

Legislative Testimony

Written Testimony Presented Before the Senate Committee on Ways and Means Tuesday, March 3, 2015 at 9:05 a.m. By Robert Bley-Vroman, Chancellor And Jerris Hedges, MD, Dean University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

SB 113 SD1 – RELATING TO THE HAWAII STATE LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kouchi, and members of the committee:

The University of Hawai'i supports SB 113 SD1, provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in the University's Board of Regents Approved Executive Biennium Budget. Compared to the U.S. average, Hawai'i has a shortage of over 800 doctors for its demographics, and almost all other categories of primary and behavioral health care providers. Without these healthcare providers, the people of Hawai'i will not have ready access to the healthcare they need. The need is most acute for those on neighbor islands, and those with the least economic resources. The fastest and most cost effective way to recruit providers to areas of need is by paying back their loans in return for continuous service to that area. Indeed, Hawaii may lose newly trained healthcare providers to other states with effective loan repayment programs.

In 2012, the John A. Burns School of Medicine's (JABSOM) Area Health Education Center created a state loan repayment program with private donations from HMSA, Queen's and AlohaCare and received a grant for dollar-for-dollar matching funds from the federal government. This loan repayment program has provided repayment of up to \$40,000 a year in educational debt for 16 individuals. The individuals funded are from all the islands except Kaua'i (a future priority). Nine are Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Practitioners and seven are physicians (2 family physicians, 2 pediatricians, 1 psychiatrist, 1 obstetrician and 1 internist). The recipients practice primarily in community health centers, with one provider working at the Halawa Correctional System and one provider working at a non-profit in a rural area. All these providers have given a two-year commitment to working in underserved areas, a condition of receiving funding from the program.

In September 2014, JABSOM's Kelley Withy, MD, PhD received a four-year grant for \$311,875 a year in federal funds to be spent on loan repayment in Hawai'i, But the money can only be spent if there is local funding to match it. Dr. Withy has been able to

raise \$50,000, but no more. <u>Without State funds, \$261,875 federal money will go</u> <u>unspent despite a severe provider shortage</u>.

State matching funds is needed in order to receive the federal funds that have been promised to Hawai'i. This is an important program and one which helps Hawai'i grow the doctors and healthcare providers it desperately needs.

We respectfully request this Committee to pass SB 113 SD1.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.

DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR NOLAN P. ESPINDA DIRECTOR

> Cathy Ross Deputy Director Administration

> Deputy Director Corrections

Shawn H. Tsuha Deputy Director Law Enforcement

No.



TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 113, SD 1 RELATING TO THE STATE LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM

Nolan P. Espinda, Director Department of Public Safety

Senate Committee on Ways and Means Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair Senator Ronald D. Kouchi, Vice Chair

Tuesday, March 3, 2015, 9:05 AM State Capitol, Conference Room 211

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kouchi, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) **supports the intent** of Senate Bill (SB) 113, Senate Draft (SD) 1, which proposes to appropriate funds for the implementation and administration of the Hawaii State Loan Repayment program. The proposed program would assist primary and behavioral health care doctors and other professionals with loan repayments in return for working in medically underserved areas in Hawaii.

PSD notes that we have experienced extreme difficulty in recruiting physicians to care for our incarcerated population, which could well be considered an underserved class. If physicians can be attracted by loan repayment to experience correctional work, they often find it a most gratifying field. In 2013, Christopher Brent Lawlis, MD, an outstanding psychiatrist, was recruited from the mainland and retained through loan repayment. We need more success stories such as Dr. Lawliss'.

Our understanding is that the program proposed in SB 113, SD 1 would enable the drawing down of federal grant funds. It seems to be an effective way of leveraging additional funds to assist this important purpose.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



HAWAII MEDICAL ASSOCIATION 1360 S. Beretania Street, Suite 200, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814 Phone (808) 536-7702 Fax (808) 528-2376 www.hmaonline.net

TO: COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

DATE: Tuesday, March 3, 2015

TIME: 9:05 a.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 211

FROM: Hawaii Medical Association Dr. Christopher Flanders, DO, Executive Director Lauren Zirbel, Community and Government Relations

Testimony in Support of SB113

The HMA strongly supports **SB 113**. Hawaii has a shortage of over 800 doctors, and almost all other types of primary care and behavioral health providers. Without these healthcare providers, the people of Hawaii will not have access to the healthcare they need. The need is most acute for those on neighbor islands and those with the least resources in the first place. The fastest and most cost effective way to recruit providers to areas of need is by paying back their loans in return for continuous service to that area.

In 2012, the UH John. A. Burns School of Medicine Area Health Education Center created a state loan repayment program with private donations from HMSA, Queens and AlohaCare and received a grant for dollar for dollar matching funds from the federal government. This loan repayment program has provided repayment of up to \$40,000 a year in educational debt for 16 individuals. The individuals funded are from all the islands except Kauai (so far, but we hope to change that). Nine are Advanced Practice Nurse Practitioners (eight FNPs and one Geriatric/Adult NP) and seven are physicians (two family physicians, two pediatricians, one psychiatrist, one obstetrician and one internist). The practice locations are primarily community health centers, with one provider working at the Halawa Correctional System and one provider working in underserved areas, and we hope to extend this commitment by continuing this program.

In September, 2014, Dr. Kelley Withy at John A. Burns School of Medicine has received a 4 year grant for \$311,875 a year in federal funds to be spent on loan repayment in Hawaii, but the money can only be spent if there is local funding to match it. She has been able to raise \$50,000, but no more. So that will leave \$261,875 of federal money unspent when we have a severe shortage to fill. She also was able to expand the types of providers who can be assisted to include social workers, psychologists, marriage and family counselors, as well as physicians,

Officers

President - Robert Sloan, MD, President-Elect – Scott McCaffrey, MD Immediate Past President – Walton Shim, MD, Secretary - Thomas Kosasa, MD Treasurer – Brandon Lee, MD Executive Director – Christopher Flanders, DO nurse practitioners, physician assistants. This is an important program, and it will end if there is no state legislative support, so please support SB113. Mahalo!

