

February 21, 2013 – Thursday 9:00 AM Conference Room 211 State Capitol

To: Senator David Y. Ige, Chair Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: The Hawaii Affiliate of the American College of Nurse Midwives

### Re: SB 1238 SD1 Relating to Health (Maternal Mortality Review Panel)

#### **Position: Strongly Support**

Dear Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani and Ways and Means Committee Members:

As an organization whose mission is providing safe care for pregnant women, the Hawaii Affiliate of the American College of Nurse midwives strongly supports SB1238 SD1, which establishes a maternal mortality review panel to conduct comprehensive, multidisciplinary reviews of maternal deaths in Hawaii for the purpose of identifying factors associated with those deaths to improve services for women in our state. The review panel clinical health professionals, such as physicians and nurses, are non-compensated volunteers who donate their time to improve women's care.

Hawaii is one of only 14 states in the nation that does not have an active Maternal Mortality Review Committee (ACOG Annual Clinical Meeting, May 2011) and the national maternal mortality rate has increased in recent years. In fact, in 2008, 47 countries had lower maternal mortality ratios than the U.S. (World Health Organization)

Maternal Mortality Review Panels have been found to decrease maternal deaths as well as highlight the need for system changes that contribute to improving care for all women.

The HHS-HRSA Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs (AMCHP), and the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG), all recommend that maternal deaths in each state be investigated by a multidisciplinary peer review protected Maternal Mortality Review Panel.

We urge you to support the establishment of the Hawaii Maternal Mortality Review Panel which can lead to system changes leading to decreased maternal mortality as well as improvement of services to all of Hawaii's women.

Thank you for the opportunity to present these comments.

Roxanne Estes, CNM, APRN-Rx, MSN President Hawaii Affiliate of the American College of Nurse Midwives



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# To: Senator David Y. Ige, Chair Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: Charles R. Macías Neal, MD, PhD Professor of Pediatrics and Neonatology Division Director Kapi 'olani Medical Specialists and University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine Medical Director, Newborn Intensive Care Unit Kapi 'olani Medical Center for Women and Children

## Re: SB 1238 SD1 Relating to Health (Maternal Mortality Review Panel)

### **Position: Strongly Support**

Dear Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani and Ways and Means Committee Members:

As an Neonatologist who cares for critically ill newborn infants, I strongly support SB1238 SD1, which establishes a maternal mortality review panel to conduct comprehensive, multidisciplinary reviews of maternal deaths in Hawaii for the purpose of identifying factors associated with those deaths to improve services for women in our state. The review panel should be composed of clinical health professionals, such as physicians and nurses, are non-compensated volunteers who donate their time to improve women's care.

Hawaii is one of only 14 states in the nation that does not have an active Maternal Mortality Review Committee (ACOG Annual Clinical Meeting, May 2011) and the national maternal mortality rate has increased in recent years. In fact, in 2008, 47 countries had lower maternal mortality ratios than the U.S. (World Health Organization)

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The HHS-HRSA Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs (AMCHP), and the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG), all recommend that maternal deaths in each state be investigated by a multidisciplinary peer-review protected Maternal Mortality Review Panel.

We urge you to support the establishment of the Hawaii Maternal Mortality Review

Panel which can lead to system changes leading to decreased maternal mortality as well as improvement of services to all of Hawaii's women.

Thank you for the opportunity to present these comments.



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To: Senator David Y. Ige, Chair Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: Janet Burlingame, MD

Re: SB 1238 SD1 Relating to Health (Maternal Mortality Review Panel)

Position: Strongly Support

Dear Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani and Ways and Means Committee Members:

I am writing in strong support of SB1238 SD1, which establishes a maternal mortality review panel to conduct comprehensive, multidisciplinary reviews of maternal deaths in Hawaii for the purpose of identifying factors associated with those deaths to improve services for women in our state. I have recently published on the increase in cardiac and cancer mortality related to pregnancy.

Information provided by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG, Annual Clinical Meeting May 2011) revealed that Hawaii is one of only 14 states in the nation that does not have an active Maternal Mortality Review Committee.

Other states, such as Illinois, have used information provided from maternal mortality review to identify groups of women most at risk for morbidity and mortality from pregnancy. They have used this information to develop targeted interventions. For example, the Illinois MMRC was instrumental in mandating that every obstetric hospital in their state undergo mandatory Obstetric Hemorrhage training after they identified that maternal hemorrhage was the leading cause of death in their population [Reducing Maternal Deaths through State Maternal Mortality Review. Kilpatrick SJ, etal. 2012 Sep;21(9):905-9. Journal of Womens Health (Larchmont)]

For every woman who dies of a pregnancy-related cause, many more suffer morbidity related to pregnancy. Comprehensive review of maternal death can therefore lead to improvement in general women's care and decrease morbidity, in addition to decreasing mortality. This morbidity and mortality place a significant burden on women, their children and families, and on society in personal, social and economic terms.

We urge you to support the establishment of the Hawaii Maternal Mortality Review Panel which can lead to system changes leading to decreased maternal mortality as well as improvement of services to all of Hawaii's women. Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony. Sincerely

Janet M. Burlingame, MD Maternal-Fetal Medicine specialist



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To: Senator David Y. Ige, Chair Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: Ronnie Texeira, MD

## Re: SB 1238 SD1 Relating to Health (Maternal Mortality Review Panel)

**Position: Strongly Support** 

Dear Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani and Ways and Means Committee Members:

As an obstetrican/gynecologist who cares for pregnant women, I strongly support SB1238 SD1, which establishes a maternal mortality review panel to conduct comprehensive, multidisciplinary reviews of maternal deaths in Hawaii for the purpose of identifying factors associated with those deaths to improve services for women in our state. The review panel clinical health professionals, such as physicians and nurses, are non-compensated volunteers who donate their time to improve women's care.

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Thank you for the opportunity to present these comments.