

Howoii Realth Systems Corporation --- Mour Region

February 15, 2011

TO:

Senator Josh Green, M.D., Chair

Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

February 16, 2011, 2:45 p.m.

Conference Room 229

State Capitol, 415 Beretania Street

FROM:

Wesley Lo

Regional Chief Executive Officer

RE:

SB 414, SD 1 - RELATING TO HEALTH

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB 414, SD 1. The purpose of this bill is authorize the Hawaii health systems corporation to mortgage its real property and clarifies that the dollar cap on municipal leasing authority applies to each regional system.

I support this measure because the ability to mortgage real property for the purposes of pursuing revenue bonds is critical to allow a region or regions to pursue outside financing. As you know, the Maui region pursued a revenue bond in order to finance part of the start up of the cardiovascular program at Maui Memorial Medical Center. Without this important access to capital, MMMC would not have been able to bring lifesaving heart procedures to the community.

Clarifying that the dollar cap on municipal leasing authority applies to each regional system is extremely important so that the healthcare facilities in the regions have access to adequate municipal lease financing in order to ensure that necessary equipment can be purchased in a timely manner in to provide for uninterrupted patient care. These funds can also be used for capital improvement projects such as life safety efforts required by the Joint Commission for accreditation.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

Respectfully submitted,

Wesley Lo

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