

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



CHIYOME LEINAALA FUKINO, M.D.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P.O. Box 3378
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:
File:

**COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION, BUSINESS, AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS**

HB0553, RELATING TO MEDICAL ENTERPRISE ZONES

**Testimony of Chiyome Leinaala Fukino, M.D.
Director of Health**

**February 3, 2009
8:30 a.m.**

- 1 **Department's Position:** The department appreciates the intent of this bill as a worthwhile concept, but
2 must respectfully oppose it as currently drafted.
- 3 **Fiscal Implications:** Significant human resources would be required to be nearly fully dedicated over
4 an extended period of time to plan, coordinate, monitor, assess, and prepare and submit reports. The
5 dollar costs are unquantified but no funding is currently available.
- 6 **Purpose and Justification:** At the bill's heart is an attempt to encourage business and economic
7 development within the medical arena that would require a thorough, professional and working
8 knowledge of matters beyond the professional expertise of the Department of Health. Among these
9 professional knowledge requirements are land use and zoning issues; building construction and
10 occupancy requirements; fire safety requirements; county permitting processes; the ability to certify
11 whether every aspect of the business is exempt from the payment of GET, such as cafeteria sales,
12 parking garage revenue, retail pharmacy business operations and revenue, lease rent income from land
13 or building space; the ability to perform a thorough financial audit according to acceptable accounting
14 principles and practices to determine gross proceeds from the business(es) located within the enterprise

1 zone; and the professional expertise to determine a broader business benefit derived from the enterprise
2 zone in a manner to determine the merits of the pilot project and its applicability to expand or establish
3 enterprise zones elsewhere in the state. Other states and municipalities have created and expanded their
4 enterprise zones but the common thread among these programs was that they were not housed within
5 their public health departments.

6 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

JAMES R. AIONA, JR.
LT. GOVERNOR



KURT KAWAFUCHI
DIRECTOR OF TAXATION

SANDRA L. YAHIRO
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION
P.O. BOX 259
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

PHONE NO: (808) 587-1510
FAX NO: (808) 587-1560

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION, BUSINESS & MILITARY
AFFAIRS
TESTIMONY REGARDING HB 553
RELATING TO MEDICAL ENTERPRISE ZONES**

TESTIFIER: KURT KAWAFUCHI, DIRECTOR OF TAXATION (OR DESIGNEE)

DATE: FEBRUARY 3, 2009

TIME: 8:30AM

ROOM: 312

This measure seeks to create "Medical Enterprise Zones," which operate similar to the existing Enterprise Zones administered by the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism.

The Department of Taxation (Department) takes **no position** on this measure; however must **oppose the revenue loss** anticipated by this measure.

NOT FACTORED INTO EXECUTIVE BUDGET

The Department initially points out that this legislation has not been factored into the Executive Budget and has not been prioritized as a means of tax relief this legislative session. The Department cannot support the tax provision in this measure because it is not factored into the budget. The Department must be cognizant of the biennium budget and financial plan. This measure has not been factored into either. Given the forecasted decrease in revenue projections, this measure would add to the budget shortfall.

REVENUE IMPACT

The tax component of this measure will result in the following revenue losses:

- \$306,000 in FY2010;
- \$510,000 in FY2010;
- \$510,000 in FY2012;
- \$714,000 in FY2013; and
- \$1,267,500 in FY2014.

TAXBILLSERVICE

126 Queen Street, Suite 304

TAX FOUNDATION OF HAWAII

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 Tel. 536-4587

SUBJECT: MISCELLANEOUS, Medical enterprise zone

BILL NUMBER: HB 553

INTRODUCED BY: McKelvey, Carroll, Manahan, Souki, and 3 Democrats

BRIEF SUMMARY: Adds a new chapter to the HRS to establish a pilot medical enterprise zone in West Maui. The governing body of the county of Maui shall transmit to the director of health by November 30, 2009, a description of a proposed location in West Maui. The director of health shall designate the proposed area as a medical enterprise zone for seven years.

A medical or research facility may be eligible to be designated a qualified business if the facility: (1) begins the operation of a medical or research facility within a medical enterprise zone; (2) during each taxable year has at least ___ per cent of its medical enterprise zone establishment's gross receipts attributable to its operation within the medical enterprise zone; (3) increases its average annual number of full-time medical or research professional employees by at least ___ per cent by the end of its first tax year of participation; and (4) during each subsequent taxable year at least maintains that higher level of employment for medical or research professional employees.

Requires each qualified business in the zone shall annually complete and submit to the department of health information necessary to determine whether the medical or research facility qualifies or continues to qualify as a qualified business. If the department determines that the medical or research facility qualifies as a qualified business, the department shall approve the completed form and forward copies of the completed and approved form to the department of taxation and the governing body of the county.

The department of health shall certify annually to the department of taxation the applicability of the tax credit provided in this chapter for a qualified business against any income taxes imposed under title 14 that are due the state. The credit shall be: (1) eighty per cent of the tax due for the first taxable year that the business qualifies as a qualified business; (2) seventy per cent of the tax due for the second taxable year that the business qualifies as a qualified business; (3) sixty per cent of the tax due in the third taxable year that the business qualifies as a qualified business; (4) fifty per cent of the tax due in the fourth taxable year that the business qualifies as a qualified business; (5) forty per cent of the tax due in the fifth taxable year that the business qualifies as a qualified business; (6) thirty per cent of the tax due in the sixth taxable year that the business qualifies as a qualified business; and (7) twenty per cent of the tax due in the seventh year that the business qualifies as a qualified business.

If a partnership is eligible for a tax credit under this section, each partner shall be eligible for the tax credit provided for in this section on the partner's income tax return in proportion to the partner's income tax liability from the partnership. Any qualified business earning taxable income from the provision of the qualified business' services, both within and without the medical enterprise zone, shall allocate and apportion its taxable income attributable to that provision of services. Tax credits provided for in this section shall only apply to taxable income of a qualified business attributable to the services provided

within the medical enterprise zone.