SB113 Submitted on: 2/28/2015 Testimony for WAM on Mar 3, 2015 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Diana Shaw	Lanai Community Health Center	Support	No

Comments: We strongly support this bill! This program is one of the few that directly benefit Lanai in meeting its primary care and behavioral health needs -- and it provides a 1:1 Federal Match!!!! Please support this bill!

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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 <u>webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov</u>



of Hawaii

March 2, 2015

- To: Senator Josh Green, Chair Committee on Health Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection Hawaii State Senate
- From Victoria Page, Executive Vice President National Kidney Foundation of Hawaii 1314 South King Street, Suite 1555 Honolulu, HI 96814

RE: <u>SB113 RELATING TO THE HAWAII STATE LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM</u>

Chair and Committee members:

The National Kidney Foundation of Hawaii is a major voluntary health organization that is dedicated to preventing kidney disease, supporting those affected by this condition, and raising awareness about organ donation. We are heavily invested in the keeping our community healthy.

The National Kidney Foundation of Hawaii strongly supports SB113 because Hawaii has a severe shortage of over 800 doctors. Without these healthcare providers, the people of Hawaii will not have access to the healthcare they desperately need, especially in rural areas where chronic diseases are highly prevalent. A proven effective ways to recruit providers is by paying back their loans in return for continuous service to that area.

Dr. Kelley Withy at the John A. Burns School of Medicine received a 4 year grant for \$311,875 a year in federal funds for loan repayment in Hawaii that require local funding match for use. She has been able to raise \$50,000 in this second year, but \$261,875 of available federal money will be lost. This is a critical healthcare program for Hawaii, and it will end if there is no state legislative support, so please support SB113. Mahalo!

We are grateful for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this bill.

Mahalo,

Victoria Page

Victoria Page, RN, BSN Executive Vice President National Kidney Foundation of Hawaii

OAHU: 1314 South King Street, Suite 1555 / Honolulu HI 96814-2004 / Phone: 808-593-1515 / Fax: 808-589-5993 Kidney Cars, 1314 South King Street, Suite 722 (not a mailing address) / Phone 593-1515 MAUI: 77 Waiale Road, #102 / Wailuku HI 96793-2397 / Phone: 808-986-1900 / Fax: 808-986-1901 HAWAII ISLAND: Phone: 808-930-8890 www.kidneyhi.org



- To: Chair Jill Tokuda Vice Chair Ron Kouchi Senate Committee on Ways and Means
- From: Paula Yoshioka Senior Vice President The Queen's Health Systems
- Re: SB 113, Relating to the Hawaii State Loan Repayment Program Hearing—March 3, 2015 at 9:05 AM

The Queen's Health Systems would like to provide our strong support for SB 113, which would provide funding for a loan repayment program at the University of Hawaii at Manoa John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) for primary and behavioral health care providers.

At QHS, we support our local students and graduates who would like to live and work in Hawaii through internship and residency programs. We have also provided financial support for loan repayment programs at JABSOM. It is evident that the high cost of living in Hawaii, coupled with the prospect of having to pay back student loans, creates a real barrier for students who may be interested in pursuing a career in primary or behavioral health care. Providing financial assistance to students interested in that type of career is one way that we can start to address this issue.

This legislation shows a commitment to and investment in our local students and communities. A loan repayment program will support efforts to fill in gaps in the state's healthcare workforce and will also benefit our underserved communities. We ask for your strong support of SB 113.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter.

The mission of The Queen's Health Systems is to fulfill the intent of Queen Emma and King Kamehameha IV to provide in perpetuity quality health care services to improve the well-being of Native Hawaiians and all of the people of Hawai'i.

I am writing to offer my strongest support for **SB113**. Hawaii has a shortage of over 800 doctors, and almost all other types of primary care and behavioral health providers. Without these healthcare providers, the people of Hawaii will not have access to the healthcare they need. The need is most acute for those on neighbor islands and those with the least resources in the first place. The fastest and most cost effective way to recruit providers to areas of need is by paying back their loans in return for continuous service to that area.

In 2012, the UH John. A. Burns School of Medicine Area Health Education Center created a state loan repayment program with private donations from HMSA, Queens and AlohaCare and received a grant for dollar for dollar matching funds from the federal government. This loan repayment program has provided repayment of up to \$40,000 a year in educational debt for 16 individuals. The individuals funded are from all the islands except Kauai (so far, but we hope to change that). Nine are Advanced Practice Nurse Practitioners (eight FNPs and one Geriatric/Adult NP) and seven are physicians (two family physicians, two pediatricians, one psychiatrist, one obstetrician and one internist). The practice locations are primarily community health centers, with one provider working at the Halawa Correctional System and one provider working at a non-profit in a rural area. These providers have all made a two year commitment to working in underserved areas, and we hope to extend this commitment by continuing this program.

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I would like to offer my utmost support for **SB113**. Hawaii has a shortage of over 800 doctors, as well as nearly all other types of primary care and behavioral health providers. Without the necessary providers, the people of Hawaii will not have access to the healthcare they need. The need is most acute for those on neighbor islands and those with limited resources. The fastest and most cost effective way to recruit providers to areas of need is by paying back their loans in return for continuous service to that area.

