa  
would be either Pali Momi near Pearlridge Center, or Queen's West – both of which are  
approximately 13 miles away.

For a person living in Waialua or Sunset or Kahuku, the distance would be 20 miles  
instead of the 8 miles it takes to go to Wahiawa General Hospital. In a case of a critical accident  
or sickness, the extra miles it takes to get a person to an emergency room might mean the  
difference between life and death.

Furthermore, Wahiawa General Hospital is one of the largest employers in Central Oahu,  
providing 518 jobs with approximately 90% of its workers residing in the surrounding areas. Most  
of the employees are members of the ILWU, UPW, and HNA unions. These are very good-  
paying, professional jobs. The closure of Wahiawa General Hospital would be devastating to  
entire families as heads of households will need to seek reemployment while keeping up  
payments for their mortgages, putting food on the table, and doing all they can to make life  
"normal" for their children and families.

It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to  
appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you  
to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is JERMIN ANTONIO and I am a resident of MILILANI.

I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will provide Wahiawa General Hospital with positive cash flows and financial stability while it transitions to a new business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities of services and jobs at Koa Ridge.

Wahiawa General Hospital is an essential medical facility in Central and North Shore Oahu. It is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Waialua, Sunset, and Kahuku. This area encompasses nearly one-third of the entire Island of Oahu.

Wahiawa General Hospital is again seeking financial support as the closure would have enormous ramifications for the health, welfare, and safety of these communities. If Wahiawa General Hospital were to close, the nearest emergency room for a person situated in Wahiawa would be either Pali Momi near Pearlridge Center, or Queen's West – both of which are approximately 13 miles away.

For a person living in Waialua or Sunset or Kahuku, the distance would be 20 miles instead of the 8 miles it takes to go to Wahiawa General Hospital. In a case of a critical accident or sickness, the extra miles it takes to get a person to an emergency room might mean the difference between life and death.

Furthermore, Wahiawa General Hospital is one of the largest employers in Central Oahu, providing 518 jobs with approximately 90% of its workers residing in the surrounding areas. Most of the employees are members of the ILWU, UPW, and HNA unions. These are very good-paying, professional jobs. The closure of Wahiawa General Hospital would be devastating to entire families as heads of households will need to seek reemployment while keeping up payments for their mortgages, putting food on the table, and doing all they can to make life "normal" for their children and families.

It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is JOSE ANTONIO and I am a resident of MILILANI

. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will provide Wahiawa General Hospital with positive cash flows and financial stability while it transitions to a new business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities of services and jobs at Koa Ridge.

Wahiawa General Hospital is an essential medical facility in Central and North Shore Oahu. It is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Waialua, Sunset, and Kahuku. This area encompasses nearly one-third of the entire Island of Oahu.

Wahiawa General Hospital is again seeking financial support as the closure would have enormous ramifications for the health, welfare, and safety of these communities. If Wahiawa General Hospital were to close, the nearest emergency room for a person situated in Wahiawa would be either Pali Momi near Pearlridge Center, or Queen's West – both of which are approximately 13 miles away.

For a person living in Waialua or Sunset or Kahuku, the distance would be 20 miles instead of the 8 miles it takes to go to Wahiawa General Hospital. In a case of a critical accident or sickness, the extra miles it takes to get a person to an emergency room might mean the difference between life and death.

Furthermore, Wahiawa General Hospital is one of the largest employers in Central Oahu, providing 518 jobs with approximately 90% of its workers residing in the surrounding areas. Most of the employees are members of the ILWU, UPW, and HNA unions. These are very good-paying, professional jobs. The closure of Wahiawa General Hospital would be devastating to entire families as heads of households will need to seek reemployment while keeping up payments for their mortgages, putting food on the table, and doing all they can to make life "normal" for their children and families.

It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is DAISY JOY ANTONIO and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

MILILANI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will provide Wahiawa General Hospital with positive cash flows and financial stability while it transitions to a new business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities of services and jobs at Koa Ridge.

Wahiawa General Hospital is an essential medical facility in Central and North Shore Oahu. It is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Waialua, Sunset, and Kahuku. This area encompasses nearly one-third of the entire Island of Oahu.

Wahiawa General Hospital is again seeking financial support as the closure would have enormous ramifications for the health, welfare, and safety of these communities. If Wahiawa General Hospital were to close, the nearest emergency room for a person situated in Wahiawa would be either Pali Momi near Pearlridge Center, or Queen's West – both of which are approximately 13 miles away.

