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Written Testimony RE: S.B. No. 1077, RELATING TO HEALTH INSURANCE.

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The following is an information only testimony:

- The <u>Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition (NPAC)</u> was established in 2007 under State of Hawaii Department of Health, Hawaii Health Initiative as a follow-up to The Hawaii Physical Activity and Nutrition Plan, a comprehensive set of strategic recommendations to integrate physical activity and healthy eating into the daily lives of the residents of Hawaii. Since NPAC's inception, five task forces have been recreated to advocate for initiatives and policies that support good nutrition and regular physical activity. These are the Nutrition Task Force, the Worksite Wellness Task Force, the School Taskforce, the Built Environment Taskforce and the Healthcare Taskforce.
- The <u>NPAC Healthcare Taskforce</u> is still in its infancy but now has an active, enthusiastic membership consisting
 of 22 individuals representing three of the largest health insurance companies in Hawaii (Hawaii Medical Service
 Association, University Health Alliance and Alohacare), the Hawaii State Department of Health, the University of
 Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine, the Hawaii Medical Association and several non-profit organizations.
- The NPAC Healthcare Taskforce is developing a strategic plan but aims to support initiatives and policies that 1) increase the identification of children and adults who are overweight and obese 2) increase insurance coverage for preventative health care services as they relate to nutrition, physical activity and healthy lifestyles especially for Hawaii's most vulnerable families. In addition, the Taskforce aims to work within our diverse membership and others in the community, to bring stakeholders, including insurance companies and physician groups, closer to consensus in these matters.

<u>Summary:</u> The NPAC Healthcare Taskforce is an active, multi-disciplinary, multi-sectoral effort supporting initiatives and policies to increase healthy lifestyles through Hawaii's healthcare system. We hope this information will be considered in the discussion of SB-1077.

May Okihiro, MD, MS - Chair, NPAC Healthcare Taskforce.

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