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In September, 2014, Dr. Kelley Withy at John A. Burns School of Medicine has received a 4 year grant for \$311,875 a year in federal funds to be spent on loan repayment in Hawaii, but the money can only be spent if there is local funding to match it. She has been able to raise \$50,000, but no more. So that will leave \$261,875 of federal money unspent when we have a severe shortage to fill. She also was able to expand the types of providers who can be assisted to include social workers, psychologists, marriage and family counselors, as well as physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants. This is an important program, and it will end if there is no state legislative support, so please support SB113.

Mahalo,

Christina K. K. Adams, MD

I am writing to offer my strongest support for **SB113**. Hawaii has a shortage of over 800 doctors, and almost all other types of primary care and behavioral health providers. Without these healthcare providers, the people of Hawaii will not have access to the healthcare they need. The need is most acute for those on neighbor islands and those with the least resources in the first place. The fastest and most cost effective way to recruit providers to areas of need is by paying back their loans in return for continuous service to that area.

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I am writing to offer my strongest support for **SB113**. I am a Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist that moved to Maui in July, 2014 to practice at Maui Memorial Medical Center. Child Psychiatry is one of the most underserved Medical Specialties in the U.S. and there is no exception on Maui. After finishing Medical School and completing Fellowship training; I and many of my colleagues have amassed a huge financial burden from Student loans in excess of \$300,000. This Debt causes us to be very diligent about practice opportunities and be always diligent of how we are to pay this down. Everyone is aware that the cost of living in Hawaii is substantial and in order to recruit well trained physicians, there needs to be some financial assistance. Currently, I have been accepted to the Hawaii Student Loan repayment program and see this as a determining factor in being able to Practice Child Psychiatry on Maui.

This program has the potential to positively impact the availability and access to care for thousands of Hawaiians. I strongly encourage that the program continue and even be expanded to include all medical and behavioral healthy specialties. Please support SB113.

Sincerely,

Andrew Martin, DO Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist 808-242-2487

*The above statement reflects my personal opinions and in no way reflect Maui Memorial Medical Center or any other organizations.

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Damon Lee, MD

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Department: Ways and Means Committee Person Testifying: Zoë L. Shih, APRN Title of Bill: Relating To The Hawaii State Loan Repayment Program Date: Monday March 2, 2015

I am writing to offer my strongest support for **SB113**. Hawaii has a shortage of over 800 doctors, and almost all other types of primary care and behavioral health providers. Without these healthcare providers, the people of Hawaii will not have access to the healthcare they need. The need is most acute for those on neighbor islands and those with the least resources in the first place. The fastest and most cost effective way to recruit providers to areas of need is by paying back their loans in return for continuous service to that area.

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As a medical student at the John A. Burns School of Medicine and as a citizen of the wonderful state of Hawaii, I am writing to offer my strongest support for **SB113**. Hawaii has a shortage of over 800 doctors, and almost all other types of primary care and behavioral health providers. Without these healthcare providers, the people of Hawaii will not have access to the healthcare they need. The need is most acute for those on neighbor islands and those with the least resources in the first place. Being a member of the island of Maui, and with a relative working as a Family physician in Hilo, I can attest to the great need for Healthcare providers to areas of need is by paying back their loans in return for continuous service to that area.

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March 1, 2015

Committee on Ways and Means Sen. Jill Tokuda, Chair Sen. Ronald Kouchi, Vice Chair

Tuesday, March 3, 2015 9:05AM Conference Room 2111 State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street

Senate Bill 113, SD1 Testimony in Support

We, the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Academy of Family Practice representing 310 active family practice physicians in our state, strongly support SB113, SD1. As an organization, HAFP has supported and championed rural health in our state. Family physicians are the backbone of medical care in rural areas and the family practice residencies in our state have always emphasized training in rural sites and encouraged graduates to work in rural areas. According to the 2013 physician workforce assessment published by AHEC, our state is short 742 physicians and this number is projected to double in 10 years. Loan repayment programs are in important tool in attracting candidates to rural sites where physicians are so needed. Please fund this important tool to providing access to health services in the rural areas of our state.

Respectfully submitted,

V. Ted Leon, M.D. President Hawaii Academy of Family Practice Board of Directors

Kristine I McCoy, MD, MPH



Director HHSC Primary Care Training Program 45 Mohouli Street Hilo, HI 96720 (808) 932-4215 FAX (808) 933-9291

March 2, 2015

THE SENATE

THE TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION OF 2015

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair Senator Ronald D. Kouchi, Vice Chair

DATE: TIME: PLACE: Tuesday, March 03, 2015 9:05 AM Conference Room 211 State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street

I, Kristine I McCoy, MD, MPH, President Elect of the Hawaii Academy of Family Physicians and Director of the HHSC Primary Care Training Program am writing in full support of SB113 SD1. I urge you to ensure that Hawaii receives \$311,875 in federal matching funds by appropriating \$261,875 in Hawaii State revenues to the State Loan Repayment program for needed health care professionals.

Many of our applicants to our residency training program in Hilo have up to \$300,000 in educational debt. Even those coming from the University of Hawaii often have half that amount of debt. I have appending the budget for medical students to this letter so that you can understand how this comes about. With salaries in other states for family physicians running approximately double the income a self-employed physician in Hawaii can hope to earn, this is a significant problem that endangers the long term future our State's health.

Please leverage this federal funding to allow us to retain more of the physicians trained in Hilo and Wahiawa/Mililani, as well as excellent providers of other critical services such as psychologists and medical social workers. Unlike the scholarship program proposed by HB285 to be heard in the House Finance Committee today, this program has an established low cost infrastructure and specifically targets the types of providers needed by the state, as opposed to medical students who might choose to go into lucrative specialties that are already sufficient within the state.

