

LATE

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Wednesday – February 9, 2011 – 2:45pm Conference Room 229

The Senate Committee on Health

To: Senator Josh Green, M.D., Chair

Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair

From: Steve Robertson

Executive Vice President & Chief Information Officer

Re: SB 786 RELATING TO HEALTH CARE - Testimony in Strong Support

My name is Steve Robertson, Executive Vice President at Hawai'i Pacific Health (HPH). Hawai'i Pacific Health is a nonprofit health care system and the state's largest health care provider, committed to providing the highest quality medical care and service to the people of Hawai'i and the Pacific Region through its four affiliated hospitals, 44 outpatient clinics and more than 2,200 physicians and clinicians. The network is anchored by its four nonprofit hospitals: Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children, Kapi'olani Medical Center at Pali Momi, Straub Clinic & Hospital and Wilcox Memorial Hospital.

We are writing in strong support of SB 786 Relating to Health Care which would allow representatives of health care provider organizations to serve on the Pre-paid Health Care Advisory council (PHCA). Health care organizations are significant stakeholders in maintaining our community's health. The Federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act will necessitate unparalleled cooperation between healthcare provider organizations, physicians, patients, and insurers in mitigating the spiraling costs of healthcare while improving clinical outcomes for our patients.

Such cooperation is best done with input from all parties with a stake in achieving these objectives. Healthcare organizations are well positioned and central in directly impacting the cost and quality of care in the community and should therefore be represented on the PHCA council. Having a representative from a health care organization serve on the panel would provide the council the experience and wisdom that will be required as the State of Hawaii moves forward under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

We ask that you pass this bill from this committee.