For a person living in Waialua or Sunset or Kahuku, the distance would be 20 miles instead of the 8 miles it takes to go to Wahiawa General Hospital. In a case of a critical accident or sickness, the extra miles it takes to get a person to an emergency room might mean the difference between life and death.

Furthermore, Wahiawa General Hospital is one of the largest employers in Central Oahu, providing 518 jobs with approximately 90% of its workers residing in the surrounding areas. Most of the employees are members of the ILWU, UPW, and HNA unions. These are very good-paying, professional jobs. The closure of Wahiawa General Hospital would be devastating to entire families as heads of households will need to seek reemployment while keeping up payments for their mortgages, putting food on the table, and doing all they can to make life "normal" for their children and families.

It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is ROY BALUBAR and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

MILILANI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will provide Wahiawa General Hospital with positive cash flows and financial stability while it transitions to a new business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities of services and jobs at Koa Ridge.

Wahiawa General Hospital is an essential medical facility in Central and North Shore Oahu. It is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Waialua, Sunset, and Kahuku. This area encompasses nearly one-third of the entire Island of Oahu.

Wahiawa General Hospital is again seeking financial support as the closure would have enormous ramifications for the health, welfare, and safety of these communities. If Wahiawa General Hospital were to close, the nearest emergency room for a person situated in Wahiawa would be either Pali Momi near Pearlridge Center, or Queen's West – both of which are approximately 13 miles away.

For a person living in Waialua or Sunset or Kahuku, the distance would be 20 miles instead of the 8 miles it takes to go to Wahiawa General Hospital. In a case of a critical accident or sickness, the extra miles it takes to get a person to an emergency room might mean the difference between life and death.

Furthermore, Wahiawa General Hospital is one of the largest employers in Central Oahu, providing 518 jobs with approximately 90% of its workers residing in the surrounding areas. Most of the employees are members of the ILWU, UPW, and HNA unions. These are very good-paying, professional jobs. The closure of Wahiawa General Hospital would be devastating to entire families as heads of households will need to seek reemployment while keeping up payments for their mortgages, putting food on the table, and doing all they can to make life "normal" for their children and families.

It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is MERLITA ANTONIO and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

MILILANI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will provide Wahiawa General Hospital with positive cash flows and financial stability while it transitions to a new business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities of services and jobs at Koa Ridge.

Wahiawa General Hospital is an essential medical facility in Central and North Shore Oahu. It is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Waialua, Sunset, and Kahuku. This area encompasses nearly one-third of the entire Island of Oahu.

Wahiawa General Hospital is again seeking financial support as the closure would have enormous ramifications for the health, welfare, and safety of these communities. If Wahiawa General Hospital were to close, the nearest emergency room for a person situated in Wahiawa would be either Pali Momi near Pearlridge Center, or Queen's West – both of which are approximately 13 miles away.

For a person living in Waialua or Sunset or Kahuku, the distance would be 20 miles instead of the 8 miles it takes to go to Wahiawa General Hospital. In a case of a critical accident or sickness, the extra miles it takes to get a person to an emergency room might mean the difference between life and death.

Furthermore, Wahiawa General Hospital is one of the largest employers in Central Oahu, providing 518 jobs with approximately 90% of its workers residing in the surrounding areas. Most of the employees are members of the ILWU, UPW, and HNA unions. These are very good-paying, professional jobs. The closure of Wahiawa General Hospital would be devastating to entire families as heads of households will need to seek reemployment while keeping up payments for their mortgages, putting food on the table, and doing all they can to make life "normal" for their children and families.

It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is JERWIN ANTONIO and I am a resident of MILILANI.

I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will provide Wahiawa General Hospital with positive cash flows and financial stability while it transitions to a new business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities of services and jobs at Koa Ridge.

Wahiawa General Hospital is an essential medical facility in Central and North Shore Oahu. It is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Waialua, Sunset, and Kahuku. This area encompasses nearly one-third of the entire Island of Oahu.

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For a person living in Waialua or Sunset or Kahuku, the distance would be 20 miles instead of the 8 miles it takes to go to Wahiawa General Hospital. In a case of a critical accident or sickness, the extra miles it takes to get a person to an emergency room might mean the difference between life and death.

