

morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2013 9:55 AM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: laurenzirbel@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1383 on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM*

HB1383

Submitted on: 2/3/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lauren Zirbel	HAWAII MEDICAL ASSOCIATION	Support	Yes

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

HMSA



An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

February 6, 2013

The Honorable Della Au Belatti, Chair
The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

House Committee on Health

Re: HB 1383 – Relating to Health

Dear Chair Bellati, Vice Chair Morikawa and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Medical Service Association (HMSA) appreciates the opportunity to testify in support of HB 1383 which appropriates funds for various programs directed at expanding the primary care workforce. These include \$300,000 for the Hawaii Health Corps, \$300,000 for University of Hawaii's John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) and the School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene, \$560,000 for JABSOM's Native Hawaiian Center of Excellence, and \$1 million to enhance faculty and infrastructure of the Family Medicine Residence Program and for the development of new accredited family health centers.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 1383.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JD", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jennifer Diesman
Vice President
Government Relations

Re: Support HB 1383

I strongly support HB 1383: Primary Health Care; Primary Care Workforce Development Plan which appropriates funds to address the shortage of primary care physicians in the State through a comprehensive primary care workforce development plan that addresses the critical areas of loan repayment, diversity programs, and primary care workforce expansion.

The 'Imi Ho 'ōla Post-Baccalaureate Program and Native Hawaiian Center of Excellence are vital programs which create diversity in the health care workforce by providing opportunities to students from disadvantaged backgrounds and/or underrepresented populations to succeed in the health professions.

Growing up, I did not have any mentors within the health or medical field. The desire to help my community came from my internal motivation, but I had no platform or vehicle to obtain such goals. With the help of the Native Hawaiian Center of Excellence, I was able to take advantage of the programs offered, but more importantly, I was given the opportunity to form a network of support from the health care professionals to guide me through this process. I have been mentored and advised on many occasions by faculty and staff from the Native Hawaiian Center of Excellence to provide me with the equal opportunity to attend medical school and succeed as a primary care physician.

I am a pre-med student with the dreams and aspirations to attend the John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM). As a first-generation college student, my background has not supported this goal. I plan to apply to the 'Imi Ho 'ōla Post-Baccalaureate Program in this upcoming application year. My long-term goal is to specialize in Native Hawaiian Health and return to the Native Hawaiian community to provide the universal right of health. This program provides me with the opportunity to pursue my dreams of succeeding in medical school. I ask that you strongly consider this bill for past, present, and future students like me.

Mahalo.

morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 7:54 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: angelsanada@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1383 on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM*

HB1383

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Angelique Sanada	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

To Whom this May Concern,

I would like to offer my support for HB 1383.

Aloha, my name is Courtney Gaddis and I am a Native Hawaiian Student Pathway to Medicine graduate and I am currently in the 'Imi Ho'ola Program at the John A. Burns School of Medicine. I was born and raised in Hawaii and I grew up as an active participant in many sports. My parents got divorced when my brother and I were at a very young age, so for much of my childhood I went back and forth between my parents. Both of my parents worked two jobs to do all they could to provide for my brother and I. My family has struggled financially throughout most of my life but luckily, when I got to college; I was able to earn a full athletic scholarship for basketball at the University of Hawaii. I am a graduate of Kalani High School, and for as long as I can remember my dream was to become a doctor. I heard about the Native Hawaiian Student Pathway to Medicine from a hula sister of mine and I decided to join the program. Being a part of the Pathways program was such a blessing to me. I was able to learn so much about the medical school application process and I met mentors that have continued to give me valuable guidance as I continue my journey in becoming a physician. It was through the pathway program that I learned about the 'Imi Ho'ola Post-Baccalaureate Program. The 'Imi Ho'ola Program gives students of disadvantaged backgrounds the opportunity to succeed in medicine. This program has pushed me to my potential not only academically but also in my self-growth. 'Imi Ho'ola has provided me with the resources that I need to succeed in the medical field. One of the most valuable parts of the program is the way in which the importance of serving the community is demonstrated. Through this program I have been given the opportunity to continue to pursue my dream in becoming a physician. The 'Imi stipends have allowed me to focus on school and has relieved me from the financial burden, while I am not able to work, due to the high demands of the program.

As a Native Hawaiian, I truly want to reach out to those in need throughout Hawaii. The Pathways program and 'Imi Ho'ola have been extremely influential in giving me the resources and guidance to continue my aspirations to provide healthcare in underserved communities throughout the islands. I could not be more thankful to be given the amazing opportunity to be apart of these incredible programs that have made such an immense impact in getting me to where I am today. It is so important that these programs are available for students so that people like me, students who are disadvantaged, and who otherwise might not have made it, have to chance to not only succeed in medicine, but also become influential leaders in the medical field.

