Hawaii Association of Health Plans

April 4, 2011

The Honorable Robert Herkes, Chair
The Honorable Ryan Yamane, Vice Chair

House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

Re: SB 41 SD1 – Relating to the Hawaii Prepaid Health Care Act

Dear Chair Herkes, Vice Chair Yamane and Members of the Committee:

My name is Howard Lee and I am President of the Hawaii Association of Health Plans ("HAHP"). HAHP is a non-profit organization consisting of eight (8) member organizations:

AlohaCare	Kaiser Permanente
Hawaii Medical Assurance Association	MDX Hawai'i
HMSA	University Health Alliance
Hawaii-Western Management Group, Inc.	UnitedHealthcare

Our mission is to promote initiatives aimed at improving the overall health of Hawaii. We are also active participants in the legislative process. Before providing any testimony at a Legislative hearing, all HAHP member organizations must be in unanimous agreement of the statement or position.

HAHP appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 41 SD1 which would repeal the sunset clause from Hawaii's Prepaid Health Care Act (PHCA).

Hawaii is unique in the nation when it comes to the provision of health care. Under the PHCA, the state enjoys a lower uninsured rate than most of the country, experiences lower premiums on average and provides for comprehensive benefits for those receiving employer-based coverage. Despite passage of federal health care reform know as the Affordable Care Act (ACA), there are many in the community who believe that the PHCA should remain intact, as its provisions, in many regards are stronger than those required by the ACA.

We believe that removing the sunset provision from the PHCA will assist in its preservation and therefore we respectfully urge the Committee to support this measure.

Sincerely,

Howard Lee
President

• *AlohaCare* • *HMAA* • *HMSA* • *HWMG* • *Kaiser Permanente* •*MDX Hawaii* • *UHA* • *UnitedHealthcare* •
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