Furthermore, Wahiawa General Hospital is one of the largest employers in Central Oahu, providing 518 jobs with approximately 90% of its workers residing in the surrounding areas. Most of the employees are members of the ILWU, UPW, and HNA unions. These are very good-paying, professional jobs. The closure of Wahiawa General Hospital would be devastating to entire families as heads of households will need to seek reemployment while keeping up payments for their mortgages, putting food on the table, and doing all they can to make life "normal" for their children and families.

It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is JOCELYN BALUBAZO and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

MILILANI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will provide Wahiawa General Hospital with positive cash flows and financial stability while it transitions to a new business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities of services and jobs at Koa Ridge.

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Furthermore, Wahiawa General Hospital is one of the largest employers in Central Oahu, providing 518 jobs with approximately 90% of its workers residing in the surrounding areas. Most of the employees are members of the ILWU, UPW, and HNA unions. These are very good-paying, professional jobs. The closure of Wahiawa General Hospital would be devastating to entire families as heads of households will need to seek reemployment while keeping up payments for their mortgages, putting food on the table, and doing all they can to make life "normal" for their children and families.

It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.



Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Florelyn Borrero and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Mililani. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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For a person living in Waialua or Sunset or Kahuku, the distance would be 20 miles instead of the 8 miles it takes to go to Wahiawa General Hospital. In a case of a critical accident or sickness, the extra miles it takes to get a person to an emergency room might mean the difference between life and death.

Furthermore, Wahiawa General Hospital is one of the largest employers in Central Oahu, providing 518 jobs with approximately 90% of its workers residing in the surrounding areas. Most of the employees are members of the ILWU, UPW, and HNA unions. These are very good-paying, professional jobs. The closure of Wahiawa General Hospital would be devastating to entire families as heads of households will need to seek reemployment while keeping up payments for their mortgages, putting food on the table, and doing all they can to make life "normal" for their children and families.

It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Charles Borromeo and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Mililani. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Furthermore, Wahiawa General Hospital is one of the largest employers in Central Oahu, providing 518 jobs with approximately 90% of its workers residing in the surrounding areas. Most of the employees are members of the ILWU, UPW, and HNA unions. These are very good-paying, professional jobs. The closure of Wahiawa General Hospital would be devastating to entire families as heads of households will need to seek reemployment while keeping up payments for their mortgages, putting food on the table, and doing all they can to make life "normal" for their children and families.

It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Liza Garlitos and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Pearl City. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Wahiawa General Hospital is an essential medical facility in Central and North Shore Oahu. It is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Waialua, Sunset, and Kahuku. This area encompasses nearly one-third of the entire Island of Oahu.

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It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is George Garlitos and I am a resident of Pearl City. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will provide Wahiawa General Hospital with positive cash flows and financial stability while it transitions to a new business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities of services and jobs at Koa Ridge.

Wahiawa General Hospital is an essential medical facility in Central and North Shore Oahu. It is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Waialua, Sunset, and Kahuku. This area encompasses nearly one-third of the entire Island of Oahu.

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Furthermore, Wahiawa General Hospital is one of the largest employers in Central Oahu, providing 518 jobs with approximately 90% of its workers residing in the surrounding areas. Most of the employees are members of the ILWU, UPW, and HNA unions. These are very good-paying, professional jobs. The closure of Wahiawa General Hospital would be devastating to entire families as heads of households will need to seek reemployment while keeping up payments for their mortgages, putting food on the table, and doing all they can to make life "normal" for their children and families.

It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Tien-chi TWU and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Mililani. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will provide Wahiawa General Hospital with positive cash flows and financial stability while it transitions to a new business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities of services and jobs at Koa Ridge.

Wahiawa General Hospital is an essential medical facility in Central and North Shore Oahu. It is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Waiialua, Sunset, and Kahuku. This area encompasses nearly one-third of the entire Island of Oahu.

Wahiawa General Hospital is again seeking financial support as the closure would have enormous ramifications for the health, welfare, and safety of these communities. If Wahiawa General Hospital were to close, the nearest emergency room for a person situated in Wahiawa would be either Pali Momi near Pearlridge Center, or Queen's West – both of which are approximately 13 miles away.

For a person living in Waiialua or Sunset or Kahuku, the distance would be 20 miles instead of the 8 miles it takes to go to Wahiawa General Hospital. In a case of a critical accident or sickness, the extra miles it takes to get a person to an emergency room might mean the difference between life and death.