Thank you,

Courtney Gaddis

morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 8:08 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: Chrismozick@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1383 on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM*

HB1383

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chris Mozick	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 9:21 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: mcnchan@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1383 on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM

HB1383

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chi Nga Chan	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As a graduate of the Imi Ho'ola program, I fully support HB 1383. I am currently a 4th year medical student and it would not have been possible without the financial help I received from Imi Ho'ola. The program set as a stepping stone in my pursuit of becoming a physician. I am the first person in my family to graduate from high school and now I can proudly say that I will be the first physician in my family. Please support HB 1383 to help continue funding medical education and advocate for primary care education for local students.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Chuong Tran
5240 Likini St. #301,
Honolulu, HI 96818

Date: 2/4/13

Dear Representatives,

I would like to offer my support for HB1383: Primary Health Care; Primary Workforce Development Plan which appropriates funds to address the shortage of primary care physicians in the State through a comprehensive primary care workforce development plan that addresses the critical areas of loan repayment, diversity programs, and primary care workforce expansion.

The 'Imi Ho'ōla Post-Baccalaureate Program and Native Hawaiian Center of Excellence are vital programs which create diversity in the health care workforce by providing opportunities to students from disadvantaged backgrounds and/or underrepresented populations to succeed in medicine.

As a graduate of the Imi Ho'ola Post-Baccalaureate Program, I am currently a fourth year medical student at the John A. Burns School of Medicine, and I will be receiving my MD degree in May of this year. I owe my career to the Imi Ho'ola Program, not only for giving me the opportunity to pursue medicine but also for the excellent teaching and mentorship I received during the program and continue to receive until today. More importantly, this program also made me aware of the health issues of our Hawaii community and inspired me to strive to resolve these issues.

These programs have been essential in expanding the primary care physician workforce in Hawaii, and the funding will ensure that they continue to produce outstanding physicians to serve the people of Hawaii.

Sincerely yours,

Chuong Tran

morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 7:58 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: ddscambra@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1383 on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM*

HB1383

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Donella Cambra	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Aloha e,

I believe in purpose – that each person has a reason for being on earth. We are all puzzle pieces that fit into a grand masterpiece, and each piece is shaped differently. Not everyone is destined to be the President, yet the mailman who faithfully delivers mail with a smile is no less validated in his position. We all have a role in life, and fulfillment is finding that purpose and living it.

For generations my family has called windward O‘ahu home. Kahiapo means first born, and I also happen to be the eldest of five. In my close-knit community, nobody I knew went to college. People worked hard and lived simply, and it seemed that I would do much of the same. Many traditional pre-med students preparing to be doctors have aspirations planted early in life and are nurtured into that position with role models, family members, and mentors to guide them along the way. There are people within their social and cultural “class” with whom they can relate that are doctors, so naturally they can visualize themselves into that role. While their road is still a difficult one, the pathway is completely reasonable – indeed some are even “pushed” along in that direction.

For an entirely different subset of the local population (the one that I grew up in), college is a vague and unrealistic dream, and absolutely no thought is wasted on things like medical school. Becoming a doctor is for others – not for one of us. You might as well dream about winning the lottery; your chances for that are about the same. Perhaps this feeling of doctors being “others” is precisely why many of my family and local community are reluctant to go visit one, even when in dire need. Having the chance to volunteer overseas in a medical clinic planted the seed of an idea within me. Perhaps I, too, might have a future in medicine. However, I felt like I was standing on the shores of England hearing about a New World across the sea with absolutely no idea what it actually looked like or how I would ever get there.

Perchance I came across information about the Native Hawaiian Pathways to Medicine, and the trajectory of my life was forever changed. While I had little idea what kind of steps to take in order to attend medical school, the Native Hawaiian Student Pathways to Medicine course offered by JABSOM was invaluable in guiding me on the path. This course was my first introduction to medical school, and everything about it resonated with me. The many staff and faculty I met were not only helpful and full of aloha, they were also eager to tell me their stories and hear mine. For the first time in my life I actually felt like it was possible for someone like me from MY little corner of O‘ahu to be a doctor, and that was a huge thing not only for myself but for my entire family as well. NHSPM provided the tools and structure for me to logically map out a path to medical school, and they also offered (and continue to provide long after) invaluable support and advice throughout the entire process. Just as importantly, they brought in local doctors as peer advisors that we native Hawaiian students could look to for inspiration. With the guidance of NHSPM, I have navigated through the years of preparation and application for medical school, and I absolutely would not be here if not for that program.

I currently work full time in the education field. My parents still live on Hawaiian Homestead land in Waimānalo right across from an elementary school where I work at, so this community has deep personal significance to me. I also work at Olomana School with students who are no longer permitted to attend regular public schools. These students and this community have their many difficulties, but this is where I am from. I am one of the ‘ohana. I also have just built my first home here on O‘ahu on Hawaiian Homestead land this past fall, so my roots will continue to grow deep. People here know my parents, my story, and my dream to become a

physician. NHSPM helped nurture that dream within me, and an entire community is watching. Maybe if “one of their own” can become a doctor, their son or daughter can have a chance, too.

Publicly declaring intentions to be a doctor is a unique experience. Harboring intentions in your head and releasing them to the winds of public opinion are two different matters entirely. NHSPM helped hone my focus and chip away doubts or hesitations that lingered. Something about openly declaring a goal shifts it from a thought to intent. I am now accountable to this dream. I always wondered what my piece of the puzzle looked like; and now thanks to NHSPM, it is materializing into something I would have never imagined a decade ago. Within me resides both the desire and ability to pursue medicine and thereby share my personal flavor of aloha with those around me. That is the shape of my puzzle piece – my purpose.

Mālama pono,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Dalen Keolaula Kahiapo". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dalen" being more prominent.