In addition to any tax credit authorized under this section, a qualified business shall be entitled to a tax credit against any taxes due the state in an amount equal to a percentage of unemployment taxes paid pursuant to chapter 383. The amount of the credit shall be equal to: (1) eighty per cent of the unemployment taxes paid for during the first taxable year that the business qualifies as a qualified business; (2) seventy per cent of the unemployment taxes paid for the second year that the business qualifies as a qualified business; (3) sixty per cent of the unemployment taxes paid for the third year that the business qualifies as a qualified business; (4) fifty per cent of the unemployment taxes paid for the fourth year that the business qualifies as a qualified business; (5) forty per cent of the unemployment taxes paid for the fifth year that the business qualifies as a qualified business; (6) thirty per cent of the unemployment taxes paid for the sixth year that the business qualifies as a qualified business; and (7) twenty per cent of the unemployment taxes paid for the seventh year that the business qualifies as a qualified business. These tax credits shall only apply to the unemployment tax paid on employees employed at the qualified business' establishment or establishments located within the medical enterprise zone.

The department of health shall certify annually to the department of taxation that any qualified business is exempt from the payment of general excise taxes on the gross proceeds from the provision of medical or research services. The department shall also certify annually to the department of taxation that any qualified business is exempt from the use tax for purchases by the qualified business. The gross proceeds received by a contractor licensed under chapter 444 shall be exempt from the general excise tax for construction within a medical enterprise zone performed for a qualified business within a medical enterprise zone. The exemption shall extend for a period not to exceed seven years after the effective date of this act.

Allows any county to propose local incentives, including: (1) reduction of permit fees; (2) reduction of user fees; and (3) reduction of real property taxes. A county may also propose measures for regulatory flexibility including but not limited to: (1) special zoning districts; (2) permit process reform; (3) exemptions from local ordinances; and (4) other public incentives proposed in the locality's application, which shall be binding upon the locality upon designation of the medical enterprise zone.

Upon designation of the area as a medical enterprise zone, the proposals for regulatory flexibility, tax incentives, and other public incentives specified in this chapter shall be binding upon the governing body of the county to the extent and for a period of seven years. If the governing body of the county is unable or unwilling to provide any of the incentives or other incentives acceptable to the department, and the department has not adopted rules that supersede inconsistent ordinances and rules relating to the use, zoning, planning, and development of land and construction in a medical enterprise zone, then the medical enterprise zone shall terminate. Qualified businesses located in the medical enterprise zone shall be eligible to receive the state tax incentives provided by this chapter even though the zone designation has terminated.

Directs the department of health, in consultation with the department of taxation, to submit a written report to the legislature by December 31 of each year beginning in 2010, regarding the implementation of the pilot medical enterprise zone in West Maui, including an evaluation of the success or failure of the pilot medical enterprise zone to fulfill its intended purpose.

This act shall be repealed on February 28, 2017.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon approval

STAFF COMMENTS: This measure proposes to establish a medical enterprise zone in West Maui. In an enterprise zone, businesses are attracted and encouraged to relocate to the zone through tax incentives, bonds, and other appropriate measures. Businesses located in an enterprise zone may claim a credit against taxes paid, including unemployment taxes, for a period of seven years and also allows the sale of items sold by such businesses to be exempt from the general excise tax.

While it appears that it is the intent of the legislature to encourage new and existing businesses to expand their employment bases and increase their marketing territories, enterprise zones merely exacerbate what is already considered a poor climate in which to do business. Singling out businesses for preferential treatment merely confers preferences for those businesses at the expense of all other taxpayers.

Concurrent efforts must be made to improve Hawaii's business climate to enhance the economic prospects for all businesses. Enterprise zones are merely an abdication of government's responsibility to create a nurturing and supportive business climate so that all businesses can thrive in Hawaii and provide the jobs the people of Hawaii need. In this case, it is the provision of medical care in rural communities of the state and in this case specifically West Maui.

As the legislature has learned in recent years, the hurdles to the provision of quality health care in rural areas of the state go far beyond financial challenges that these tax incentives would seem to attempt to abate. Medical tort reform, provision of adequate support staff and the high cost of medical infrastructure are but a few of the issues facing the provision of medical care in rural communities.

Finally, while this proposal attempts to provide oversight to the administration of the tax incentives, one must ask the question of who pays for this oversight? This is an additional cost that will be incurred by both the department of taxation and the department of health. Thus, the incentive does not come free of costs in addition to the lost revenues.

Instead of expanding the enterprise zone program, the program should be repealed in favor of across-the-board tax relief for all businesses in Hawaii. For example, the consultant to the 2007 Tax Review Commission suggested that all business-to-business transactions be exempt from the general excise tax as a means of reducing not only the cost of doing business in Hawaii but the overall cost of living.

Indeed, has there been a comprehensive evaluation of the program and do lawmakers know exactly how much enterprise zone businesses have benefitted and whether or not they have created the jobs promised when the program was first established?

Digested 2/2/09

C L A S S I C R E S O R T S

February 2, 2009

Economic Revitalization, Business and Military Affairs (EBM) Committee

RE: HB 553

Dear Committee Members:

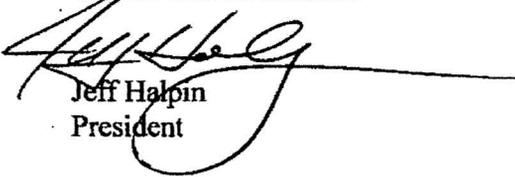
I am writing in support of HB553 which will establish a medical enterprise zone in West Maui.

The lack of infrastructure from adequate roads to a lack of medical facilities in West Maui has long been documented.

West Maui is one of the state's most important economic engines yet it continually is one of the last considered when it comes to vitally important improvements. HB 553 would assist in developing a medical facility addressing one of West Maui's most important needs.

I urge you to strongly support HB 553.