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It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Jeanette Twu and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Mililani. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is William Duro and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Trinidad DVO and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is IRISH ARA and I am a resident of Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Jonathan Russo and I am a resident of Haleiwa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Carla Herrera and I am a resident of Haleiwa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Sheri Herrera and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Haleiwa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Holly Nichols and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Pennsylvania. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Cynthia Mishina and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Rosemarie McDonald and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Waipahua. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Krystal Anderson and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is LARA HARKNEY and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

MILILANI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will provide Wahiawa General Hospital with positive cash flows and financial stability while it transitions to a new business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities of services and jobs at Koa Ridge.

Wahiawa General Hospital is an essential medical facility in Central and North Shore Oahu. It is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Waialua, Sunset, and Kahuku. This area encompasses nearly one-third of the entire Island of Oahu.

Wahiawa General Hospital is again seeking financial support as the closure would have enormous ramifications for the health, welfare, and safety of these communities. If Wahiawa General Hospital were to close, the nearest emergency room for a person situated in Wahiawa would be either Pali Momi near Pearlridge Center, or Queen's West – both of which are approximately 13 miles away.

For a person living in Waialua or Sunset or Kahuku, the distance would be 20 miles instead of the 8 miles it takes to go to Wahiawa General Hospital. In a case of a critical accident or sickness, the extra miles it takes to get a person to an emergency room might mean the difference between life and death.

Furthermore, Wahiawa General Hospital is one of the largest employers in Central Oahu, providing 518 jobs with approximately 90% of its workers residing in the surrounding areas. Most of the employees are members of the ILWU, UPW, and HNA unions. These are very good-paying, professional jobs. The closure of Wahiawa General Hospital would be devastating to entire families as heads of households will need to seek reemployment while keeping up payments for their mortgages, putting food on the table, and doing all they can to make life "normal" for their children and families.

It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Chenoa Oau and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa HI, 96786. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Frank Simpson and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Waikua. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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For a person living in Waialua or Sunset or Kahuku, the distance would be 20 miles instead of the 8 miles it takes to go to Wahiawa General Hospital. In a case of a critical accident or sickness, the extra miles it takes to get a person to an emergency room might mean the difference between life and death.

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It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Donna Supranovich and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Waiiua. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Beatriz Ganero and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Waijahu H. 96797. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Porazon Solis and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Rhea Maximo and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Furthermore, Wahiawa General Hospital is one of the largest employers in Central Oahu, providing 518 jobs with approximately 90% of its workers residing in the surrounding areas. Most of the employees are members of the ILWU, UPW, and HNA unions. These are very good-paying, professional jobs. The closure of Wahiawa General Hospital would be devastating to entire families as heads of households will need to seek reemployment while keeping up payments for their mortgages, putting food on the table, and doing all they can to make life "normal" for their children and families.

It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Pamela Cruz and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Ewa Beach. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Furthermore, Wahiawa General Hospital is one of the largest employers providing 518 jobs with approximately 90% of its workers residing in the area. Many of the employees are members of the ILWU, UPW, and other unions, many of whom are paying, professional jobs. The closure of Wahiawa General Hospital would impact entire families as heads of households will need to seek financial assistance for mortgage payments for their mortgages, putting food on the table, and "normal" for their children and families.

It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I request that you appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT the bill and ask you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Cheryl Ragraola and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

67-251 Kukui circle Waiakua, HI 96791 am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Sarah Salisbury and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_  
PA

\_\_\_\_\_ I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is MADelyn RAGSAC and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

WAHIAWA. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Veronica Cadelinia and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Ewa Beach. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is ALMA C. ACASIO and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Whitmore Village, Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Wahiawa General Hospital is again seeking financial support as the closure would have enormous ramifications for the health, welfare, and safety of these communities. If Wahiawa General Hospital were to close, the nearest emergency room for a person situated in Wahiawa would be either Pali Momi near Pearlridge Center, or Queen's West – both of which are approximately 13 miles away.

For a person living in Waialua or Sunset or Kahuku, the distance would be 20 miles instead of the 8 miles it takes to go to Wahiawa General Hospital. In a case of a critical accident or sickness, the extra miles it takes to get a person to an emergency room might mean the difference between life and death.