Dalen Keolaula Kahiapo

morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 10:08 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: davidlee8@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1383 on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM

HB1383

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Lee	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 10:23 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: kanakamaoli96706@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1383 on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM*

HB1383

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Donald Mesiona	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

TESTIMONY TO STRONGLY SUPPORT HB 1383:

Aloha my name is Dr. Marjorie Mau, MD, FACP. I am the founding chair of the Department of Native Hawaiian Health and I want to express my strong support of HB 1383 - which is aimed at increasing the number of physicians to serve our State of Hawaii.

I have practiced in rural areas (West Oahu, Molokai, Kauai) providing Endocrine consultation services for more than 20 years and have taught scores of students and residents who are committed to serving in medically underserved areas.

From my unique perspective - I have seen how programs such as the Imi Ho'ola Program - arguably the BEST Post-Baccalaureate Program in the US - has helped fill a growing gap in rural and underserved areas in Hawai'i. The funds that are being requested for support of the Imi Ho'ola students is KEY to its survival and success - as it allows students to full commit themselves to the rigors of a pre-medical school curriculum at a particularly critical moment in their professional career.

Likewise the Native Hawaiian Center of Excellence has been a unique and productive program that has increased diversity in JABSOM by encouraging and mentoring Native Hawaiian researchers, clinicians and teachers to pursue a career in medical education. To "grow" competent physicians to eventually practice in communities --- takes a long term commitment of about 15-20 years. The funds requested to sustain the current NHCOE Program is vital to its survival and to the future of eliminating health disparities among Hawaii's Native Hawaiian population and provide equity to all racial groups in Hawai'i.

In summary, I enthusiastically support HB 1383 - without hesitation - and implore our State Legislature to fully fund and commit to our State's overall health and wellness by voting to support and allocate funding to HB 1383.

I remain Sincerely yours,

Dr. Marjorie Leimomi Mala Mau (Professor, Department of Native Hawaiian Health, JABSOM, UH-Manoa)

morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 8:54 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: tikare@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1383 on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM*

HB1383

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Genie Kauhane	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 7:52 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: mauhala@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1383 on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM

HB1383

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Harold Campbell	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am fully supportive of this bill and the project.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 8:55 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: jarod@madewithaloha.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1383 on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM*

HB1383

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jarod Bailon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 7:52 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: lee_jerome@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1383 on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM*

HB1383

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jerome Lee, MD	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

To Whom It May Concern:

I strongly support HB 1383: Primary Health Care; Primary Care Workforce Development Plan which appropriates funds to address the shortage of primary care physicians in the State through a comprehensive primary care workforce development plan that addresses the critical areas of loan repayment, diversity programs, and primary care workforce expansion.

The 'Imi Ho 'ōla Post-Baccalaureate Program and Native Hawaiian Center of Excellence are vital programs which create diversity in the health care workforce by providing opportunities to students from disadvantaged backgrounds and/or underrepresented populations to succeed in the health professions.

My personal experience as a cohort member of the Native Hawaiian Pathways to Medicine program has provided the additional guidance and encouragement I needed to pursue my goals of becoming a physician. The mentors and program staff have created a positive environment and sense of support for individuals in need of help as they strive for the careers that will allow them to provide services to the people of Hawaii.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Kianalani Choo

morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 8:38 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: palmtreelover123@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1383 on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM

HB1383

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
kerri wizner	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support this bill which will help disadvantaged, including Native Hawaiian, students get the education they need to help their communities.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 8:45 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: borjaMD@aol.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1383 on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM*

HB1383

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leticia Borja	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2013 4:17 AM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: angelahospenthal@aol.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1383 on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM*

HB1383

Submitted on: 2/5/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Maria Angela Hospenthal	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

February 4, 2013

Aloha Members of the House of Representatives,

My name is Martina Kamaka and I am a family physician and a faculty member at the John A. Burns School of Medicine. I am writing in support of HB 1383. As a Native Hawaiian family physician, I am acutely aware of the shortage of primary care physicians in our state. One reason for this shortage is that Primary Care is a less attractive option to students who carry high educational debt. In addition, we have a marked shortage of physicians with strong familial or cultural ties to practicing in Native Hawaiian and rural, Neighbor Island communities. These are the types of students that are more likely to choose Primary Care specialties. I've heard for years that although smart students from these communities are applying to medical school, they are not successful applicants due to various weaknesses in their applications. We know that they don't have access to resources that could help strengthen their applications. The Native Hawaiian Center of Excellence (NHCOE) Pathways program is a critical, valuable resource that prepares these types of students (Native Hawaiian and those residing on neighbor islands) to be successful applicants to medical school through helping them with board preparation, essay writing, interviewing skills, guidance through the application process and setting up appropriate mentorship and shadowing experiences.

The other important component of the program at the NHCOE is the teaching of skills around cultural competency. The Institute of Medicine urges medical schools through the country to help address health disparities in ethnic minorities through training in cultural competency skills. Within our own communities, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders suffer from the greatest health disparities and yet, many of our local students are not familiar with the histories, cultures and special needs of these groups. I urge you to be forward thinking and support efforts that are being made to address health disparities and physician shortages through this bill. Mahalo for allowing me this opportunity to write in support of HB 1383.

