



STATE OF HAWAII
STATE COUNCIL
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
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HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814
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March 20, 2015

The Honorable Della Au Belatti, Chair
House Committee on Health
Twenty-Eighth Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Representative Belatti and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: HCR 132 - Requesting the Department Of Health to Review and Analyze All Oral Health Initiatives Currently Underway in the State, Including the Centers for Disease Control Program, and Prepare a Progress Report on Each Initiative

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD) **SUPPORTS THE INTENT OF HCR 132**. The concurrent resolution requests the Department of Health (DOH) to review and analyze all oral health initiatives currently underway in the State, including the Centers for Disease Control Program, and prepare a progress report on each initiative.

The Council cannot emphasize enough the importance of oral health that includes comprehensive dental care services (preventive, restorative, prosthetic, and emergency services) for people with DD. We recognize how oral health, or the lack thereof, affects all aspects (emotional, psychological, and social) of our lives.

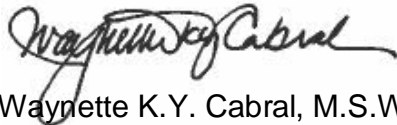
We are aware that the DOH Family Health Services Division, Oral Health Program is responsible for statewide surveillance, planning, and prevention. In 2013, they received a cooperative agreement from the Centers for Disease Control that assists state health departments to build and maintain effective public health capacity to implement, evaluate, and disseminate best practices to prevent oral disease and improve oral health for the state population.

In light of the above, the Council defers to DOH regarding its capacity to carry out the scope of activities described in HCR 132.

The Honorable Della Au Belatti
Page 2
March 20, 2015

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **supporting the intent of HCR 132.**

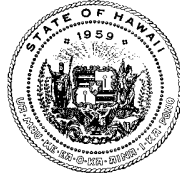
Sincerely,



Waynette K.Y. Cabral, M.S.W.
Executive Administrator



Rosie Rowe
Chair



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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WRITTEN ONLY

Testimony in Opposition to HCR132
REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO REVIEW
AND ANALYZE ALL ORAL HEALTH INITIATIVES
CURRENTLY UNDERWAY IN THE STATE, INCLUDING THE
CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL PROGRAM, AND
PREPARE A PROGRESS REPORT ON EACH INITIATIVE

REPRESENTATIVE DELLA AU BELATTI, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Hearing Date: March 20, 2015

Room Number: 329

1 **Fiscal Implications:** No fiscal impact.

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department opposes this resolution since many of the activities in
3 the resolution are being addressed with a Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Oral Health Disease
4 Prevention grant. The Department has been able to leverage the grant funds to secure additional
5 resources to achieve steady progress toward the activities described in this resolution including:

- 6 • Completion of Oral Health Surveillance report with identification of data gaps,
- 7 • A summary of Key Findings from the data report with recommendations for
8 consideration,
- 9 • Development of a data surveillance plan,
- 10 • Reporting of annual data to the National Oral Health Surveillance System,
- 11 • Conducting of a third grade oral health screening survey, Hawaii Smiles, in 64 public and
12 charter schools statewide to collect county and state-level estimates on treated and
13 untreated tooth decay as well as the prevalence of dental sealants,
- 14 • Establishment of an oral health data advisory group comprised of diverse stakeholders,
- 15 • Development of an oral health policy review report,
- 16 • Development of an environmental scan to collect information and analysis of state oral
17 health resources including workforce data, safety net services, and other major
18 community and state-level programs.

1 The Department has been working with the national Child Health Dental Project to conduct a
2 state policy consensus process recommended by the Centers for Disease Control that will
3 convene diverse stakeholders to develop recommendations for oral health policy and planning.
4 The Department has received substantial technical support and guidance from national oral
5 health experts to assure progress in building of the state oral public health program. Assistance is
6 being provided by the CDC Oral Health Division, the Association of State and Territorial Dental
7 Directors, the Child Health Dental Project, the American Network of Oral Health Coalitions, and
8 other state dental health directors.

9 The Department has also collaborated with community stakeholders toward building a
10 strong oral public health system.

11 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

12



HPCA

HAWAII PRIMARY CARE ASSOCIATION

House Committee on Health

The Hon. Della Au Belatti, Chair

The Hon. Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair

Testimony on HCR132

Submitted by Nani Medeiros, Public Affairs and Policy Director

March 20, 2015, 8:45 am, Room 329

The Hawai'i Primary Care Association, which represents community health centers in Hawai'i, supports HCR 132 calling for a review of all oral health initiatives in the state.

In Hawaii, the rate of tooth decay in children is twice as high as that of children living on the mainland. As a point of reference, over 94 percent of mainland six year olds are entirely free from cavities, while only 19 percent of six year olds in Hawaii are cavity-free. Later in life, health care research points to associations between chronic oral infections and diabetes, heart and lung disease, stroke, and low-birth-weight births—conditions that are more complicated and costly to treat than effective, timely oral health care.

For these reasons, we support a comprehensive review of where the state stands on dental health initiatives. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.