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It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Matilda Isala and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Makakilo. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Michael Kameya and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Liliha. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Marylu Renon and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Kapolei, HI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Eden Mabini and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Waipahu. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is FRANCIS TOMER and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

WAHIAWA. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Ma. Gennylou Lagunda and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa, HI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Leslie Starginson and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Kapiole'i. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Kenneth Freedman and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Waialua HI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Jeri Faust-Roulin and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Koilya. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is FRANK S. PAVAO III and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Jana Barcelon and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa, HI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Melvie A. Pascual and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Haleiwa HI 96712. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Furthermore, Wahiawa General Hospital is one of the largest employers in Central Oahu, providing 518 jobs with approximately 90% of its workers residing in the surrounding areas. Most of the employees are members of the ILWU, UPW, and HNA unions. These are very good-paying, professional jobs. The closure of Wahiawa General Hospital would be devastating to entire families as heads of households will need to seek reemployment while keeping up payments for their mortgages, putting food on the table, and doing all they can to make life "normal" for their children and families.

It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.



Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Pat Perreira and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Kailua. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will provide Wahiawa General Hospital with positive cash flows and financial stability while it transitions to a new business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities of services and jobs at Koa Ridge.

Wahiawa General Hospital is an essential medical facility in Central and North Shore Oahu. It is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Waialua, Sunset, and Kahuku. This area encompasses nearly one-third of the entire Island of Oahu.

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It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Ron Perreira and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Kailua. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Taslimi Carter and I am a resident of Pearl Harbor. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will provide Wahiawa General Hospital with positive cash flows and financial stability while it transitions to a new business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities of services and jobs at Koa Ridge.

Wahiawa General Hospital is an essential medical facility in Central and North Shore Oahu. It is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Waialua, Sunset, and Kahuku. This area encompasses nearly one-third of the entire Island of Oahu.

Wahiawa General Hospital is again seeking financial support as the closure would have enormous ramifications for the health, welfare, and safety of these communities. If Wahiawa General Hospital were to close, the nearest emergency room for a person situated in Wahiawa would be either Pali Momi near Pearlridge Center, or Queen's West – both of which are approximately 13 miles away.

For a person living in Waialua or Sunset or Kahuku, the distance would be 20 miles instead of the 8 miles it takes to go to Wahiawa General Hospital. In a case of a critical accident or sickness, the extra miles it takes to get a person to an emergency room might mean the difference between life and death.

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It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Jennife Carter and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Pearl Harbor. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Wahiawa General Hospital is an essential medical facility in Central and North Shore Oahu. It is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Waialua, Sunset, and Kahuku. This area encompasses nearly one-third of the entire Island of Oahu.

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It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Robert Barron and I am a resident of Kapolei, Hawaii. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Angelica Perreira and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Kailua, HI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Sherry Barron and I am a resident of Kapolei, Hawaii. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Brian Beattie and I am a resident of Mililani, HI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Preston Cole and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Mililani, HI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Kevin J. Cole and I am a resident of Mililani HI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Jarce K. Cole and I am a resident of Haukapuni  
Mililani, HI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT  
of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and  
benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa  
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It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to  
appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you  
to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is David Kurihara and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Mililani. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Furthermore, Wahiawa General Hospital is one of the largest employers in Central Oahu, providing 518 jobs with approximately 90% of its workers residing in the surrounding areas. Most of the employees are members of the ILWU, UPW, and HNA unions. These are very good-paying, professional jobs. The closure of Wahiawa General Hospital would be devastating to entire families as heads of households will need to seek reemployment while keeping up payments for their mortgages, putting food on the table, and doing all they can to make life "normal" for their children and families.

It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Annie Savannah Beattie and I am a resident of Mililani, HI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will provide Wahiawa General Hospital with positive cash flows and financial stability while it transitions to a new business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities of services and jobs at Koa Ridge.

Wahiawa General Hospital is an essential medical facility in Central and North Shore Oahu. It is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Waialua, Sunset, and Kahuku. This area encompasses nearly one-third of the entire Island of Oahu.

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It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

*AS Beattie, OTR/L*

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Branan Oxten and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Honolulu. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Richard Rodriguez and I am a resident of Kapolei, HI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will provide Wahiawa General Hospital with positive cash flows and financial stability while it transitions to a new business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities of services and jobs at Koa Ridge.