Aloha,

Martina Kamaka, MD
Board Certified Family Physician
Associate Professor
Department of Native Hawaiian Health
John A. Burns School of Medicine

morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 7:56 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: michellesilva96792@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1383 on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM*

HB1383

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michelle Silva	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 9:55 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: nanibrown@earthlink.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1383 on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM*

HB1383

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nani Brown	Individual		No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2013 3:57 AM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: Rncuizon@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1383 on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM

HB1383

Submitted on: 2/5/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rena Cuizon-Garcia	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support HB 1383: Primary Health Care; Primary Care Workforce Development Plan which appropriates funds to address the shortage of primary care physicians in the State through a comprehensive primary care workforce development plan that addresses the critical areas of loan repayment, diversity programs, and primary care workforce expansion. The 'Imi Ho'ōla Post-Baccalaureate Program and Native Hawaiian Center of Excellence are vital programs which create diversity in the health care workforce by providing opportunities to students from disadvantaged backgrounds and/or underrepresented populations to succeed in the health professions. Specifically, I had the honor of serving as the Learning Specialist in the Native Hawaiian Center of Excellence and I witnessed firsthand the significant impact these programs had on motivating students from underrepresented populations to achieve their academic goals in the health professions. It is critical to have these programs to continue to support these students and to continue to provide them with an entity to support each other that will ultimately lead to the overall goal of diversifying the workforce of our state's health professions.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 8:00 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: rgpepple@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1383 on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM*

HB1383

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ryan Peppel	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Testimony Presented Before the House Committee on Health
on February 6, 2013 by *Nina Leialoha Beckwith*

RE: HB 1383 Relating to Health

Aloha,

My name is Nina Leialoha Beckwith, a recent graduate of the Native Hawaiian Student Pathway to Medicine Program (or “Pathways” for short). I would like to testify in support for HB 1383: Primary Health Care; Primary Workforce Development Plan.

As a Native Hawaiian student born and raised in these islands, it is with immense honor that I stand before you today to share my testimony in support of the Native Hawaiian Center of Excellence programs. Mahalo for this opportunity.

To truly understand the impact the NHC OE staff and programs has had on my desire to becoming a primary care physician in Hawai‘i, I must share a little bit about where I come from. My growing desire to pursue a career in medicine originated from my parents’ divorce when I was four. As a result of their separation, my family struggled with issues like drug abuse, alcoholism, domestic violence, and financial instability. Trying to overcome these challenges pushed me beyond despair.

Fortunately, I escaped these negative circumstances by diligently working hard in school. Upon graduation, I was offered a 10-year scholarship from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Humbled and inspired, I selected the University of California, Davis for their excellent science and pre-med program. I was the first in my family to gain a degree from a 4-year university.

As a minority student in higher education, I realized how incredibly lucky I was to have received academic and emotional support from genuine teachers and programs like the Bill Gates Foundation, the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP), and the TRiO Scholars Program. Because of these programs and their dedicated staff members, I was granted access to an incredible college education, an opportunity many Native Hawaiian individuals didn’t have. Consequently, I became devoted to helping underserved communities, specifically those in my home state of Hawai‘i, gain equal opportunities in education *and* healthcare.

Upon graduating from UC Davis in 2010, I moved back home to the islands. I was determined to help *other children* in Hawai‘i gain the same opportunities to a college education and a promising career path as I had been blessed to receive. I became a 7th grade science teacher at Wai‘anae Intermediate School, where I currently work today.

Serving in Wai‘anae, a community that is nearly drowning in life-threatening issues, like Obesity, Diabetes, domestic violence, and more, has opened my eyes to the many obstacles Native Hawaiians face in achieving optimal health and wellness. Although I found a deep satisfaction in *teaching* underprivileged children in Wai‘anae, I knew I needed to become a physician to achieve the level of change I want to see in the Native community and in the lives of my students. However, I was faced with a huge obstacle: I

didn't have a place to start. I had been away from Hawaii for so long I didn't have any mentors to talk to about medical school and what I needed to do to achieve my goal of becoming a physician. I felt lost. Fortunately, in 2011 I discovered the NHCOE Pathways program, applied, and got accepted.

The Pathways program has had a *tremendous* impact on my journey to becoming a primary care physician. The Pathways staff is *highly* dedicated to supporting Native Hawaiian students like myself in preparation for medical school. They not only exposed us Pathways students to various resources available to support native students, but offered financial assistance in preparation for the MCAT exam.

Most significantly, however, the *genuine* relationships that I was able to build with the Pathways physicians, staff members, and other Native Hawaiian pre-med students has catalyzed a chain-reaction of events in the past 2 years that has had a *huge* impact on myself *and* on my students at Wai'anae Intermediate School. For example, because of the Pathways program, I was able to receive financial assistance to attend the 2012 Advancing Native Health and Wellness Conference in Alaska. There, I learned that Native Hawaiians are at an alarmingly high risk of Diabetes and other life-threatening diseases and that the power of change truly relies in the hands of future generations of primary care doctors in Hawai'i. As a result, in the Fall of 2012 I started a Pre-Health Professions after school program for Wai'anae students who want to pursue careers in healthcare. In this club we would not only learn about various career paths in medicine, but also learn about Diabetes and what we can do to help prevent such diseases in the Wai'anae community. With continuous support from the Pathways staff, I have been able to connect my students to Native Hawaiian health professionals and inspire them to pursue their dreams of becoming physicians in Hawai'i.