Sincerely,

KIMICO

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII JOHN A. BURNS SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

STUDENT BUDGETS FOR 2014-2015

This is a standardized budget prepared in conjunction with the Financial Aid Office and the John A. Burns School of Medicine. This budget is to be used as a general guideline only.

Resident		
ON/OFF-CAMPUS	TUITION *	\$33,216
	FEES*	\$712
	BOOKS & SUPPLIES	\$2,861
	MEALS & HOUSING	\$16,236
	PERSONAL EXPENSES	\$6,692
	TRANSPORTATION	\$3,164
	LOAN FEES	\$220
	TOTALS	\$63,101
Resident At Home	TUITION*	ቁንን ጎነር
At Home	FEES*	\$33,216
	BOOKS & SUPPLIES	\$712
	MEALS & HOUSING	\$2,861
	PERSONAL EXPENSES	\$4,585
		\$6,404
	TRANSPORTATION	\$3,164
	LOAN FEES	\$220
	TOTALS	\$51,162
Non Resident		<u></u>
ON/OFF-CAMPUS	TUITION*	\$67,200
	FEES*	\$712
	BOOKS & SUPPLIES	\$2,861
	MEALS & HOUSING	\$16,236
	PERSONAL EXPENSES	\$6,692
	TRANSPORTATION	\$3,164
	LOAN FEES	\$220
	TOTALS	\$97,085
		ΨΣ7,005

*All tuition and fee charges at University of Hawaii campuses are subject to change in accordance with requirements of State law and/or by the University of Hawaii Board of Regents or administration.

See page two for brief explanation of figures

TUITION & FEES	=	amount for academic year 2014-2015: Resident: \$33,216 (tuition) + \$712 (fees) Nonresident: \$67,200 (tuition) +\$712 (fees)
BOOKS & SUPPLIES	=	figures are based on an average amount for books and miscellaneous supplies (copying, paper, pencils, pens, etc). Computer allowance by request – only one purchase during medical school.
MEALS & HOUSING	=	figures provided by Financial Aid according to Federal guidelines
PERSONAL EXPENSES	=	figures provided by Financial Aid according to Federal guidelines and includes cost of basic health insurance, disability and malpractice insurance.
TRANSPORTATION	-	allows for cost of gas, hospital parking, and car insurance/safety check/license (does not include cost of car maintenance, which is prohibited by Federal guidelines)

PLEASE NOTE:

<u>1st Year</u>

Medical equipment costs are included in the student budget. Only one purchase allowed during medical school.

<u>2nd through 4th Years</u>

Smart phone and required software are included in the student budget.

Beginning of 2nd & 4th Year

National Board application fees are included in the student budgets. Steps I & II (CK) fees are \$580 each, Step II (CS) fees are \$1,230. Travel & lodging to closest testing location \$1,000.

4th Year

Due to a recent Federal ruling, the NRMP fee (\$60+) is no longer allowable in student budgets.

The \$92+ ERAS fee, \$30 diploma fee and cost of hood/cap/gown for graduation (\$95+) are not included in the budget figures.

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 113, SD1

Senate Committee on Ways and Means March 3, 2015, 9:05 am Hawai'i State Legislature Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 211

To: Sen. Jill Tokuda, Chair Sen. Ronald Kouchi, Vice Chair Senate Committee on Ways and Means Members: Sen. Suzanne Chun Oakland, Sen. Donovan Dela Cruz, Sen. J. Kalani English, Sen. Brickwood Galuteria, Sen. Wil Espero, Sen. Breene Harimoto, Sen. Lorraine Inouye, Sen. Gil Riviere, Sen. Russell Ruderman, and Sen. Sam Slom

From: Agnes Malate, MEd armalate@yahoo.com

I am writing in strong support of SB 113, SD1, to provide funding for the Hawai'i state loan repayment program for primary and behavioral health care. I have dedicated my career to building a diverse healthcare workforce for Hawai'i and providing access to higher education for underrepresented groups and underserved populations. I have had the privilege of guiding highly motivated and talented high school and college students along their health career pathways in my previous work with the John A. Burns School of Medicine's (JABSOM) 'Imi Ho'ola Post-Baccalaureate Program and currently as the director of the Health Careers Opportunity Program (HCOP) at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

There has been a longstanding shortage of health professionals on the neighbor islands and other underserved areas of Oahu. I commend the Hawai'i State Legislature for introducing this measure to make it more feasible for those who are committed to serve in these areas. With the rising cost of tuition and decreasing federal aid, many students and their parents rely on loans to fund a college education. Those with limited economic resources are likely to come from communities and backgrounds that are underserved, and would have a greater understanding and appreciation of the challenges in the shortage areas. A loan repayment program is mutually beneficial for these individuals and our State. JABSOM'S Area Health Education Center (AHEC) created a state loan repayment program with private donations from HMSA, Queens, and Aloha Care and received a grant for dollar for dollar matching funds from the federal government in 2012. Dr. Kelley Withy, director of AHEC, was successful in securing another \$311,875 a year in federal funds to be spent on loan repayment in Hawai'i over the next four years. However, since it is a matching grant only \$50,000 would be accessible for distribution so far to match what has already been raised locally. Tuition will increase to \$34,896 a year for Hawai'i resident medical students, \$22,392 for UH Mānoa nursing graduate students, and \$10,548 for UH Mānoa undergraduates next 2015-2016 academic year. A loan repayment program would help alleviate the financial burden and place health professionals where they are needed.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of SB 113, and I ask that you act favorably in support of this bill.

Although I am an employee of UHM, this testimony reflects my personal position and is not the official position of the University of Hawai'i.