Sincerely,
Classic Resorts Limited



Jeff Halpin
President

From: Joe Pluta [pluta@maui.net]
Sent: Friday, January 30, 2009 5:43 PM
To: EBMtestimony
Cc: Rep. Angus McKelvey
Subject: Support for H.B. No. 553 A bill for an Act Relating to Medical Enterprise Zones



West Maui Improvement Foundation

WMIF P.O. Box 10338, Lahaina HI 96761

Office (808) 661-7990, Fax (808) 661-7992

January 30, 2009

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF THE H.B. NO. 553 RELATING TO MEDICAL ENTERPRISE ZONES

Aloha!

Please accept this letter as our request for support and passage of HB No. 553 relating to Medical Enterprise Zones.

This bill will encourage and promote sorely needed incentives relating to medical care and is urgently needed.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Warm Regards,

Joseph D. Pluta

President, WMIF



February 2, 2009

On behalf of the Lahainaluna High School Health Occupations Students of America, we would like to express our support of a West Maui Hospital. We find this as a necessity not only to our community, but also for Lahainaluna High School's future health care workers' jobs and personal needs.

As a pathway, we are constantly looking for facilities to career shadow and intern at. Students have participated in internship experiences at the hospital on the other side of the island, but this is a huge inconvenience due to the distance. We would love to be a part of a hospital's team here on the West side of the island.

Not only would a hospital on this side of the island benefit our Health and Medical Services program at LHS, but it would provide jobs for our futures. Many of us fear job opportunity will lie in places far from our upbringing, and we believe we should give back to our community, not leave it.

Finally, for the sake of our own health's future, we support the hospital being planned by the West Maui Civic Center. We do not want to travel so far for hospital care, especially emergency procedures.

We would love to be apart of your planning process in any way possible. Please know you have found a loyal partner in Lahainaluna's Health and Medical Services Pathway.

Sincerely,

Malia Shimomura and Students of the Health Services Pathway
Lahainaluna High School

&
2008 National HOSA Team



April 17, 2008

Dear Mr. Ronald E. Terry,

On behalf of Lahainaluna High School Health Occupations Students of America, we would like to express our support of a West Maui Hospital. We find this as a necessity not only to our community, but for Lahainaluna High School's future health care workers' jobs and personal needs.

As a pathway, we are constantly looking for facilities to career shadow and internship under. Students have participated in internship experiences at the hospital on the other side of the island, but this is a huge inconvenience due to the distance. We would love to be apart a hospital's team here on the West side of the island.

Not only would a hospital on this side of the island benefit our Health and Medical Services program at LHS, but it would provide jobs for our futures. Many of us fear job opportunity will lie in places far from our upbringing, and we believe we should give back to our community, not leave it.

Finally, for the sake of our own health's future, we need a hospital on this side. We do not want to travel so far for hospital care, especially emergency procedures.

We would love to be apart of your planning process in any way possible. Please know you have found a loyal partner in Lahainaluna's Health and Medical Services Pathway.

Sincerely,

Malia Shimomura
Lahainaluna High School
Health and Medical Services Teacher/ HOSA Advisor

&
2008 National HOSA Team

Sean Hernandez, Noelle Bali, Dominique Laborte, Kevin Quitarano, Maricris Bote-
Estabillo, Marie Ganoot

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE
COMMITTEE ON
ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION, BUSINESS and MILITARY AFFAIRS**

COMMITTEE: Economic Revitalization, Business And Military Affairs

CHAIRPERSON: Representative Josh Green, M.D., Chair

BILL NO: HB 533

TITLE: Medical Enterprise Zones; Pilot Project in West Maui

HEARING DATE & TIME: Tuesday, February 3, 2009 8:30 a.m.

HEARING LOCATION: House Conference Room 312

NUMBER OF COPIES REQUIRED: 40

Chairperson and Committee Members:

My name is Don Gerbig, a private citizen, retired from the agricultural industry and an advocate for any type of hospital available for West Maui.

I am testifying in favor of this bill.

As an elderly retiree I and many of my friends find that the lack of a hospital in West Maui is a risk to my and my friends lives. On a good traffic day we can expect a minimum of $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour travel time to a hospital in Kahului.

This is just unreasonable. I recently had an emergency where I required an ambulance to transport me from Lahaina to Kahului. It took the ambulance a total of one hour from the time it was called until I got to Kahului. And it only cost me \$850. That's \$24 per mile.

Many of my retired friends have the desire to move to Kahului just to be closer to a hospital, but then they are 30 miles away from their families in Lahaina. With the housing market as it is, we are more in need of a hospital facility in Lahaina.

HB 553 offers a partial or the start of a solution to our problem. I beg of you to pass HB 553 from your committee.

Thank you for receiving and considering my testimony.

Don R. Gerbig
6 Tulip Place
Lahaina (Kahana) Maui

From: Lokelani Construction [lokelaniconstruction@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2009 1:11 PM
To: EBMtestimony
Subject: Bill HB 553

To Whom It May Concern;

As a long-time permanent resident and business owner in Lahaina, Maui, Hawaii, I am writing this email to express my support of Bill HB 553 in hopes of expanding health care access, ie; West Maui Hospital, here on the west side of the island. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely;

Bill Salawich

146-3 Shaw St.

Lahaina, Hi. 96761

From: Michael Hudson [mauiprestige@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2009 12:41 PM
To: EBMtestimony
Subject: Bill HB 553

We urgently need a hospital on the west Maui side. My wife and I are about to have a child and would need a emergency care facility close to where we live. We have been stuck on the west side to many times from fires or accident's closing the highway cutting off our only access to a hospital. Please pass this bill to build a hospital on Maui's west side. Mahalo

--

Michael Hudson
President
Prestige Management, Inc
5095 Napilihau St. 109B #329
Lahaina, HI 96761
mauiprestige@gmail.com
(808)250-6642

From: Mike_Landes@notes.k12.hi.us
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2009 11:10 AM
To: EBMtestimony
Subject: HB 553

Please pass HB 553. For years, the residents of West Maui have had to live with limited access to health care, because our only hospital is on the other side of the island. On a good day, that means a 45 minute drive or more. However, we only have a 2 lane highway to get to the other side, which means that the drive can take an hour or more during rush hour. On a bad day (when the road is completely closed due to an accident or a brush fire, which happens a few times each year), we West Maui residents cannot get to the other side at all. What happens if my wife or my 1 year old son has an emergency? I know people who have had to be taken to Oahu by helicopter because the ambulance could not get them to Maui Memorial Medical Center quickly enough. This is ridiculous! West Maui has a lot of residents, a lot of tourists, and a lot of workers, and we bring in a lot of revenue to the rest of the state. Please don't forget about us. Maui Memorial is a fine hospital with caring doctors and good facilities, but it is not enough. West Maui needs a hospital of its own.