Programs under the NHCOE, like Pathways, are not only critical in helping college-age students on their journeys to becoming physicians, but also younger generations who follow in our footsteps. It is crucial that we keep these programs alive and thriving as they provide fundamental support systems for Hawaii's children to enter medical school and serve as physicians in Hawaii. These programs empower students to take their health, education, and success into their own hands, which can give birth to lasting changes in our communities.

Ua mau ke ea o ka aina i ka pono- The Life of the Land is Perpetuated in Righteousness. Please kokua in preserving the life of our people by supporting HB 1383.

Mahalo for your patience and time.

morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 9:04 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: triciamichiko@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1383 on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM*

HB1383

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tricia Usagawa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2013 8:10 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: mesionaw001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1383 on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM*

HB1383

Submitted on: 2/4/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Winona Mesiona	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2013 9:53 AM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: kawikaam@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1383 on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM

HB1383

Submitted on: 2/5/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kawika Analu Mortensen, MD	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support HB 1383: Primary Health Care; Primary Care Workforce Development Plan which appropriates funds to address the shortage of primary care physicians in the State through a comprehensive primary care workforce development plan that addresses the critical areas of loan repayment, diversity programs, and primary care workforce expansion. The 'Imi Ho'ōla Post-Baccalaureate Program and Native Hawaiian Center of Excellence are vital programs which create diversity in the health care workforce by providing opportunities to students from disadvantaged backgrounds and/or underrepresented populations to succeed in the health professions. -- Dr. Kawika Analu Mortensen,MD --

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

To: Chair Della Au Belatti, *House Committee on Health*
Vice Chair Dee Morikawa, *House Committee on Health*
Committee Members, *House Committee on Health*

RE: HB 1383, Relating to Health

I would like to offer my support for HB 1383 which appropriates funds to address the shortage of primary care physicians in the State through a comprehensive primary care workforce development plan that addresses the critical areas of loan repayment, diversity programs, and primary care workforce expansion.

The ‘Imi Ho‘ōla Post-Baccalaureate Program and Native Hawaiian Center of Excellence are unique programs that encourage much needed diversity in our health care workforce. With these Programs, students who would normally not be given the chance to attend medical school, but possess the potential to become great physicians for our State, are given the opportunity to pursue medicine at our State University.

It is these very students who are the most likely to return to the communities from which they came and provide needed medical care to the underserved and rural populations that are desperate for healthcare. Funding support for these Programs will not only give disadvantaged students the opportunity to pursue health as a career and life choice, but also further invests in the current and future healthcare needs of the State of Hawai‘i. I ask for your strong support of HB 1383.

Mahalo,
Chessa DeCambra
House District 19
Senate District 9

morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2013 8:08 AM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: kaolelo@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1383 on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM

HB1383

Submitted on: 2/5/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kawika Liu	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, Increasing the number of primary care providers, particularly from underserved populations, is critical to the health of Hawai'i. As with the continental US, Hawai'i faces a critical and growing shortage of primary care providers. Providers from underserved communities may be more likely to return to their communities for service than providers from other communities. Please support the efforts of JABSOM, 'Imi Ho'ola and the Native Hawaiian Center for Excellence to grow the number of Native Hawaiian and other underrepresented primary care providers. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify. Kawika Liu

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

February 5, 2013

RE: HB1383: Primary Health Care; Primary Care Workforce Development Plan

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Morikawa, and Members of the House Committee on Health,

I would like to offer my support for *HB1383: Primary Health Care; Primary Care Workforce Development Plan* which appropriates funds to address the shortage of primary care physicians in the state through a comprehensive primary care workforce development plan that addresses the critical areas of loan repayment, diversity programs, and primary care workforce expansion.

The 'Imi Ho'ōla Post-Baccalaureate Program and Native Hawaiian Center of Excellence are vital programs which create diversity in the health care workforce by providing opportunities to students from disadvantaged backgrounds and/or underrepresented populations to succeed in medicine.

Twenty years ago, I was graduating from the University of Hawai'i at Hilo with a degree in Biology and the hope of one day becoming a physician. I didn't have much confidence back then – few role models who looked like me, extremely limited financial support – I didn't think I could do it. Until I had the good fortune of being selected to participate in the 'Imi Ho'ōla Program.

The 'Imi Ho'ōla Program was the best preparation for medical school I could have asked for. My scientific knowledge increased, my study habits improved, but most importantly, my confidence soared! Finally, someone, specifically, Dr. Nanette Judd, believed that I could achieve my goal of becoming a physician and put effort into making sure I got there. The support from peers who shared similar backgrounds was also invaluable.

As an undergraduate, I worked two jobs to put myself through school. The 'Imi Ho'ōla Program was much too rigorous to leave time for work. Without the stipend provided by the program, I would not have been able to participate. In 1999, I graduated from the John A. Burns School of Medicine and went on to complete my residency training in Family Medicine. Out of the 12 students in my 'Imi class that matriculated into medical school, 10 of us went into primary care and all are practicing here in Hawaii.