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair Senator Ronald D. Kouchi, Vice Chair

Testimony in SUPPORT of SB113 Relating to Health March 3, 2015, 9:05am Conference room 211 Submitted by Serenity Chambers, Ph.D. Licensed Psychologist, Behavioral Health Specialist, Lanai Community Health Center

Written Testimony in Support of SB113

I am writing to offer my strongest support for **SB113**. I am a behavioral health provider, and currently the only licensed psychologist, on the island of Lanai, working at the Federally Qualified Health Center. I have been here for 3 years and have never been able to obtain loan repayment from the federal program (NHSC) because Lanai has too few people so does not have a high HPSA score, so our center is not competitive. Recently the state loan repayment program became available to psychologists, which was not the case before. But now there is a shortage of money and the money has to be matched by employers. I also understand we are in danger of losing the funds. My tenure here at the Lanai Community Health Center depends on this funding! It is a great place to live and work but it is very remote, and this past year I was faced with having breast cancer. This requires many off island trips for doctor's visits and such, and has taken an enormous financial and emotional toll. This loan repayment program would make all the difference as far as me staying to live and work in this beautiful place!

Hawaii has a shortage of over 800 doctors, and almost all other types of primary care and behavioral health providers. Without these healthcare providers, the people of Hawaii will not have access to the healthcare they need. The need is most acute for those on neighbor islands and those with the least resources in the first place. The fastest and most cost effective way to recruit providers to areas of need is by paying back their loans in return for continuous service to that area.

In September, 2014, Dr. Kelley Withy at John A. Burns School of Medicine received a 4 year grant for \$311,875 a year in federal funds to be spent on loan repayment in Hawaii, but the money can only be spent if there is local funding to match it. She has been able to raise \$50,000, but no more. So that will leave \$261,875 of federal money unspent when we have a severe shortage to fill. I am thankful that she also was able to expand the types of providers who can be assisted to include social workers, psychologists, marriage and family counselors, in addition to physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants.

This is an important program, and it will end if there is no state legislative support, so please please support SB113! Mahalo!

THE SENATE TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE, 2015 STATE OF HAWAII S.B. NO. ¹¹³ S.D. 1

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE HAWAII STATE LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 The legislature finds that many residents of SECTION 1. 2 Hawaii are increasingly unable to obtain timely and appropriate 3 health care due to shortages of primary care and behavioral 4 health providers. Such shortages threaten the health of 5 Hawaii's residents and affect state health care costs. These shortages have pushed the federal government to designate a 6 number of areas in the State, particularly rural areas, as 7 8 medically underserved areas, health professional shortage areas, 9 or as having medically underserved populations.

10 The legislature further finds that the increasingly high cost of health care professional education requires individuals 11 to seek out the higher incomes that allow them to repay their 12 13 student loans. However, these higher incomes are usually in specialty care in urban areas, not in the areas of greatest need 14 in Hawaii. Since September 1, 2012, a total of sixteen 15 physicians and nurse practitioners have received loan repayment 16 to work in health professional shortage areas in Hawaii and are 17 18 still serving these communities through a loan repayment program 2015-1606 SB113 SD1 SMA.doc 1

S.B. NO. ¹¹³ S.D. 1

started by the John A. Burns school of medicine of the
 University of Hawaii. The program was started with private
 donations and matching federal funding.

The purpose of this Act is to fund the Hawaii state loan 4 5 repayment program for primary and behavioral health care under 6 the John A. Burns school of medicine of the University of Hawaii 7 to provide loan repayment for physicians, physician assistants, 8 nurse practitioners, psychologists, counselors, and social 9 workers who agree to work in a federally designated health professional shortage area or an area of Hawaii found to be 10 11 underserved.

12 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general 13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$311,875 or so much 14 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2015-2016 and the 15 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 16 2016-2017 for the implementation and administration of the 17 Hawaii state loan repayment program.

18 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the John A.
19 Burns school of medicine of the University of Hawaii for the
20 purposes of this Act.

21

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2015.



2

S.B. NO. ¹¹³ S.D. 1</sup>

Report Title:

Hawaii State Loan Repayment Program; John A. Burns School of Medicine; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds for the implementation and administration of the Hawaii state loan repayment program. (SD1)

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.



To the leaders and lawmakers of Hawaii,

As a Physician Assistant student from Hawaii, I feel it is my duty to raise awareness for the situation regarding the shortage of primary care providers within the state of Hawaii. The financial commitment to pursuing a Master's degree in Physician Assistant Studies is significant (over \$135,000 for a 2 year program, not including costs/loans incurred for undergraduate studies) and I speak for myself when I say that the State Loan Repayment Program for Primary Care Providers would be invaluable in attracting and maintaining quality health care professionals within the state. Although my heart is always home in Hawaii, as I look towards graduation and beginning a career in primary care medicine, I know that a big factor in being able to return to Hawaii and serve the people there will be whether or not there is a State Loan Repayment Program that is providing the financial and professional support to new providers.

I am writing to offer my strongest support for **SB113**. Hawaii has a shortage of over 800 doctors, and almost all other types of primary care and behavioral health providers. Without these healthcare providers, the people of Hawaii will not have access to the healthcare they need. The need is most acute for those on neighbor islands and those with the least resources in the first place. The fastest and most cost effective way to recruit providers to areas of need is by paying back their loans in return for continuous service to that area.

In 2012, the UH John. A. Burns School of Medicine Area Health Education Center created a state loan repayment program with private donations from HMSA, Queens and AlohaCare and received a grant for dollar for dollar matching funds from the federal government. This loan repayment program has provided repayment of up to \$40,000 a year in educational debt for 16 individuals. The individuals funded are from all the islands except Kauai (so far, but we hope to change that). Nine are Advanced Practice Nurse Practitioners (eight FNPs and one Geriatric/Adult NP) and seven are physicians (two family physicians, two pediatricians, one psychiatrist, one obstetrician and one internist). The practice locations are primarily community health centers, with one provider working at the Halawa Correctional System and one provider working at a non-profit in a rural area. These providers have all made a two year commitment to working in underserved areas, and we hope to extend this commitment by continuing this program.