Thank you.

- Mike Landes
Lahaina, HI

From: Derek Escalera [derek@maui.net]
Sent: Friday, January 30, 2009 3:24 PM
To: EBMtestimony
Subject: Hospital

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Aloha Angus

Please pass on my concerns of not having a hospital here in Lahaina for us local residents and tourist as well.

Mahalo

Derek Escalera

25 Uli Pl.

Lahaina, HI 96761

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, January 30, 2009 2:16 PM
To: EBMtestimony
Cc: captcoon@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Testimony for HB553 on 2/3/2009 8:30:00 AM

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Testimony for EBM 2/3/2009 8:30:00 AM HB553

Conference room: 312
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: James Coon
Organization: Trilogy Excursions
Address: 180 Lahainaluna Road Lahaina, HI
Phone: 808-661-4743
E-mail: captcoon@hawaiiantel.net
Submitted on: 1/30/2009

Comments:

HB553 will allow West Maui to have the vital health care needs of our community addressed. We need this. This has strong support in the West Maui community. Please pass this important bill.

From: Tom Brayton [chris.brayton@mac.com]
Sent: Friday, January 30, 2009 4:46 PM
To: EBMtestimony
Subject: Support for HB 553

We strongly support Bill HB 553 to establish a medical enterprise zone in West Maui, that will be heard on Tuesday, February 3rd, 8:30AM at the next Economic Revitalization, Business, and Military Affairs (EBM) committee hearing.

We feel that passing this Bill is instrumental for the long term success for the West Maui Hospital and to expand healthcare access and industry in West Maui.

Tom & Chris Brayton
450 Front Street
Lahaina, Maui, Hawaii 96761

From: FujiwaraMitsu@aol.com
Sent: Friday, January 30, 2009 8:12 PM
To: EBMtestimony
Subject: HB 553

Please support HB 553 as a West Maui Hospital is much needed. We senior citizens are especially concerned that there is no hospital in West Maui and concerned about the time it takes to be transported to the hospital in Wailuku.

I am speaking on behalf of our approximately 200 members of the LAHAINA-HONOLUA SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB.

Mahalo,
May Fujiwara
P. O. Box 1086
Lahaina, HI 96767

A Good Credit Score is 700 or Above. See yours in just 2 easy steps!

From: Annie Stanton [astanton1@seidata.com]
Sent: Saturday, January 31, 2009 3:05 AM
To: EBMtestimony
Subject: HB 553

I am a former resident of Lahaina, Maui and support Bill HB 553.
Annie Kunishige Stanton,
60 S. Oakdale Dr.
Hanover, IN 47243

From: Linda Millar-Vanpoucke [snookie@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Saturday, January 31, 2009 8:59 AM
To: EBMtestimony
Subject: Bill HB 553

To Whom It May Concern,

I am very strongly in support of the establishment of a medical enterprise zone in West Maui. I have owned here since 1980, and lived here since 1993. We have a desperate need for a trauma facility here where a patient can be stabilized before they are moved to the hospital which specializes in treating them according to their particular need. Much precious time is lost when it takes almost an hour to reach the nearest trauma center. People suffering heart attacks, strokes, or broken necks from body surfing may not live long enough to reach the existing facility in central Maui or they may suffer unnecessary consequences from the time delay.

Please vote for Bill HB 553. Citizens in West Maui desperately need, and deserve this.

sincerely yours,
Linda Millar-Vanpoucke
165 Kualapa Place, The Vintage
Lahaina, HI

From: Elaine Gallant [egallant@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Saturday, January 31, 2009 10:23 AM
To: EBMtestimony
Subject: Re: URGENT! Your support is needed for West Maui Enterprise Bill HB 553

I strongly support a West Maui Medical Hospital and like many of us who live in or around Kaanapali, have had to make the dreaded "midnight" run to Kahului in fear for someone's life.

It happened when our dear 74-year-old friend suffered incredibly from an obstructed bowel due to prior colon cancer treatments that had become infected by the time it reached an acute stage. It nearly killed him. Surgery was scheduled for late in the night and I drove his fearful wife to the hospital, who at her husband's urgent request asked that she not attempt to drive the pali alone. Fortunately, the pali was clear, but our eyes were not and our nerves were on constant edge. We feared our own anxieties might cause even more problems but we made it safely and so too did he through his surgery. We drove back to the West Side at around 4:15 AM, tired and weary, drained and without emotion. Things could have gone seriously wrong for all of us.

The pali is dark late at night and at 4:15 AM because there are no highway lights. The constant switchback of the curves contain any number of surprises -- from construction workers and trucks to joy riders or even drunken and drugged drivers, young to old. There are deep and deadly dropoffs makai and solid rock walls mauka. Anything can happen and it is intensified when you already fear for someone's life. I can't imagine what it must be like when you fear for your own!

Please establish a medical zone in West Maui so that those who need urgent care can receive it and the added dangers of driving to Kahului day or night are eliminated.

Mahalo,
Elaine Gallant
167 Kualapa Place
Lahaina, HI 96761

From: P Denise La Costa- PB [lrhllc@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Saturday, January 31, 2009 5:38 PM
To: EBMtestimony
Subject: West Maui Hospital Testimony

Aloha:

This letter is sent in support of HB553. My girlfriend lost her 37 year old husband to a heart attack because the ambulances were OUT and she had to drive him to Maui Memorial. He died on her lap during the drive over. Saving even one life makes a West Maui Hospital imparitive. How many other stories like this can be told to date, and how many more can be prevented by a vote in FAVOR of the Wes Maui Hospital Enterprize Zone?