Fast-forward twenty years, I am a primary care physician here on Oahu, providing care to the underserved, working with students, and hopefully inspiring young people. I honestly don't think I would be where I am today if it wasn't for 'Imi Ho'ōla and similar programs for students from disadvantaged backgrounds and/or underrepresented populations. I know many of my friends and colleagues who went through 'Imi Ho'ōla share the same sentiment. I ask you to support funding for this program that is so important to our state.

Sincerely,



Vanessa S. Wong, MD, MS
'Imi Ho'ōla 1993-1994

morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2013 10:28 AM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: ileanahaunani@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1383 on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM

HB1383

Submitted on: 2/5/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ileana Ruelas	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Re: Support HB 1383 I am writing again in strong support of HB 1383: Primary Health Care; Primary Care Workforce Development Plan which appropriates funds to address the shortage of primary care physicians in the State through a comprehensive primary care workforce development plan that addresses the critical areas of loan repayment, diversity programs, and primary care workforce expansion. The 'Imi Ho'ōla Post-Baccalaureate Program and Native Hawaiian Center of Excellence are vital programs which create diversity in the health care workforce by providing opportunities to students from disadvantaged backgrounds and/or underrepresented populations to succeed in the health professions. This type of work is crucial to providing support for students who can return to their communities to enrich the lives of their neighborhoods in meaningful, long term, and committed ways. Thank you for listening, Kindly, Ile

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2013 10:18 AM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: karen.sakamoto@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1383 on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM*

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

HB1383

Submitted on: 2/5/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karen K. Sakamoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

February 5, 2013

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB1383:

To Whom It May Concern,

There is a physician shortage in Hawaii and it will only get worse. Shortages of physicians affect the poor and underserved first and in greater magnitude. Shortages of physicians also mean shortages of other healthcare workers including nurses, medical assistants and health care technicians.

I cannot with moral conscience totally support HB1383, it needs MORE funding and resources. Greater healthcare worker workforce issues, the critically needed student pipeline from the communities most affected, and inclusion of Hawaii's "other" medical school whose mission is to inspire, train and retain Primary Care Physicians to serve Hawaii's poor and underserved communities (A.T. Stills University, School of Osteopathic Medicine, Waianae Community Campus or ATSU).

Indeed, a "comprehensive approach that addresses the primary care workforce shortage in Hawaii," should be inclusive of all vocational, professional, public schools, community health centers and residents in these underserved communities.

I wholly support full funding for the Imi Ho'ola Program . As a graduate of Radford HS ('75), the Haumana Biomedical Program ('79), Stanford U (BA, '80), JABSOM (MD, '86), Harvard U (MPH, '98) and the UH Pediatric Residency (Kapiolani, '89); I can honestly say that **Imi Ho'ola is the hardest academic program** I have ever been in. Imi Ho'ola brings together students who already have community heart and aloha spirit. With that baseline, "Imi" goes on to prepare the minds of these students for the rigors of medical school.

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at rcustodio@wcchc.com or 808-697-3444 (direct office #) or 808-799-8634 (cell)

Sincerely,

Ricardo C. Custodio, MD, MPH
Director of Training and Communication, WCCHC
Regional Director of Medical Education, ATSU Waianae Community Campus
Associate Professor, ATSU School of Osteopathic Medicine

February 1, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to offer my support for HB: 1383 Primary Health Care; Primary Workforce Development Plan which appropriates funds to address the shortage of primary care physicians in the State through a comprehensive primary care workforce development plan that addresses the critical areas of loan repayment, diversity programs, and primary care workforce expansion.

The 'Imi Ho'ōla Post-Baccalaureate Program and Native Hawaiian Center of Excellence are vital programs which create diversity in the health care workforce by providing opportunities to students from disadvantaged backgrounds and/or underrepresented populations to succeed in medicine.

As a Native Hawaiian female from a disadvantaged background I am proud to share that the 'Imi Ho'ōla Post-Baccalaureate Program was my, "Dream Maker." The program provided me the opportunity to return home as a Pediatrician to Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center where I have been in practice for the past 13 years. I am also honored to have joined the faculty at the John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) with the Department of Native Hawaiian Health in the Imi Ho'ola Program as an Assistant Professor. Dreams do come true!!! I am committed to providing opportunities to students through several community based programs established with Waianae and Nanakuli Middle and High Schools and developing a pipeline to increase the diversity of the health care workforce for students from disadvantaged backgrounds. NHCOE & Imi Ho'ola are critical resources at JABSOM that need your support.

Thank you for your kind attention to this urgent matter and please support HB 1383: Primary Health Care 'Imi Ho'ōla Post-Baccalaureate Program and Native Hawaiian Center of Excellence are vital programs which create diversity in the health care workforce by providing opportunities to students from disadvantaged backgrounds and/or underrepresented populations to succeed in medicine.

