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### Monday, March 02, 2009, 9:00 am, Conference Room 329

To: COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair

Rep. Tom Brower, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH Rep. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair

Rep. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair

By: Hawaii Medical Association

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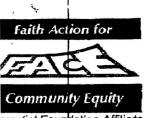
Re: <u>HCR 33 Medicare Reimbursements</u>

Chairs & Committee Members:

Hawaii Medical Association strongly supports this resolution. Medicare and Medicaid reimbursements to Hawaii physicians are not sufficient to cover the ever-increasing costs of providing care. Raising the fee schedule is one of the steps that may help alleviate the access to care problems for the Medicare and Medicaid patient population.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

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The Rev. Robert Nakata Oahu President

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Ms. Judy Ott Statewide Secretary

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Mr. Patrick Zukemura Oahu Lead Organizer March 2, 2009

#### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THE TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE **REGULAR SESSION OF 2009**

#### **COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES**

Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair Rep. Tom Brower, Vice Chair

Rep. Della Au Belatti

Rep. Maile S.L.

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Rep. Ryan I. Yamane Rep. Gene Ward

Rep. Mele Carroll Rep. Scott Y.

**Nishimoto** 

## COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

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Rep. Della Au

Rep. John M. Mizuno

Belatti

Rep. Joe Bertram,

Rep. Maile S.L.

Shimabukuro Rep. Lynn Finnegan

Rep. Tom Brower Rep. Mele Carroll

### NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE:

Monday, March 02, 2009

TIME:

9:00 am

PLACE:

Conference Room 329

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

#### **HCR 33**

REQUESTING THE CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES TO CONSIDER RAISING THE MEDICARE FEE SCHEDULE PAYMENT AMOUNTS FOR PHYSICIANS RENDERING SERVICES IN HAWAII.

Good Morning Chairs Mizuno and Yamane and members of these committees.

I am Reverend Sam Domingo and I am the Chair of the Healthcare Committee for FACE, (Faith Action for Community Equity). WE SUPPORT THIS RESOLUTION.

F.A.C.E., as a faith-based community grassroots organization, believes that all the citizens of the State of Hawaii should have access to quality education, affordable homes, and access to quality healthcare. FACE believes that the main impact on the crisis in the access and delivery of healthcare to Hawaii's people, regardless of their socio-economic status, is rooted in the insufficient Medicare and Medicaid reimbursements to our Physicians and all providers. We are hearing from our members that this crisis is having a profound effect on their families, employers and employees.



Hawaii has always been known as *The Health State* and now finds itself in the midst of growing uninsured, limited access to care, inadequate reimbursements to hospitals, physicians and other providers. Also our public and private hospitals are on the brink of financial insolvency and our rural areas are becoming increasingly underserved and there is an ongoing growing loss of our physician population.

F.A.C.E. as a faith-based community grassroots organization believes that the Citizens of the State of Hawaii should all have access to quality education, affordable homes and healthy living with access to quality healthcare and our hospitals, physicians and other providers must be adequately reimbursed. This resolution will request cooperation and assistance form our Congressional Delegation and the Federal Government.

Thank you.





# Joint Hearing House of Representatives

Committee on Human Services Representative John M. Mizuno, Chair Representative Tom Brower, Vice Chair

Committee on Health Representative Ryan I. Yamane, Chair Representative Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair

> Monday, March 2, 2009 9:00 AM Conference Room 329 Hawaii State Capitol

**Testimony Supporting HCR 33** 

REQUESTING THE CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES TO CONSIDER RAISING THE MEDICARE FEE SCHEDULE PAYMENT AMOUNTS FOR PHYSICIANS RENDERING SERVICES IN HAWAII.

Testimony By:
Thomas M. Driskill, Jr.
President and Chief Executive Officer
Hawaii Health Systems Corporation

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HCR 33.

On behalf of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) Corporate Board of Directors, we strongly support this proposed legislation.

Respectively yours, Thomas M. Driskill, Jr.