Mahalo for taking the time to read my comments.

P. Denise La Costa
West Maui Citizen and Resident

--

Success lies within all of us.

The difference is, those who only hope for it and those who believe it.

Hau'oli Makahiki'Hou 2009

P. Denise La Costa

P. DENISE La COSTA
Principal Broker/DR/ABR
La Costa Realty Hawai'i, LLC
Member: Maui, Kona, Hawai'i and National Boards of Realtors
(877) 665-3555 Toll Free
(808) 280-2132 Cellular
(808) 667-9888 FAX 667-1888 Office
LRHLLC@yahoo.com
www.LaCostaRealtyHawaii.com

From: Karla Gillette [ksg310@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Saturday, January 31, 2009 3:36 PM
To: EBMtestimony
Subject: West Maui Hospital

Please! Listen to those of us on the West Side who desperately need a small hospital for acute and emergency care. We are trapped here if the highway to Kahului is closed for any emergency such as fire, accident, or natural disaster. In the best of times the trip to Maui Memorial is 40 minutes or more, barely within the "golden hour". We need your help.

Karla Gillette
160 Pualei Dr., Apt. 2
Lahaina, HI 96761

From: Brian Hoyle [bhoyle@prodigy.net]
Sent: Saturday, January 31, 2009 10:06 PM
To: EBMtestimony
Subject: RE: West Maui Enterprise Bill HB 553

BRIAN H. HOYLE

NOTE: This e-mail, and any attachments thereto, is intended only for use by the addressees named herein and may contain legally privileged and/or confidential information. If you are not the intended recipient of this e-mail, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this e-mail, and any attachments thereto, is strictly prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please immediately notify me and permanently delete the original and any copy of any e-mail and any printout thereof.

From: Joe Pluta [mailto:pluta@maui.net]
Sent: Saturday, January 31, 2009 9:03 PM
To: 'Brian Hoyle'
Subject: RE: West Maui Enterprise Bill HB 553
Importance: High

Aloha Brian:

I believe that is an Excellent Testimony of support.

Please send it to the link EBTtestimony in the request sent from Angus and here is back up email of Legislative office manager c.hagihara@capitol.hawaii.gov

Warm Regards,
Joe

1/30/09

As the Developer of the West Maui Hospital and Medical Center (WMHMC), I strongly support this Bill and it will provide needed incentives to attract the significant private investment need to greatly enhance and complement the medical services provided by WMHMC. As this proposed West Maui Medical Enterprise Zone (WMMEZ) will be in close proximity to WMHMC, it will provide critical health, wellness, and medical research facilities to the West Maui community and all of Maui.

The WMMEZ will attach significant private investment for the development and operation of medical treatment and research in a master planned health and wellness community that will provide hundreds of high paying healthcare jobs and attract top medical professionals to work in Maui. This will be an environmentally designed and community based project that will be a Medical Center of Excellence. WMMEZ will work with the University of Hawaii and other medical, health, and wellness organizations in Hawaii to research, practice, and promote the best in healthcare services.

Please support this Bill that will allow West Maui and Hawaii to create a privately funded Medical campus that will provide permanent employment for hundreds of medical professionals and provide the ongoing benefits of medical research, treatment, health and wellness.

Sincerely,

Brian H. Hoyle
President
Newport Hospital Corporation
Developer of the West Maui Hospital and Medical Center

From: Marv Paularena [mpaularena@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, January 31, 2009 11:50 AM
To: EBMtestimony
Subject: West Maui Medical Care

Aloha,

We used to live in Honokawai, north of Lahaina and Ka`anapali and had a medical emergency that required me to travel to the Maui Memorial Medical Center in Kahului by ambulance. The trip took over 45 minutes which seemed like forever but fortunately was not a problem for me. Had I had a heart attack and had there been a blockage of the only useful highway to Kahului I might not have made it. Every time there is a blockage of the highway between Lahaina and Ma`alaea, whether by accident or fire, there is a stoppage of at least an hour. Minutes are critical with heart attacks and strokes. A medical facility in Lahaina would resolve that time problem. Please support HB 553 out of compassion and aloha for those needing immediate medical care in life threatening situations. This is not a political issue but rather an issue of quality of life and perhaps of life itself.

Mahalo nui loa,
Marv and Michele Paularena
190 South Wakea Avenue, Apt. CC5
Kahului, HI 96732

From: MargarethH [MargarethH@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2009 6:47 AM
To: EBMtestimony
Subject: hospital

yes I would want a hospital on west Maui

Thanks

Margaret

PO Box 10814

Lahaina. Hi. 96761

From: Bunt Burkhalter [buntb@maui.net]
Sent: Sunday, February 01, 2009 12:40 PM
To: EBMtestimony
Subject: West Maui Medical Facility

Sirs; I am a senior citizen living in west Maui. I, and many of my constituents, living in this area are concerned about the lack of medical facilities available to us in the event of an all to common road closure or a time critical emergency such as a heart attack. We are hoping that HB533 will help to address the severe lack of medical options to those of us lining in west Maui.

Thank you for your consideration.

AC Burkhalter

291 Front St.
Lahaina

From: Lee Cumpiano [lcumpiano@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2009 7:21 AM
To: EBMtestimony
Subject: We need a Hospital in West Maui

Please listen to our request, we are willing to pay more taxes an assessment whatever it takes. But please let us have our hospital. One of our dear friends died December 26, 2007. He had a heart attack and didn't make it to the "other side" in time.

**Mahalo for listening,
Liova & Fred Cumpiano
3785 L Honoapiilani Rd
Lahaina, Hawaii**

From: Bob Pure [bobdi@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2009 8:29 AM
To: EBMtestimony
Subject: HB 553

I am enclosing testimony in favor of bill HB 553. It is absolutely essential for the health and welfare of residents and visitors to West Maui to have access to a critical access hospital and adjoining medical facilities. As a West Maui full time resident (age 67), it is vitally important that we have acute medical care on the West Side of Maui. Right now we have nothing.

Many residents and organizations have been working very hard for many years to bring about a hospital as part of a medical enterprise zone to West Maui.