Mahalo nui loa,

Kelli-Ann Frank Voloch, M.D.
86-260 Farrington Hwy.
Waianae, HI 96792

To whom it may concern,

My name is Keolamau Yee and I am currently a Junior at the University of Pennsylvania. I am writing in support of the Native Hawaiian Center of Excellence program, which facilitates and funds the endeavors of native Hawaiian students who wish to pursue careers in medicine. I too, am of native Hawaiian ancestry and wish to return home and practice as a physician in the islands in the near future. Though I have not yet had the privilege of being a beneficiary of the program, I remain thrilled that programs like NHCOE continue to exist to support an under-represented minority group in their efforts to become physicians and serve our Hawaii community at large. The program is integral in continuing to support our own native people, and many students remain to benefit from the programs of NHCOE if it receives more funding. Thanks to NHCOE, students that might otherwise not have any medically related opportunities or exposure are instead gifted with the expertise and fantastic resources that NHCOE possesses. It would be an incredible detriment and shame to aspiring physicians should funding for NHCOE programs be discontinued. By supporting NHCOE, we are truly funding and investing in the future health and wellbeing of our local community.

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony. I hope you will take this to heart in your deliberations over HB1383.

Warmest Aloha- Keolamau Yee

February 5, 2013
Senate Committee on Health
RE: HB 1383

Dear Senators Green, Baker, Chun-Oakland, Nishihara, and Slom,

My father devoted 50 years of his life as a primary care and county physician in Kealahou-Kona. He is a humble man that never turned a patient away with financial hardships and never shied away from a challenging case. He tells amazing stories from doing pregnancy tests with rabbits in the old days and in recent years doing tracheotomies using ball point pens in emergencies. I have learned over the years primary care is not about financial gains, it is about caring deeply for the community.

In honor of my father's work serving his community, I strongly support **HB 1383**: Primary Health Care; Primary Workforce Development Plan which appropriates funds to address the shortage of primary care physicians in the State through a comprehensive primary care workforce development plan that addresses the critical areas of loan repayment, diversity programs, and primary care workforce expansion.

The statewide shortage of physicians especially in rural communities greatly concerns me. The Native Hawaiian Center of Excellence and Imi Ho'ola Program are working hard to ensure healthcare for all, especially empowering initiatives to grow our own healers and return to their communities to serve.

Your support of **HB 1383** would allow them to continue their efforts. Mahalo for your time.

Sincerely,

Sachi Kaulukukui
skkaulukukui@yahoo.com

morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2013 10:18 AM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: cygnus@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1383 on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

HB1383

Submitted on: 2/5/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael C. DeMattos	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Re: Support HB 1383 I strongly support HB 1383: Primary Health Care; Primary Care Workforce Development Plan which appropriates funds to address the shortage of primary care physicians in the State through a comprehensive primary care workforce development plan that addresses the critical areas of loan repayment, diversity programs, and primary care workforce expansion. The 'Imi Ho'ōla Post-Baccalaureate Program and Native Hawaiian Center of Excellence are vital programs which create diversity in the health care workforce by providing opportunities to students from disadvantaged backgrounds and/or underrepresented populations to succeed in the health professions. In the spring of 2012, the Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work partnered with the Native Hawaiian Center of Excellence and created a interdisciplinary program for Native Hawaiian JABSOM premed students and BSW level student at the MBTSSW. Our goals were threefold. Teach students to work across disciplines; introduce students to inquiry based learning; and finally, to incorporate their Native Hawaiian Identities (and healing practices) into their professional practice. The program was a huge success especially when considering that many of the students came from underrepresented and economically oppressed areas of the State. The State has committed itself to increasing healthcare access to underrepresented populations, especially Native Hawaiians. One way to do this is to increase participation in the health professions. Both the MBTSSW and JABSOM have committed themselves to this same mission and programs like the one created by JABSOM and MBTSSW carve a path to better health outcomes for all Hawaii residents. Please support HB 1383. Michael C. DeMattos, MSW Chairperson, BSW Program MBTSSW Honolulu, HI 96822 (808) 956-6135 cygnus@hawaii.rr.com

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2013 8:55 AM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: franklynsilva81@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1383 on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM*

HB1383

Submitted on: 2/5/2013

Testimony for HLT on Feb 6, 2013 10:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Franklyn Silva	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

RE: HB 1383 Testimony for Support

I would like to offer my support for HB 1383: Relating to Health. The report entitled Primary Health Care; Primary Workforce Development Plan seeks to appropriate funds to address the shortage of primary care physicians in the State via a comprehensive development plan that addresses the critical areas of loan repayment, diversity programs, and primary care workforce expansion. The 'Imi Ho'ōla Post-Baccalaureate Program and Native Hawaiian Center of Excellence are vital programs which create diversity in the health care workforce by providing opportunities to students from disadvantaged backgrounds and/or underrepresented populations to succeed in medicine.

I am a pre-medical student aspiring to be a family practice doctor that serves rural, underserved, and low-income communities in Hawaii. I am committed whole-heartedly to serve the people of Hawaii. Although I cannot speak for others, I am confident there are many within the community that share my vision and commitment to improve of our State's health and wellness.

I am also a single mother that has benefited from DHS programs including financial assistance, SNAP benefits, QUEST, First-to-Work, etc. The help that these programs have provided over the years has instilled a deep sense of gratitude within me, as well as the desire to reciprocate that assistance. Based on my experiences, I strongly believe that programs aimed to assist people from disadvantaged backgrounds and/or underrepresented populations are not futile nor a waste of money.

Without the Native Hawaiian Center of Excellence's Pathway to Medicine program I would not have known the necessary steps to become a doctor, and nor would I have developed the steadfast commitment to serve our islands. The Center's programs have equipped me with the knowledge, training, and support to move forward. Rest assured that funds appropriated for these programs are spent responsibly and as intended. I cannot express with words alone the extent to which my life has been transformed both personally and professionally by the Native Hawaiian Center of Excellence's programs.