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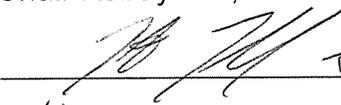
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It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is  TATE TSULAMOTO and I am a resident of AIEA,  
HAWAII.

I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Linda Kuribara and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Mililani. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Venise Mussler and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Waiialua. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Sofa Lale and I am a resident of Waiialua.

I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Avetone Malaculu and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Waialua. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Levody Lake and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Ewa Beach. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Balorio Pizano and I am a resident of Wahiawa

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Yoniella M. Villacorta and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Marissa L. Menor and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Furthermore, Wahiawa General Hospital is one of the largest employers in Central Oahu, providing 518 jobs with approximately 90% of its workers residing in the surrounding areas. Most of the employees are members of the ILWU, UPW, and HNA unions. These are very good-paying, professional jobs. The closure of Wahiawa General Hospital would be devastating to entire families as heads of households will need to seek reemployment while keeping up payments for their mortgages, putting food on the table, and doing all they can to make life "normal" for their children and families.

It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Lynette Tanaka and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_  
Hawaii.

I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will provide Wahiawa General Hospital with positive cash flows and financial stability while it transitions to a new business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities of services and jobs at Koa Ridge.

Wahiawa General Hospital is an essential medical facility in Central and North Shore Oahu. It is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Waialua, Sunset, and Kahuku. This area encompasses nearly one-third of the entire Island of Oahu.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is DARREN ANDERSON and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

HONOLULU, HI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is David Toyama and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Kailua. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will provide Wahiawa General Hospital with positive cash flows and financial stability while it transitions to a new business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities of services and jobs at Koa Ridge.

Wahiawa General Hospital is an essential medical facility in Central and North Shore Oahu. It is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Waialua, Sunset, and Kahuku. This area encompasses nearly one-third of the entire Island of Oahu.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Diosy P. dela Cruz and I am a resident of Wahiawa

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is JACK TUCKER and I am a resident of Wahiawa

Long Term # 168-19. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Mitchell Coronel and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Waipahu, Hi, 96797. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Karen Pasion and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Rosemarie Alys and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa, HI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Teresita Bell and I am a resident of Haleiwa

HI No 712. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Vicky Lawia and I am a resident of Waipahu  
94-245 Leonahine St #31 Waipahu. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT  
of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and  
benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Amanda Tomayo and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa General Hospital. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is HELEN AGTINA and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

WAIALUA. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Lolesio Iosefo and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will provide Wahiawa General Hospital with positive cash flows and financial stability while it transitions to a new business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities of services and jobs at Koa Ridge.

Wahiawa General Hospital is an essential medical facility in Central and North Shore Oahu. It is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Waialua, Sunset, and Kahuku. This area encompasses nearly one-third of the entire Island of Oahu.

Wahiawa General Hospital is again seeking financial support as the closure would have enormous ramifications for the health, welfare, and safety of these communities. If Wahiawa General Hospital were to close, the nearest emergency room for a person situated in Wahiawa would be either Pali Momi near Pearlridge Center, or Queen's West – both of which are approximately 13 miles away.

For a person living in Waialua or Sunset or Kahuku, the distance would be 20 miles instead of the 8 miles it takes to go to Wahiawa General Hospital. In a case of a critical accident or sickness, the extra miles it takes to get a person to an emergency room might mean the difference between life and death.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Emma Toyama and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Kailua. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Doris Toyama and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Honolulu. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will provide Wahiawa General Hospital with positive cash flows and financial stability while it transitions to a new business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities of services and jobs at Koa Ridge.

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It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.



Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is ALVIN DAVE CAMUON and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

WAHIAWA HI' OLUKU. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is JUDITH SANCHEZ and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

WAIHAWA HAWAII. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is HELARIE JANE LAYUGAN and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

WAHIAWA. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is JANNA FARINAS and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

WAHIAWA. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is PHILIP FARINAS and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

WAHIAWA HAWAII. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is LEONARDO CEREDON and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Whitmore Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is AIDA CEREDON and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Whitmore Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is ROSALINA MANZANO and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Whitmore Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Peta Cabias and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Waiialua. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Jennifer Talo and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will provide Wahiawa General Hospital with positive cash flows and financial stability while it transitions to a new business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities of services and jobs at Koa Ridge.

Wahiawa General Hospital is an essential medical facility in Central and North Shore Oahu. It is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Waiialua, Sunset, and Kahuku. This area encompasses nearly one-third of the entire Island of Oahu.