We need your help and support in making this happen.

Thank you,

Bob Pure

2560 Kekaa Drive Unit C-303
Lahaina, HI 96761

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2009 9:05 AM
To: EBMtestimony
Cc: mwebster@mlpmaui.com
Subject: Testimony for HB553 on 2/3/2009 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for EBM 2/3/2009 8:30:00 AM HB553

Conference room: 312
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Megan Webster
Organization: Individual
Address: Lahaina, HI
Phone:
E-mail: mwebster@mlpmaui.com
Submitted on: 2/2/2009

Comments:

Please support the West Maui Enterprise Bill HB 553. We are in desperate need of healthcare facilities on the West side of Maui.

From: Kanoë_Kapuniaï/LAHAINALUNA/HIDOE@notes.k12.hi.us
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2009 9:03 AM
To: EBMtestimony
Subject: Testimony in support of West Maui Enterprise Bill HB 553

Aloha kua,

I am writing a testimony IN SUPPORT of Bill HB 553 to make West Maui into a Medical Enterprise Zone so that West Maui residents and others staying in West Maui can get the Medical care that they need without having to traverse the island- which takes an hour- a person could die in that time.

Designating West Maui as a Medical Enterprise Zone will allow West Maui to make decisions as to who is qualified to treat patients especially during a crisis situation when no physician is available. At that point a military doctor, or a nurse should be able to administer treatment if it will save a person's life. Being that there are isolated and rural areas in Hawaii, especially on the Neighbor islands away from the hub of Honolulu, it is important that there is appropriate medical care available to all people, not just in state of the art facilities staffed by highly-qualified physicians. If this were the option in West Maui and other places like Ka'u or Niihau then the Medical Enterprise Zone would not be a question, but the Zone is a step to get medical care faster. An educated and qualified medical practitioner could be living right down Lahainaluna road but is not able to treat civilians or administer medical treatment because of government regulations, a simple decision to allow that person to practice could save another person's life.

This is a pilot program after all so as a trial we should treat it as such and really give it the chance to be a solution to our health care issues. We want all of our Hawaii residents to get quality health care but not everyone has access to state of the art care, so this Zone will allow that the rural area of West Maui will get quality health care quickly. If it works then we can open other Zones through- out the state.

Mahalo for allowing me to express my SUPPORT for BILL HB 553.

me ka ha'aha'a,
M. Kanoelehua Kapuniaï

From: norm@mauicomcommunicators.com
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2009 9:53 AM
To: EBMtestimony
Subject: HB553_ENTERPRISE ZONE

TESTIMONY ON BILL HB353

From Norm Bezane, 156 Kualapa Place, Lahaina, HI 96761

This testimony is offered by a former member of the Maui Health Care Task Force appointed by Speaker Calvin Say and as an individual who has spent the last five years getting to understand health care dynamics on Maui

The state of Hawaii is in health care crisis. The viability of state supported health care through hospitals and other facilities is in question. HB 353, a bill to set up a pilot medical enterprise zone in West Maui, perhaps as a model for other zones on other islands, offers a creative alternative that could materially assist bringing health care to a high standard of excellence throughout the Hawaiian islands.

West Maui, with its 60,000 residents, commuters and visitors-- and a visitor industry that is one of the most important economic engines in the state-- at the same time is one of the most underserved areas in Hawaii with no access to prompt access acute emergency care.

Establishment of such a medical zone would accomplish three highly desirable objectives:

1. Encourage private enterprise to add state of the art health care facilities and provide a nucleus for establishment of a coterie of some of the best medical practitioners in the land who would be attracted and be encouraged to practice medicine here within a climate of excellence.
2. Provide an important economic stimulus to the area and the state in these dire economic times through the addition of new facilities that would create hundreds of construction and medical care jobs to reduce reliance on tourism as a source of revenues.
3. Help provide a critical mass of services. A health care facility can be financially viable only if it can generate sufficient revenues not only to support institutions but also to support physicians and medical personnel to a high economic standard.
Establishment of substantial health care enterprises would help supply this critical mass.

One of the biggest challenges state legislators have is to understand the needs of our entire island state. Representatives from Oahu have good access to medical care and facilities and may find it hard to understand the sub-standard care available on some of the so-called Neighbor islands. At the same time, representatives from outer islands may not fully understand the issues or dynamics of populous Oahu.

Every legislator needs to step up to the challenge of understanding and meeting the needs of all the people in our state. A medical enterprise zone may not be needed in Oahu. But it is certainly needed in an underserved area like Maui to jump-start long and badly needed improvements.

To legislators with good access to medical care who may not fully understand the difference between care on Oahu and outer islands, I would ask these questions:

Would you move your family and your elderly relatives to West Maui where acute emergency care is more than an hour away over a single two-lane road over the Pali? Or would you take the advice of a knowledgeable health care expert from the mainland that told me last year. " If I lived in West Maui, I'd buy a plane. In a health care emergency, I'd be out of there."

It is these attitudes and these conditions that need redress. By supporting a pilot enterprise zone on Maui, you as legislators would be among the first to take the concrete steps needed to protect, enhance, and preserve life here. Maybe Maui does not need to be No Ka Oil in health care, but we at least need parity.

It would be a feather in the cap of every legislator if this billed received support ant passage.

From: Stanley Zajac [stanleyzajac@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2009 10:57 AM
To: EBMtestimony
Subject: HB 533 (West Side Maui Hospital)

Aloha

I am sending you this "E" mail as my wife and I reside on the West Side of Maui in the subdivision called Kahana Ridge just north of the town of Lahaina. I am hoping this bill is passed in favor of acquiring a much needed hospital for the West Sides' Inhabitants. This hospital will be of significant importance to those individuals who in the will need some emergency needs in the future as in some cases time may be the difference between life and death. It will be helpful to its present senior citizens and also to the areas children and their families as well as the tourists. Having a hospital and its staff will be a relief to many of of our residents. Wish to thank you for allowing me and others answer you of this need for a West Side Hospital on Maui.