Hawaii has a shortage of physicians, yet I believe we can be proactive and combat this shortage by appropriating funds to build up our physician workforce starting now. We cannot afford the continual loss of valuable doctors to other places. Programs geared toward expanding and diversifying medical education and training are imperative. Such programs aid in the recruitment and retention of individuals devoted to bettering the health of the Hawaii's people. Approval of SB 665 will not only benefit Hawaii presently but will have long-lasting, favorable effects in the years to come. As a member of your constituency, based on my testimony and of others, I ask you today to vote in support of HB 1383.

Thank you,
Britney

ROBIN E. S. MIYAMOTO, PSY.D.
677 ALA MOANA BOULEVARD SUITE 904
HONOLULU, HI 96813
PHONE: (808) 525-6255 FAX: (808) 525-6256

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1383
Relating to Health

February 5, 2013

RE: Testimony in support of HB 1383

Honorable Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Morikawa and members of the committee, my name is Dr. Robin Miyamoto. I am a Clinical Psychologist and Past-President of Hawai'i Psychological Association. I would like to provide testimony in support of House Bill 1383.

As a founder and the Director of Training of I Ola Lāhui, a non-profit committed to increasing the availability and quality of mental health services available across the State of Hawai'i, particularly rural and underserved areas, I am very familiar shortage of primary care services.

HB 1383 would provide important funds to address the shortage of primary care physicians in the State through a comprehensive primary care workforce development plan that addresses the critical areas of loan repayment, diversity programs, and primary care workforce expansion.

The 'Imi Ho'ōla Post-Baccalaureate Program and Native Hawaiian Center of Excellence are vital programs which create diversity in the health care workforce by providing opportunities to students from disadvantaged backgrounds and/or underrepresented populations to succeed in medicine.

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony in support of HB 1383.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robin E. S. Miyamoto', with a stylized, looping flourish at the end.

Robin E. S. Miyamoto, Psy.D.

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of bill HB1383. I am a Native Hawaiian graduate student from Kawaihae on the Big Island. I was a participant in the 2011 Native Hawaiian Pathways to Medicine program through the Native Hawaiian Center of Excellence at the John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM). I come from a small town and I knew that my desire to further my education would mean moving to Oahu to a city and lifestyle that was foreign. The Native Hawaiian Pathways to Medicine program really helped to make the transition to JABSOM smooth and less daunting. Having the opportunity to learn about medicine in the context of my culture was really crucial in my decision to apply to my program and move to Oahu. After I graduate I plan to stay in Hawaii and return to the Big Island. There are so few students from my island who are considering a career in medicine, and even fewer who are Native Hawaiian. Without these programs I fear that the shortage of medical professionals on the outer islands will continue to decline, and the residents of these islands will suffer and have to continue to fly to Oahu for anything more than basic healthcare. Thank you very much for your consideration of this bill.

Narrissa Pi'ilani Spies
Graduate Student
Cell & Molecular Biology PhD Program
UH Manoa John A. Burns School of Medicine

Testimony in support of HB 1383

I would like to offer my support for HB 1383: Primary Health Care; Primary Workforce Development Plan Appropriation which appropriates funds to address the shortage of primary care physicians in the State through a comprehensive primary care workforce development plan that addresses the critical areas of loan repayment, diversity programs, and primary care workforce expansion.

The 'Imi Ho'ōla Post-Baccalaureate Program and Native Hawaiian Center of Excellence are vital programs which create diversity in the health care workforce by providing opportunities to students from disadvantaged backgrounds and/or underrepresented populations to succeed in medicine. My name is Delores Lee and I am an Imi Ho'ola graduate. I am currently a 4th year medical student, and I would not be where I am today if it were not for Imi Ho'ola. Like so many other students from a disadvantaged background, I just needed the chance, the opportunity to become a physician. Imi Ho'ola gave me not only the opportunity I needed to pursue my goal of becoming a physician, but also the skills to do well in medical school. The monthly stipends that my classmates and I received during our time in Imi Ho'ola were crucial to our success in a challenging and rigorous academic program. The stipends helped to reduce our financial burden, gave us funds to purchase textbooks and school supplies, and most importantly allowed us to focus on our studies.

The Imi Ho'ola program also works to address the shortage of primary care physicians. As a student from a disadvantaged background and a rural, medically underserved community, I will never forget my background and my community. They are part of what drives me to become a physician, for I have experienced firsthand the challenges of receiving medical care in a health professional shortage area with limited capacity. As a 4th year medical student, I am at a point in my education where I have chosen my field of practice and I have chosen to become a family physician. Not only have I chosen to become a primary care physician, but I also am committed to working in a rural, medically underserved community. I know that my story is not unique and that I am just one of many Imi Ho'ola graduates who have chosen this career path.

Thus HB 1383 in providing support for the Imi Ho'ola Post-Baccalaureate Program and the Native Hawaiian Center of Excellence will allow more opportunities for students from disadvantaged backgrounds and/or underrepresented populations to succeed in medicine. In doing so, HB 1383 will support the development of more primary care physicians.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify and for your consideration.