I am writing to offer my strongest support for **SB113**. Hawaii has a shortage of over 800 doctors, and almost all other types of primary care and behavioral health providers. Without these healthcare providers, the people of Hawaii will not have access to the healthcare they need. The need is most acute for those on neighbor islands and those with the least resources in the first place. The fastest and most cost effective way to recruit providers to areas of need is by paying back their loans in return for continuous service to that area.

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In September, 2014, Dr. Kelley Withy at John A. Burns School of Medicine has received a 4 year grant for \$311,875 a year in federal funds to be spent on loan repayment in Hawaii, but the money can only be spent if there is local funding to match it. She has been able to raise \$50,000, but no more. So that will leave \$261,875 of federal money unspent when we have a severe shortage to fill. She also was able to expand the types of providers who can be assisted to include social workers, psychologists, marriage and family counselors, as well as physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants. This is an important program, and it will end if there is no state legislative support, so please support SB113.

Sincerely,

Shaun Berry MD

March 2, 2015

Hawaii needs physicians. Loan repayment is a smart way of recruiting and retaining physicians in Hawaii.

Physicians are paid lower salaries in Hawaii than on the mainland. This makes recruiting especially difficult. While it is possible to lure older physicians who are financially secure and near retirement to Hawaii, this is limiting as a single strategy. The lower salary, the higher cost of living, and the additional expense of sending their children to private school make it difficult to attract physicians who are mid-career. It is possible to recruit physicians who are recently trained, but only with loan repayment.

Loan repayment is a win for the state because Hawaii's investment is doubled with matching federal funds. Loan repayment is a win for the physician, since the direct payment of the student loans is tax-free. Loan repayment is a win for the employer since the physician who receives loan repayment must stay in their jobs at least two years. Physicians who receive loan repayment find it rewarding to treat the underserved. This experience occurs during a formative point in the physician's career, and is likely to retain the physician in Hawaii.

Hawaii's population is aging and becoming more medically complex. We need to recruit and retain physicians to fill this service need. Please vote in favor of bill XXX.

Sincerely,

Loui D. Kanan M

Lori D. Karan, MD, FACP, FASAM 1600 Ala Moana Blvd, #2908 Honolulu, Hawaii 96815

<u>SB113</u>

Submitted on: 2/28/2015 Testimony for WAM on Mar 3, 2015 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Shaw	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Strong support! This program is one of the few that directly benefit Lanai in meeting its primary care and behavioral health needs -- and it provides a 1:1 Federal Match!!!! Please support this bill!

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	WAM Testimony
Cc:	skaye@runbox.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB113 on Mar 3, 2015 09:05AM*
Date:	Saturday, February 28, 2015 12:18:27 PM

<u>SB113</u>

Submitted on: 2/28/2015 Testimony for WAM on Mar 3, 2015 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
sally kaye	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	WAM Testimony
Cc:	eduardo cua@hotmail.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB113 on Mar 3, 2015 09:05AM
Date:	Saturday, February 28, 2015 8:56:19 PM

<u>SB113</u>

Submitted on: 2/28/2015 Testimony for WAM on Mar 3, 2015 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Eduardo Cua	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Written Testimony in Support of SB113 I am writing to offer my strongest support for SB113. Hawaii has a shortage of over 800 doctors, and almost all other types of primary care and behavioral health providers. Without these healthcare providers, the people of Hawaii will not have access to the healthcare they need. The need is most acute for those on neighbor islands and those with the least resources in the first place. The fastest and most cost effective way to recruit providers to areas of need is by paying back their loans in return for continuous service to that area. In 2012, the UH John. A. Burns School of Medicine Area Health Education Center created a state loan repayment program with private donations from HMSA, Queens and AlohaCare and received a grant for dollar for dollar matching funds from the federal government. This loan repayment program has provided repayment of up to \$40,000 a year in educational debt for 16 individuals. The individuals funded are from all the islands except Kauai (so far, but we hope to change that). Nine are Advanced Practice Nurse Practitioners (eight FNPs and one Geriatric/Adult NP) and seven are physicians (two family physicians, two pediatricians, one psychiatrist, one obstetrician and one internist). The practice locations are primarily community health centers, with one provider working at the Halawa Correctional System and one provider working at a non-profit in a rural area. These providers have all made a two year commitment to working in underserved areas, and we hope to extend this commitment by continuing this program. In September, 2014, Dr. Kelley Withy at John A. Burns School of Medicine has received a 4 year grant for \$311,875 a year in federal funds to be spent on loan repayment in Hawaii, but the money can only be spent if there is local funding to match it. She has been able to raise \$50,000, but no more. So that will leave \$261,875 of federal money unspent when we have a severe shortage to fill. She also was able to expand the types of providers who can be assisted to include social workers, psychologists, marriage and family counselors, as well as physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants. This is an important program, and it will end if there is no state legislative support, so please support SB113. Mahalo!