Stanley F. Zajac
25 Kahana Ridge Place
Lahaina, HI. 96761

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2009 11:42 AM
To: EBMtestimony
Cc: don@doncouch.com
Subject: Testimony for HB553 on 2/3/2009 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for EBM 2/3/2009 8:30:00 AM HB553

Conference room: 312
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Don Couch
Organization: Individual
Address: PO Box 1212 Kihei
Phone:
E-mail: don@doncouch.com
Submitted on: 2/2/2009

Comments:

West Maui is at the end of a long "cul-de-sac" on a long two lane highway. On great traffic days it still takes 45 minutes to get into Wailuku and the hospital. That's on great traffic days. West Maui needs access to emergency care in West Maui. Please pass this bill to allow such access.

From: WRM Mark Marchello [mmarchello@vacation-maui.com]
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2009 11:41 AM
To: EBMtestimony
Cc: mckelvey2-Allan; alarmist@mac.com
Subject: Hospital on West Maui

Importance: High

Dear Review Committee,

I have lived in West Maui for 31 years and on several occasions my family has had emergency situations after hours with the only option being to drive an hour or more to Maui Memorial Hospital. The worst case I vividly remember, once when my son was two years old he ate poison, we were in fear for his life for over an hour before we made it to the hospital!!!!!!!!!!!!

We have emergency traffic accidents almost daily on the Pali which can stop traffic flow for hours, fires and fatalities that stop traffic for half a day or more.

When I was working as at the Kaanapali Alii we had a guest break his neck, because of traffic it was over an hour before he received treatment at the hospital, minutes are critical in these situations, hours are deadly.

When making this decision please place yourself in the shoes of the family members whose loved ones lives will be on the line.

Mark

Mark A. Marchello
240 Punakea Loop
Lahaina, HI 96761

From: NSF [kets49@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2009 11:12 AM
To: EBMtestimony
Subject: West Maui Hospital

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Neal Fujiwara. I presently live in Wailuku, however, I was born and raised in Lahaina and my parents still live there. Dad will be 96 years old tomorrow (2/3/09) and mom will be 90 in July, '09. I have many friends living in Lahaina.

Just to think that Lahaina had a hospital (where I was born in 1949) operated by Pioneer Mill Sugar Company. The population now is alot dense than back then and homes are scattered from Olowalu to Kapalua. Health care is very important to people nowadays, and although Lahaina have the Maui Medical Group and Kaiser Medical Center, a hospital on the westside of Maui is over due.

Please help make this a realty. Thank you very much.

From: mauiwings@aol.com
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2009 12:00 PM
To: EBMtestimony
Subject: HB553

Aloha

I am a resident of West Maui. I am married with two children. I support HB 553 and wanted to take this opportunity to voice my support.

I believe passage of this bill is crucial. Mahalo

Mark Claydon

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From: Andrew Higgins [Andycuttingedge@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2009 12:05 PM
To: EBMtestimony

We need a west Maui hospital. an accident or fire closes the pali for hours at a time then residents have NO hospital..... it's got to happen so let get it started Today

Andy higgins
3788 Lower Honoapiilani

Aloha

Andrew Higgins
Andycuttingedge@gmail.com

From: mauiduck@hawaii.rr.com
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2009 1:32 PM
To: EBMtestimony
Subject: Fwd: MY 553 TESTIMONY

This testimony is offered by a former member of the Maui Health Care Task Force appointed by Speaker Calvin Say and as an individual who has spent the last five years getting to understand health care dynamics on Maui

The state of Hawaii is in health care crisis. The viability of state supported health care through hospitals and other facilities is in question. HB, a bill to set up a pilot medical enterprise zone in West Maui, perhaps as a model for other zones on other islands, offers a creative alternative that could materially assist bringing health care to a high standard of excellence throughout the Hawaiian islands.

West Maui, with its 60,000 residents, commuters and visitors-- and a visitor industry that is one of the most important economic engines in the state-- at the same time is one of the most underserved areas in Hawaii with no access to prompt access acute emergency care.

Establishment of such a medical zone would accomplish three highly desirable objectives:

1. Encourage private enterprise to add state of the art health care facilities and provide a nucleus for establishment of a coterie of some of the best medical practitioners in the land who would be attracted and be encouraged to practice medicine here within a climate of excellence.

- 2.. Provide an important economic stimulus to the area and the state in these dire economic times through the addition of new facilities that would create hundreds of construction and medical care jobs to reduce reliance on tourism as a source of revenues.

3. Help provide a critical mass of services. A health care facility can be financially viable only if it can generate sufficient revenues not only to support institutions but also to support physicians and medical personnel to a high economic standard. Establishment of substantial health care enterprises would help supply this critical mass.

One of the biggest challenges state legislators have is to understand the needs of our entire island state.

Representatives from Oahu have good access to medical care and facilities and may find it hard to understand the sub standard care available on some of the so-called Neighbor islands. At the same time, representatives from outer islands may not fully understand the issues or dynamics of populous Oahu.

Every legislator needs to step up to the challenge of understanding and meeting the needs of all the people in our state. A medical enterprise zone may not be needed in Oahu. But it is certainly needed in an underserved area like Maui to jump-start long and badly needed improvements.

To legislators with good access to medical care who may not fully understand the difference between care on Oahu and outer islands, I would ask these questions:

Would you move your family and your elderly relatives to West Maui where acute emergency care is more than an hour away over a single two-lane road over the Pali? Or would you take

the advice of a knowledgeable health care expert from the mainland that told me last year. " If I lived in West Maui, I'd buy a plane. In a health care emergency, I'd be out of there."

It would be a feather in the cap of every legislator if this billed received support ant passage.

aloha
Norm Bezane
Kaanapali, HI

From: on behalf of EBMtestimony
Subject: FW: Hospital in W. Maui - HB 553

From: lou5161@aol.com [mailto:lou5161@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2009 1:00 PM
To: EBMtestimony
Subject: Hospital in W. Maui - HB 553

Dear Representative Angus McKelvey,

As you know, a hospital is dearly needed in West Maui. Our isolation and the growing population of young and elderly residents and visitors makes it imperative that proper care be available in our area. It could be a matter of life and death.

