EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

HONOLULU

LINDA LINGLE

June 5, 2007

The Honorable Colleen Hanabusa, President and Members of the Senate Twenty-Fourth State Legislature State Capitol, Room 409 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Madam President and Members of the Senate:

This is to inform you that on June 5, 2007, the following bill was signed into law:

HB104 HD2 SD2 CD1

A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH. (ACT 131)

Sincerely,

LINDA LINGN

Approved by the Governor

on <u>JUN</u> 5 2007

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE, 2007 STATE OF HAWAII ACT 131

H.B. NO. H.D. 2

C.D. 1

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that medicaid is the
- 2 cornerstone of health care for our most needy population.
- 3 Further, the legislature has previously recognized that it is in
- 4 the public interest to ensure that health care payments made
- 5 with state funds or controlled by the State are sufficient to
- 6 cover the actual costs of care.
- 7 Hawaii's hospitals in particular have been detrimentally
- 8 affected by the inadequacy of medicaid reimbursements and
- 9 payments. Hawaii's hospitals have annually lost millions of
- 10 dollars because government reimbursement is far below the cost
- 11 of providing medical care. Between 2003 and 2005, medicaid
- 12 payments to hospitals covered only seventy-three to seventy-
- 13 eight per cent of total medicaid costs, creating a strain on the
- 14 hospitals' financial stability.
- 15 Through the efforts of Hawaii's senatorial delegation, a
- 16 one-time federal medicaid disproportionate share hospital (DSH)
- 17 appropriation of \$10,000,000 has been secured for Hawaii for
- 18 2007. State funds are needed to match the federal DSH monies. HB104 CD1 HMS 2007-4147



H.B. NO. H.D. 2 S.D. 2

- 1 The combined funding will help meet the rising health care needs
- 2 of our communities.
- 3 The purpose of this Act is to meet rising health care costs
- 4 and ensure that Hawaii's residents have continued access to
- 5 quality health care by appropriating funds for the State's
- 6 portion of the federal disproportionate share hospital
- 7 allowance.
- 8 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
- 9 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$7,376,000 or so much
- 10 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008 for the
- 11 State's portion of the federal disproportionate share hospital
- 12 allowance.
- The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
- 14 human services for the purposes of this Act.
- SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.

APPROVED this 5 day of

JUN , 2007

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

HB104 CD1 HMS 2007-4147