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
То:	WAM Testimony
Cc:	jennifer.malaya.ong.cua@gmail.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB113 on Mar 3, 2015 09:05AM
Date:	Saturday, February 28, 2015 9:27:43 PM

Submitted on: 2/28/2015 Testimony for WAM on Mar 3, 2015 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Malaya Ong- Cua	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Written Testimony in Support of SB113 I am writing to offer my strongest support for SB113. Hawaii has a shortage of over 800 doctors, and almost all other types of primary care and behavioral health providers. Without these healthcare providers, the people of Hawaii will not have access to the healthcare they need. The need is most acute for those on neighbor islands and those with the least resources in the first place. The fastest and most cost effective way to recruit providers to areas of need is by paying back their loans in return for continuous service to that area. In 2012, the UH John. A. Burns School of Medicine Area Health Education Center created a state loan repayment program with private donations from HMSA, Queens and AlohaCare and received a grant for dollar for dollar matching funds from the federal government. This loan repayment program has provided repayment of up to \$40,000 a year in educational debt for 16 individuals. The individuals funded are from all the islands except Kauai (so far, but we hope to change that). Nine are Advanced Practice Nurse Practitioners (eight FNPs and one Geriatric/Adult NP) and seven are physicians (two family physicians, two pediatricians, one psychiatrist, one obstetrician and one internist). The practice locations are primarily community health centers, with one provider working at the Halawa Correctional System and one provider working at a non-profit in a rural area. These providers have all made a two year commitment to working in underserved areas, and we hope to extend this commitment by continuing this program. In September, 2014, Dr. Kelley Withy at John A. Burns School of Medicine has received a 4 year grant for \$311,875 a year in federal funds to be spent on loan repayment in Hawaii, but the money can only be spent if there is local funding to match it. She has been able to raise \$50,000, but no more. So that will leave \$261,875 of federal money unspent when we have a severe shortage to fill. She also was able to expand the types of providers who can be assisted to include social workers, psychologists, marriage and family counselors, as well as physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants. This is an important program, and it will end if there is no state legislative support, so please support SB113. Mahalo!

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	WAM Testimony
Cc:	jessica.ng.yuen@gmail.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB113 on Mar 3, 2015 09:05AM*
Date:	Saturday, February 28, 2015 9:44:06 PM

Submitted on: 2/28/2015 Testimony for WAM on Mar 3, 2015 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jessica Yuen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Submitted on: 3/1/2015 Testimony for WAM on Mar 3, 2015 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robin Kaye	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This bill has particular relevance to the always-challenged health care environment on Lana'i. I support this bill. It is important for our community.

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	WAM Testimony
Cc:	jasmine.waipa@yahoo.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB113 on Mar 3, 2015 09:05AM*
Date:	Sunday, March 01, 2015 7:07:57 AM

Submitted on: 3/1/2015 Testimony for WAM on Mar 3, 2015 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jasmine Waipa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	WAM Testimony
Cc:	laura cho stutler@hotmail.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB113 on Mar 3, 2015 09:05AM
Date:	Sunday, March 01, 2015 7:37:26 AM

Submitted on: 3/1/2015 Testimony for WAM on Mar 3, 2015 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laura	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Written Testimony in Support of SB113 I am writing to offer my strongest support for SB113. Hawaii has a shortage of over 800 doctors, and almost all other types of primary care and behavioral health providers. Without these healthcare providers, the people of Hawaii will not have access to the healthcare they need. The need is most acute for those on neighbor islands and those with the least resources in the first place. The fastest and most cost effective way to recruit providers to areas of need is by paying back their loans in return for continuous service to that area. In 2012, the UH John. A. Burns School of Medicine Area Health Education Center created a state loan repayment program with private donations from HMSA, Queens and AlohaCare and received a grant for dollar for dollar matching funds from the federal government. This loan repayment program has provided repayment of up to \$40,000 a year in educational debt for 16 individuals. The individuals funded are from all the islands except Kauai (so far, but we hope to change that). Nine are Advanced Practice Nurse Practitioners (eight FNPs and one Geriatric/Adult NP) and seven are physicians (two family physicians, two pediatricians, one psychiatrist, one obstetrician and one internist). The practice locations are primarily community health centers, with one provider working at the Halawa Correctional System and one provider working at a non-profit in a rural area. These providers have all made a two year commitment to working in underserved areas, and we hope to extend this commitment by continuing this program. In September, 2014, Dr. Kelley Withy at John A. Burns School of Medicine has received a 4 year grant for \$311,875 a year in federal funds to be spent on loan repayment in Hawaii, but the money can only be spent if there is local funding to match it. She has been able to raise \$50,000, but no more. So that will leave \$261,875 of federal money unspent when we have a severe shortage to fill. She also was able to expand the types of providers who can be assisted to include social workers, psychologists, marriage and family counselors, as well as physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants. This is an important program, and it will end if there is no state legislative support, so please support SB113. Mahalo!

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Submitted on: 3/1/2015 Testimony for WAM on Mar 3, 2015 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Diane Preza	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Submitted on: 3/1/2015 Testimony for WAM on Mar 3, 2015 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Megan Wright	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I am writing to offer my strongest support for SB113. Hawaii has a shortage of over 800 doctors. Without these healthcare providers, the people of Hawaii will not have access to the healthcare they need. The need is most acute for those on neighbor islands and those with the least resources in the first place. The fastest and most cost effective way to recruit providers to areas of need is by paying back their loans in return for continuous service to that area. In 2012, the UH John. A. Burns School of Medicine Area Health Education Center created a state loan repayment program with private donations from HMSA, Queens and AlohaCare and received a grant for dollar for dollar matching funds from the federal government. This loan repayment program has provided repayment of up to \$40,000 a year in educational debt for 16 individuals. The individuals funded are from all the islands except Kauai (so far, but we hope to change that). Nine are Advanced Practice Nurse Practitioners (eight FNPs and one Geriatric/Adult NP) and seven are physicians (two family physicians, two pediatricians, one psychiatrist, one obstetrician and one internist). The practice locations are primarily community health centers, with one provider working at the Halawa Correctional System and one provider working at a non-profit in a rural area. These providers have all made a two year commitment to working in underserved areas, and we hope to extend this commitment by continuing this program. In September, 2014, Dr. Kelley Withy at John A. Burns School of Medicine has received a 4 year grant for \$311,875 a year in federal funds to be spent on loan repayment in Hawaii, but the money can only be spent if there is local funding to match it. She has been able to raise \$50,000, but no more. So that will leave \$261,875 of federal money unspent when we have a severe shortage to fill. She also was able to expand the types of providers who can be assisted to include social workers, psychologists, marriage and family counselors, as well as physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants. This is an important program, and it will end if there is no state legislative support, so please support SB113. Mahalo!

