

WRITTEN ONLY

TESTIMONY BY GEORGINA K. KAWAMURA
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
STATE OF HAWAII
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
ON
HOUSE BILL NO. 1782

February 13, 2009

RELATING TO HEALTH INFORMATION EXCHANGE

House Bill No. 1782 creates an Office of State Coordinator of Health Information Exchange and a Health Information Exchange program within the Department of Health to coordinate local efforts, identify funding sources, integrate State health programs and participate in the National Health Information Technology Network. The program would be financed by the Hawaii Information Exchange Special Fund created by this bill. This special fund would generate revenues through legislative appropriations, federal funds, grants, and any other revenues designated for the fund. House Bill No. 1782 appropriates \$1 from the general fund in Fiscal Year 2012 for deposit into this fund and \$1 from the special fund in 2012. This bill makes no other appropriation to fund the program, which this bill establishes on July 1, 2009.

We are opposed to this bill. As a matter of general policy, this department does not support the creation of any special or revolving fund which does not meet the requirements of Sections 37-52.3 and 37-53.4 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes. Special or revolving funds should: 1) reflect a clear nexus between the benefits sought and charges made upon the users or beneficiaries of the program; 2) provide an appropriate means of financing for the program or activity; and 3) demonstrate the capacity to be financially self-sustaining. It is difficult to determine whether the fund will be self-sustaining.



Hawai'i Primary Care Association

345 Queen Street | Suite 601 | Honolulu, HI 96813-4718 | Tel: 808.536.8442 | Fax: 808.524.0347
www.hawaiipca.net

To: **The House Committee on Health**
The Hon. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
The Hon. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair

Testimony on House Bill 1782 (Support with Amendments)
Relating to Health Information Exchange
Submitted by Beth Giesting, CEO
February 13, 2009, 8:30 a.m. agenda, Room 329

The Hawaii Primary Care Association agrees with the premise of this bill: that exchange of critical health information among providers needs to be actively and thoughtfully nurtured in Hawaii. However, we do not believe that creating an office to oversee health information exchange practices at the State Department of Health is a good strategy.

The Hawaii Primary Care Association is a member of the Hawaii Health Information Exchange (HHIE), which is in the process of incorporating as a charitable nonprofit organization. HHIE is a forum that brings together individuals and organizations which have the most to contribute toward and gain from successful health data exchange. Its vision includes ensuring that technology supports the exchange of crucial clinical information across institutions and providers to improve health care outcomes, reduce duplication of services, increase the accuracy and timeliness of transitional care between provider institutions, and eliminate errors. Its work focuses on addressing privacy and security concerns, appropriate system and technology solutions, and provider engagement.

Because HHIE is already well underway and has the commitment of health care leaders knowledgeable about data exchange issues, we support this bill only if DOH or the Department of Accounting and General Services contracts health information exchange activities to an entity, such as HHIE, experienced in addressing these complex and dynamic issues. HHIE would welcome the Department of Health as a member and partner in improving health through shared information.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this bill.

Hawaii Pacific Health

55 Merchant Street • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 • hawaiiapacifichealth.org

Friday – February 13, 2009

Conference Room 329

8:30am

The House Committee on Human Services

To: Representative John M. Mizuno, Chair and
Representative Tom Brower, Vice Chair

The House Committee on Health

To: Representative Ryan I. Yamane, Chair and
Representative Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair

From: Steve Robertson
Executive Vice President
Revenue Management & Information Technology

RE: Testimony in Support with Condition of HB 1782

My name is Steve Robertson, Executive Vice President of Revenue Management & Information Technology at Hawaii Pacific Health (HPH), which is the four-hospital system of Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children, Kapi'olani Medical Center at Pali Momi, Straub Clinic & Hospital, and Wilcox Hospital/Kauai Medical Clinic. In addition, HPH has 23 clinics and numerous outreach programs.

As a representative of Hawaii Pacific Health, I serve as a Board member of the Hawaii Health Information Exchange (HHIE), which is in the process of incorporating as a charitable nonprofit organization. HHIE is a forum that brings together individuals and organizations which have the most to contribute toward successful health data exchange. Its vision includes ensuring that technology supports the exchange of crucial clinical information across institutions and providers to improve health care outcomes, reduce duplication of services, increase the accuracy and timeliness of transitional care between provider institutions, and eliminate errors. Its work focuses on addressing privacy and security concerns, appropriate system and technology solutions, and provider engagement.

We agree with the premise of this bill: that exchange of critical health information among providers needs to be actively and thoughtfully nurtured in Hawaii. However, we do not believe that creating an office to oversee health information exchange practices at the State Department of Health is a good strategy.

Because HHIE is already well underway, in its fourth year, and has the commitment of health care leaders knowledgeable about data exchange issues, **we support this bill on the condition that DOH or the Department of Accounting and General Services contracts health information exchange activities to an entity, such as HHIE that is experienced in addressing these complex and dynamic issues.** HHIE would welcome the Department of Health as a member and partner in improving health via shared information. Thank you for the opportunity to support this bill.