Your efforts are very appreciated.

Louise and Alexander Ross
344 Kahana Ridge Drive
Lahaina HI 96761
(808) 669-8384

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From: nparrish57 [nparrish57@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2009 1:34 PM
To: EBMtestimony
Subject: (no subject)

Please pass HB 553! It is greatly needed and would be greatly appreciated.

Nancy Beeson

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From: June [mauidayjune@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2009 1:55 PM
To: EBMtestimony
Subject: West Maui Hospital Need

WEST Maui has an urgent need for a hospital. Twice in the last month I have travelled to Maui Memorial to the emergency room, after seeing a west maui physician. 45 minutes drive as long as there was not traffic on the one lane highway, as the faciility and care that I was in need of does not exist on the West Side.

Consider this , you who are making the decisions: In an emergency, would you be willing to travel 45 minutes , in the hopes that there isn't a traffic fatality that closes Honoapiilani Hwy for 6-7 hours?

That is the possibility here on the West side for people having to make the trip to Kahului.

One lane in one direction and one lane in the other direction going through the Pali on the way to the hospital in Kahului. Not a good thing.

PLEASE....MAKE A WEST MAUI HOSPITAL A REALITY. We have the land, let us make a hospital here on West Maui.

June Delany
2560 Kekaa Drive
Lahaina, HI 96761 A west side resident for nearly 20 years, and has seen the Pali closed more times than I care to rememberfor 5-8 hours duration.

From: Gordon Schmuhl [gordkirk@maui.net]
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2009 12:26 PM
To: EBMtestimony
Subject: Re: HBM 553

As a long time resident of West Maui I strongly support Bill HB 553. We desperately need an Emergency Hospital because it is too far to travel to Maui Memorial Hospital and takes far too long to get there in case of an emergency such as a heart attack, stroke, auto accident injury, etc., etc. Please EBM committee, help save our lives on the West Side. We have needed this hospital for a very long time. Frankly this IS a matter of life and death !!!

Kirk (Donald) Kirkpatrick
140 Kahana Makai Road
Lahaina, Maui, Hi. 96761

From: Gordon Schmuhl [gordkirk@maui.net]
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2009 12:48 PM
To: EBMtestimony
Subject: Re: Bill HB 553

Dear EBM Committee,

I first invested in West Maui back in the late 1960's and have been a permanent resident over 6 years. I have seen the West Maui area grow over these many years to major population on the island. Talk has been going for over three decades or more about a small emergency hospital. The time is well past when there should be a hospital that is close by where lives could be saved with immediate care instead of wasting precious time driving over 25 miles from Kahana to Maui Memorial. Don't you think that it would be much better if a patient who needs immediate care be stabilized here on the West Side and later after stabilization be then moved to Maui Memorial instead of the ambulance deliver them directly to MC and to the morgue? Please don't let greed and/or personal feelings keep this large community from getting this small hospital that we so desperately need !!!

Gordon Schmuhl
140 Kahana Makai Road
Lahaina, HI 96761 (Kahana/Kapalua area)

From:
Sent:
To:

Sandra Schwettmann [sschwett@yahoo.com]
Monday, February 02, 2009 1:38 PM
EBMtestimony

I support the establishment of a Medical Enterprise Zone for West Maui. I ask our representatives to support this bill. My husband and I are full time residents of West Maui.

Sandra Schwettmann
85 Lau Awa Place
Lahaina, HI 96761

From: Mike [mike@mymauifarm.com]
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2009 2:26 PM
To: EBMtestimony
Subject: I Support Bill HB 553 to establish a medical enterprise zone in West Maui

Aloha

I strongly Support Bill HB 553 to establish a medical enterprise zone in West Maui. There are too many urgent needs that cannot be met without a bill like this.

Mahalo

Mike Gronemeyer
105 Awaiku St.
Lahaina, HI 96761

From: Shannon Fields [shannf@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2009 3:08 PM
To: EBMtestimony
Subject: West Maui

I have had personal experiences with the lack of emergency care in West Maui. One evening during dinner my boyfriend began to have chest pains. We were able to get into see Dr. Estin, who felt we should go to the emergency room to be on the safe side. he felt that my boyfriend was stable enough that I drive. As we began our journey to Maui Memorial we were delayed by construction on NaPali. What should have been a 35 minute drive took over an hour. I am certain Dr. Estin was unaware of the road construction otherwise my boyfriend would have been take via the EMT. We arrived at the empty emergency room at 9 pm. The emergency staff performed several tests and at 2am decided to admit him. I still needed to drive back to Lahaina at 3 in the morning. When I asked about a obtaining a cup of coffee, I was informed that there was none available to visitors. I was pointed to a soda machine which was empty. How frustrating I now ran the risk of falling asleep while driving. There was no way I was about to look for an open gas station at that hour in the morning while driving by myself. West Maui has long been in need of emergency care facility. It is time to make it happen. This island is too big and West Maui is too isolated for there not to be an emergency care center. From my understanding Kiehe and Kula both have facilities and they are more closely located to Maui Memorial.

Please feel free to contact me. Both my boyfriend and I would be happy to support this proposal.

Shannon Fields

shannf@gmail.com

From: Hudson, Larisa [Larisa.Hudson@bohia.com]
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2009 4:41 PM
To: EBMtestimony
Subject: Bill HB 553

Aloha!

I support this bill 100% as I feel that increased medical care is long overdue for West Maui. It is ridiculous to have to drive one hour, maybe more depending on traffic and impossible if there is an accident to get to the hospital in the case of an emergency. Although we have clinics on West Maui, they are not 24 hours and cannot always provide the care needed.

I am expecting my first child and am concerned. My parents, of whom my mother is originally from West Maui, have thought of moving back to be closer to their expected Grandchild, but question moving here due to the lack of medical care. As people age, there are increased health issues and good/close medical care is very important.

Mahalo,

Larisa Hudson
3350 L. Honoapiilani Rd. Ste 215 #120
Lahaina, HI 96761
email: larisahudson@gmail.com