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Submitted on: 3/2/2015 Testimony for WAM on Mar 3, 2015 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pearl Yuen	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Continue to fund the Hawaii State Loan Repayment program is very important! People in Hawaii all deserve quality health cares and services. In order to do that Hawaii should be able to provide opportunities and supports to students who are in the health fields.

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Submitted on: 3/2/2015 Testimony for WAM on Mar 3, 2015 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brendon Friedman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov	
To:	WAM Testimony	
Cc:	<u>kbfitmaui@gmail.com</u>	
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB113 on Mar 3, 2015 09:05AM	
Date:	Monday, March 02, 2015 10:14:00 AM	

Submitted on: 3/2/2015 Testimony for WAM on Mar 3, 2015 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Paul Strauss	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am writing to offer my strongest support for SB113. Hawaii has a shortage of over 800 doctors, and almost all other types of primary care and behavioral health providers. Without these healthcare providers, the people of Hawaii will not have access to the healthcare they need. The need is most acute for those on neighbor islands and those with the least resources in the first place. The fastest and most cost effective way to recruit providers to areas of need is by paying back their loans in return for continuous service to that area. In 2012, the UH John. A. Burns School of Medicine Area Health Education Center created a state loan repayment program with private donations from HMSA, Queens and AlohaCare and received a grant for dollar for dollar matching funds from the federal government. This loan repayment program has provided repayment of up to \$40,000 a year in educational debt for 16 individuals. The individuals funded are from all the islands except Kauai (so far, but we hope to change that). Nine are Advanced Practice Nurse Practitioners (eight FNPs and one Geriatric/Adult NP) and seven are physicians (two family physicians, two pediatricians, one psychiatrist, one obstetrician and one internist). The practice locations are primarily community health centers, with one provider working at the Halawa Correctional System and one provider working at a non-profit in a rural area. These providers have all made a two year commitment to working in underserved areas, and we hope to extend this commitment by continuing this program. In September, 2014, Dr. Kelley Withy at John A. Burns School of Medicine has received a 4 year grant for \$311,875 a year in federal funds to be spent on loan repayment in Hawaii, but the money can only be spent if there is local funding to match it. She has been able to raise \$50,000, but no more. So that will leave \$261,875 of federal money unspent when we have a severe shortage to fill. She also was able to expand the types of providers who can be assisted to include social workers, psychologists, marriage and family counselors, as well as physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants. This is an important program, and it will end if there is no state legislative support, so please support SB113. Mahalo! Paul Strauss

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov	
To:	WAM Testimony	
Cc:	hokulani.porter@gmail.com	
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB113 on Mar 3, 2015 09:05AM	
Date:	Monday, March 02, 2015 1:03:09 PM	

Submitted on: 3/2/2015 Testimony for WAM on Mar 3, 2015 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Hokulani Porter	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I am writing to offer my strongest support for SB113. As a recipient of SLRP, it has helped me to pay off my student loans and to serve as a FNP in a shortage area; WCCHC a FQHC center in Waianae. Hawaii has a shortage of over 800 doctors, and almost all other types of primary care and behavioral health providers. Without these healthcare providers, the people of Hawaii will not have access to the healthcare they need. The need is most acute for those on neighbor islands and those with the least resources in the first place. The fastest and most cost effective way to recruit providers to areas of need is by paying back their loans in return for continuous service to that area. In 2012, the UH John. A. Burns School of Medicine Area Health Education Center created a state loan repayment program with private donations from HMSA, Queens and AlohaCare and received a grant for dollar for dollar matching funds from the federal government. This loan repayment program has provided repayment of up to \$40,000 a year in educational debt for 16 individuals. The individuals funded are from all the islands except Kauai (so far, but we hope to change that). Nine are Advanced Practice Nurse Practitioners (eight FNPs and one Geriatric/Adult NP) and seven are physicians (two family physicians, two pediatricians, one psychiatrist, one obstetrician and one internist). The practice locations are primarily community health centers, with one provider working at the Halawa Correctional System and one provider working at a non-profit in a rural area. These providers have all made a two year commitment to working in underserved areas, and we hope to extend this commitment by continuing this program. In September, 2014, Dr. Kelley Withy at John A. Burns School of Medicine has received a 4 year grant for \$311,875 a year in federal funds to be spent on loan repayment in Hawaii, but the money can only be spent if there is local funding to match it. She has been able to raise \$50,000, but no more. So that will leave \$261,875 of federal money unspent when we have a severe shortage to fill. She also was able to expand the types of providers who can be assisted to include social workers, psychologists, marriage and family counselors, as well as physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants. This is an important program, and it will end if there is no state legislative support, so please support SB113. Mahalo!

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	WAM Testimony
Cc:	lanaiohana@hotmail.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB113 on Mar 3, 2015 09:05AM*
Date:	Monday, March 02, 2015 4:08:46 PM

Submitted on: 3/2/2015 Testimony for WAM on Mar 3, 2015 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Donna Stokes & Ciso Lagmay	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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