KAPI'OLANI
MEDICAL CENTER
AT PALI MOMI



KAPI'OLANI
MEDICAL CENTER
FOR WOMEN & CHILDREN



Straub
CLINIC & HOSPITAL

 **Wilcox Health**

Hawai'i Health Information Exchange

345 Queen Street | Suite 601 | Honolulu, HI 96813-4718 | Tel: 808.536.8442 | Fax: 808.524.0347

To: **The House Committee on Health**
The Hon. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
The Hon. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair

Testimony on House Bill 1782 (Support with Amendments) Relating to Health Information Exchange

**Submitted by: Christine Maii Sakuda, President Hawaii Health Information Exchange
February 13, 2009, 8:30 a.m. agenda, Room 329**

My name is Christine Maii Sakuda and I am submitting testimony on House Bill 1782 on behalf of the Hawaii Health Information Exchange. The Hawaii Health Information Exchange agrees with the premise of this bill: that exchange of critical health information among providers needs to be actively and thoughtfully nurtured in Hawaii. However, we do not believe that creating an office to oversee health information exchange practices at the State Department of Health is a good strategy.

With proper governance and resources, the benefits of a health information exchange to improve care coordination for Hawaii's patients are numerous and include: improved health care outcomes, reduced duplication of services, increased accuracy and timeliness of transitional care between provider institutions, and elimination of errors due to discontinuity.

There has been an organization committed to addressing these issues in Hawaii. The Hawaii Health Information Exchange was established in 2006, by a group of healthcare leaders committed to improving the delivery of healthcare in Hawai'i through the electronic exchange of health information for all patients. Board members include the states two leading laboratories, two of the largest hospital systems, the largest health care insurer, one of the largest health care databases providing administrative data for analysis and reporting, industry experts, providers and community organizations. A list of Board members is attached.

As President of the HHIE, I am proud to tell you that since inception, the HHIE Board members have met diligently to define a health information exchange model that serves the needs of patients for coordination of care while at the same time respects the concerns of providers over the ownership of medical records used in treatment decisions.

It is a testament to the dedication of the Board when consensus on how to address the complex and myriad issues governing health information exchange is reached. As such, the goals of the HHIE are to:

- Coordinate complex technical, political, financial and social issues of HIE

- Build privacy and security standards into the business and technical infrastructures so legal requirements and public expectations related to privacy and security are met
- Build trust and goodwill among members and with the community
- Create a platform for shared investment and financial sustainability
- Create a sustainable non-profit organization

HHIE is committed to developing data sharing technology and standards for broad community benefit and great strides are taken to ensure that this is met without bias towards industry or company. An example of this is the coordination of a statewide Master Patient Index (MPI), which identifies what types of services the patient has had in the past, who provided it, and where it was provided using a matching patient algorithm. Another example of this is centralized access to laboratory and visit encounter information that provides a care provider with a list of the patient's medical history across institutions. These types of technologies help to facilitate care coordination between health care providers which decreases the time and cost expended by patients and providers managing care coordination issues.

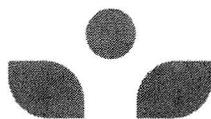
HHIE will continue to invite other organizations and individuals essential to this important cause, to participate with or become members of HHIE as it further develops health information exchange policies and procedures in the State of Hawaii. HHIE would welcome the Department of Health as a member and critical partner in improving health through shared information.

We support this bill only if the Department of Health or the Department of Accounting and General Services contracts health information exchange activities to an entity, such as HHIE, experienced in addressing these complex and dynamic issues.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this bill.

HAWAII HEALTH INFORMATION EXCHANGE
MEMBERS OF THE BOARD
February 11, 2009

1. *Christine Sakuda* - Hawaii Primary Care Association
2. *Susan Forbes* - Hawaii Health Information Corporation
3. *Bruce "Skip" Keane* – Community Member
4. *Dew-Anne Langcaon* – Ho`okele Personal Health Planners, LLC
5. *Creighton Arita* - Team Praxis
6. *Francis Chan*- Clinical Laboratories of Hawaii, LLC
7. *William Donahue* - Hawaii Independent Physicians Association
8. *Georgiana Fujita* – Community Member
9. *Ron Haranda* – Health Information Exchange Advocate/Community Member
10. *Steve Hurlbut* - Phoenix Health Systems
11. *Kelly Roberson* - Hawaii Health Systems Corporation
12. *Steve Robertson* - Hawaii Pacific Health
13. *Brian Rothe* – Castle Medical Center
14. *Allan Shiraishi* - Queens Medical Center
15. *Raymond Yeung* – Diagnostic Laboratory Services, Inc.