Wahiawa General Hospital is again seeking financial support as the closure would have enormous ramifications for the health, welfare, and safety of these communities. If Wahiawa General Hospital were to close, the nearest emergency room for a person situated in Wahiawa would be either Pali Momi near Pearlridge Center, or Queen's West – both of which are approximately 13 miles away.

For a person living in Waiialua or Sunset or Kahuku, the distance would be 20 miles instead of the 8 miles it takes to go to Wahiawa General Hospital. In a case of a critical accident or sickness, the extra miles it takes to get a person to an emergency room might mean the difference between life and death.

Furthermore, Wahiawa General Hospital is one of the largest employers in Central Oahu, providing 518 jobs with approximately 90% of its workers residing in the surrounding areas. Most of the employees are members of the ILWU, UPW, and HNA unions. These are very good-paying, professional jobs. The closure of Wahiawa General Hospital would be devastating to entire families as heads of households will need to seek reemployment while keeping up payments for their mortgages, putting food on the table, and doing all they can to make life "normal" for their children and families.

It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Logorio Talo and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Rick Cross and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Mililani. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Thola Cross and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Mililani. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Karl Lele and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wai'alu. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Wayde Kachalvi and I am a resident of Wahiawa.

\_\_\_\_\_. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Rodney Barona and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Elijah Rasco and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Ewa Beach. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is SHENTEL BARRO and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

WAHIAWA, HI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is SALA Jiloi and I am a resident of Wahiawa.

\_\_\_\_\_ . I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Love David and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Kailua. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Glean M. Tolano and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
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RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is TYLER TERUWA and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

AIEA. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Wahiawa General Hospital is an essential medical facility in Central and North Shore Oahu. It is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Waialua, Sunset, and Kahuku. This area encompasses nearly one-third of the entire Island of Oahu.

Wahiawa General Hospital is again seeking financial support as the closure would have enormous ramifications for the health, welfare, and safety of these communities. If Wahiawa General Hospital were to close, the nearest emergency room for a person situated in Wahiawa would be either Pali Momi near Pearlridge Center, or Queen's West – both of which are approximately 13 miles away.

For a person living in Waialua or Sunset or Kahuku, the distance would be 20 miles instead of the 8 miles it takes to go to Wahiawa General Hospital. In a case of a critical accident or sickness, the extra miles it takes to get a person to an emergency room might mean the difference between life and death.

Furthermore, Wahiawa General Hospital is one of the largest employers in Central Oahu, providing 518 jobs with approximately 90% of its workers residing in the surrounding areas. Most of the employees are members of the ILWU, UPW, and HNA unions. These are very good-paying, professional jobs. The closure of Wahiawa General Hospital would be devastating to entire families as heads of households will need to seek reemployment while keeping up payments for their mortgages, putting food on the table, and doing all they can to make life "normal" for their children and families.

It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is KARL Lelo and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

WAIALUA, HI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Ruby Rose Reyes and I am a resident of Wahiawa  
Hawaii.

I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Cynthia Abercrombie and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is TERRI LEONG and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

HONOLULU. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is NORMA BALIDON and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_  
Waiialua, HI.

I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Jenna Mangalalan and I am a resident of Wahiawa

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Chaz Cambonga and I am a resident of Wahiawa

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Erica Velasco and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Kapolei. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Carinosa Velasco and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_  
KAPOLEI.

I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Stephanie Velasco and I am a resident of Kapolei.

I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Babara Damas and I am a resident of Waialua.

I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Patricia Damas and I am a resident of Wahiawa

. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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For a person living in Waialua or Sunset or Kahuku, the distance would be 20 miles instead of the 8 miles it takes to go to Wahiawa General Hospital. In a case of a critical accident or sickness, the extra miles it takes to get a person to an emergency room might mean the difference between life and death.

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It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.





Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Florence G. Pasqua and I am a resident of Waipahu, HI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will provide Wahiawa General Hospital with positive cash flows and financial stability while it transitions to a new business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities of services and jobs at Koa Ridge.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Elmer F. Pascua and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa, HI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Marion Johnson and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Mililani Hi. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Dustin Cruz and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is MARY JEAN LAYUNAN and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

WAHIAWA HAWAII. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is LETICIA PASION and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

WAHIAWA HAWAII. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is CHRISLEY FARINAC and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

WAHIAWA HAWAII 96786. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is NEMIA CABARUC and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

ENA BEACH, HI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Shontell Pfeiffer-Kahao and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Robert Garay and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Leticia Saew and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wai'anae Hawaii 96791. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Severina Martin and I am a resident of Kapolei

Severina Martin. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Furthermore, Wahiawa General Hospital is one of the largest employers in Central Oahu, providing 518 jobs with approximately 90% of its workers residing in the surrounding areas. Most of the employees are members of the ILWU, UPW, and HNA unions. These are very good-paying, professional jobs. The closure of Wahiawa General Hospital would be devastating to entire families as heads of households will need to seek reemployment while keeping up payments for their mortgages, putting food on the table, and doing all they can to make life "normal" for their children and families.

It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Emily Okinaga and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Kapolei. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will provide Wahiawa General Hospital with positive cash flows and financial stability while it transitions to a new business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities of services and jobs at Koa Ridge.

Wahiawa General Hospital is an essential medical facility in Central and North Shore Oahu. It is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Waialua, Sunset, and Kahuku. This area encompasses nearly one-third of the entire Island of Oahu.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Manife Baliqnasay and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Waiipahu HI 96797. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Shelley Ekisu and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Haleiwa, HI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Caroline Agtany and I am a resident of Wahiawa

Caroline Agtany. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Minda Bagayas and I am a resident of Wahiawa  
Hawaii. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT  
of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and  
benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving  
Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa  
General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community.  
Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will  
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to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Emily T. Dow and I am a resident of Wahiawa

Hawaii. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Atencia Ponce and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa, Hi. 96786. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Thomas C Cruz and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Wahiawa Hawaii. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is \_\_\_\_\_ Milagros \_\_\_\_\_ and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Waialua, HI \_\_\_\_\_. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is WILMA FARINAS and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

WAHIAWA. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Tanya Johnson and I am a resident of Mililani Hawaii. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

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Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Ruthy Cuaresma and I am a resident of \_\_\_\_\_

Waialua, HI. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

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For a person living in Waialua or Sunset or Kahuku, the distance would be 20 miles instead of the 8 miles it takes to go to Wahiawa General Hospital. In a case of a critical accident or sickness, the extra miles it takes to get a person to an emergency room might mean the difference between life and death.

Furthermore, Wahiawa General Hospital is one of the largest employers in Central Oahu, providing 518 jobs with approximately 90% of its workers residing in the surrounding areas. Most of the employees are members of the ILWU, UPW, and HNA unions. These are very good-paying, professional jobs. The closure of Wahiawa General Hospital would be devastating to entire families as heads of households will need to seek reemployment while keeping up payments for their mortgages, putting food on the table, and doing all they can to make life "normal" for their children and families.

It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.

Testimony to the House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
State Capitol, Conf. Room 329

RE: RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the Health Committee:

My name is Sovie P. Ukepa (Sonia P. Ukepa) and I am a resident of Waipahu Hi. I am submitting written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1446, which appropriates funds to support basic operations, staff salaries and benefits, and continued hospitalist physician services at Wahiawa General Hospital.

First, I would like to thank each and every legislator and the State of Hawaii for saving Wahiawa General Hospital last year. Without the quick response of the legislature, Wahiawa General Hospital may not be in operation today. Thank you for listening to your community. Thank you for keeping the doors of Wahiawa General Hospital open.

Temporary financial assistance from the State for the next two years as bridge funding will provide Wahiawa General Hospital with positive cash flows and financial stability while it transitions to a new business model. Additionally, this will keep alive opportunities of services and jobs at Koa Ridge.

Wahiawa General Hospital is an essential medical facility in Central and North Shore Oahu. It is the only facility that provides emergency medical services in a vast geographical area extending from Mililani to Wahiawa, Waialua, Sunset, and Kahuku. This area encompasses nearly one-third of the entire Island of Oahu.

Wahiawa General Hospital is again seeking financial support as the closure would have enormous ramifications for the health, welfare, and safety of these communities. If Wahiawa General Hospital were to close, the nearest emergency room for a person situated in Wahiawa would be either Pali Momi near Pearlridge Center, or Queen's West – both of which are approximately 13 miles away.

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It is vital that Wahiawa General Hospital remain operational. I urge the legislature to appropriate the sums needed. For these reasons, I SUPPORT this bill and respectfully urge you to pass it.