To: The Senate Committee on Health

The Hon. David Y. Ige, Chair The Hon. Josh Green, MD, Vice Chair

The Senate Committee on Commerce & Consumer Protection

The Hon. Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair The Hon. David Y. Ige, Vice Chair

Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 1142

Relating to Physician Assistants

Submitted by Beth Giesting, CEO

February 10, 2009, 8:30 a.m. agenda, Room 229

The Hawaii Primary Care Association urges your support of this bill which would expand the scope of practice of physician assistants and make them much more useful as providers in primary care and other settings.

We find that physician assistants are excellent clinicians who earn very high marks for clinical quality and patient satisfaction. In addition, with shortages in physicians and financial resources, Hawaii would be well-served to expand the scope of practice for all licensed health professionals to include all services such professionals are qualified to provide.

Thank you for the opportunity to add our support to this measure.

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Josh Green, Vice-chair
Health Committee
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker
Senator David Y. Ige
Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee
Tuesday, February 10, 2009
Support of SB 1142: Relating to Physician Assistants
I, support SB 1142.
Passage of this bill will allow patients better access to health care in medically underserved areas, thereby allowing physicians and physician assistants to better serve their patients.
We ask your support in passing SB 1142. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.