THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF HAWAII

TESTIMONY ON HB 691 RELATING TO LOAN REPAYMENT TO RELIEVE PHYSICIAN SHORTAGES

Committee on Health Tuesday, February 10. 2009 Conference Room 309 2:15 p.m.

Testifier: Joy A Marshall, RN, Health Reform Chair, 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 691 which establishes in Hawaii a rural health care provider loan repayment program.

This encourages physicians who agree and practice medicine in Hawaii in our designated shortage areas to manage and meet their financial obligations soon after graduation.

This bill can reduce the liability of owed financial obligations at the end of their first year after graduation and encourages that newly Hawaii trained physicians remain and practice in our state for that designated portion of time.

We urge passage of HB691.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 1369