HO'OKELE

Personal Health Planners, LLC

1360 S. Beretania St. Suite 305 • Honolulu, HI 96814 • (808) 457-1655 • www.hookelehealth.com

To: **The House Committee on Health**
The Hon. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
The Hon. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair

**Testimony on House Bill 1782 (Support with Amendments)
Relating to Health Information Exchange**

**Submitted by: Dew-Anne Langcaon, President, Ho'okele Personal Health Planners, LLC
February 13, 2009, 8:30 a.m. agenda, Room 329**

I agree with the premise of this bill: that exchange of critical health information among providers needs to be actively and thoughtfully nurtured in Hawaii. However, I do not believe that creating an office to oversee health information exchange practices at the State Department of Health is a good strategy.

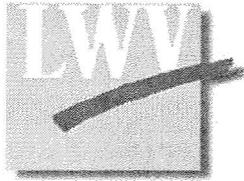
My name is Dew-Anne Langcaon, and I am a co-founder of Ho'okele, a personal health navigation services company. Ho'okele navigators are RNs, social workers and retired physicians who help individuals navigate the complicated healthcare and eldercare systems. The very first step in our care coordination process is the gathering and compiling of medical records for individuals who often come to us in a crisis and need help quickly. This can prove to be an arduous and inefficient task that can delay our ability to respond to a family's needs. Requesting medical charts from multiple physicians and facilities, following up with busy offices, finally receiving stacks of paper and then sorting, organizing and analyzing the various pieces of information, takes a highly skilled professional sometimes hours to accomplish before the real help can begin. The timely electronic compilation of critical medical information via an information exchange is critical in improving care coordination and empowering individuals to actively participate in their health care especially when faced with a crisis.

As such, I also serve as a Board member and the Treasurer of the Hawaii Health Information Exchange (HHIE), which is in process of incorporating as a charitable nonprofit organization. HHIE is a forum that brings together key providers, individuals and organizations which are committed to developing a health data exchange that can safely and securely allow data to flow smoothly and accurately between providers for all citizens in the state of Hawaii. Our members

have been meeting diligently for the last four years in search of a model that can serve the needs of patients for coordinated care while at the same time respects the concerns of providers over the ownership of medical records used in treatment decisions. It is a testament to the dedication of the members of the Board who have persisted through hours of discussion to this point today when consensus has been reached amongst some of the largest providers of healthcare in the state on an overarching structure, data standardization process and a sustainable financial model for a nonprofit health information exchange.

Because HHIE is well underway and has the commitment of health care leaders who are knowledgeable about data exchange issues, we support this bill if the Department of Health or the Department of Accounting and General Services contracts such health information exchange activities to an entity, such as HHIE, which is experienced in addressing these complex and dynamic issues. HHIE would welcome the Department of Health as a member and partner in improving health through shared information.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this bill.



THE LEAGUE
OF WOMEN VOTERS OF HONOLULU

TESTIMONY ON HB 1782 RELATING TO HEALTH INFORMATION
EXCHANGE

Committee on Health
8:30 a.m.
Friday, February 13, 2009
Conference Room 329

Testifier: Joy A Marshall, RN, Health Reform Chair, and League of Women
Voters of Hawaii

Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Nishimoto and members of the Committee on Health

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii Supports HB 1782 with reservations

The League State wide as well as nationally supports an economical delivery of
health care, and encourages the advancement of medical technology to reduce
health care costs as we move into a universal system of delivery of health care in
our state.

Our reservations are related to the security of such systems, We support this
plan which can not only facilitate more efficient and safe care, but if done
appropriately can reduce health care cost.

We support the passage of HB 1782 with the security reservation only.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 1782

To: **The House Committee on Health**
The Hon. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
The Hon. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair

Testimony on House Bill 1782 (Support with Amendments)
Relating to Health Information Exchange
Submitted by: Georgiana Y. Fujita

February 13, 2009, 8:30 a.m. agenda, Room 329

As a private citizen who recently retired from employment here in Hawaii and obviously concerned with future healthcare needs, I agree with the premise of this bill: that exchange of critical health information among providers needs to be actively and thoughtfully nurtured in Hawaii. However, I do not believe that creating an office to oversee health information exchange practices at the State Department of Health is a good strategy.

I am also a Board member of the Hawaii Health Information Exchange (HHIE), which is in the process of incorporating as a charitable nonprofit organization. HHIE is a forum that brings together individuals and organizations which have the most to contribute toward and gain from successful health data exchange. Its vision includes ensuring that technology supports the exchange of crucial clinical information across institutions and providers to improve health care outcomes, reduce duplication of services, increase the accuracy and timeliness of transitional care between provider institutions, and eliminate errors. Its work focuses on addressing privacy and security concerns, appropriate system and technology solutions, and provider engagement.

Because HHIE is already well underway and has the commitment of health care leaders knowledgeable about data exchange issues, we support this bill only if DOH or the Department of Accounting and General Services contracts health information exchange activities to an entity, such as HHIE, experienced in addressing these complex and dynamic issues. HHIE would welcome the Department of Health as a member and partner in improving health through shared information.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this bill.

Respectfully,

Georgiana Y. Fujita
Retired Senior Vice President
HMSA