



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
KA 'OIHANA OLAKINO
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**Testimony in SUPPORT of H.B. 1921
RELATING TO MOBILE VACCINATIONS**

REPRESENTATIVE DELLA AU BELATTI, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH & HOMELESSNESS

Hearing Date, Time and Room Number: 2/7/2024, 9:45 am, Conference Room 329

1 **Fiscal Implications:** \$1.5 million. 1 state position (Program Specialist IV- SR22)- \$122,256
2 annually and a mobile contract for \$1.35 million. The Department of Health (“Department”)
3 requests that this measure be considered as a vehicle to provide this needed funding so long as
4 it does not supplant the priorities and requests outlined in the Governor’s executive budget
5 request.

6 **Department Position:** The Department of Health (“Department”) supports this measure
7 offering comments and proposed amendments.

8 **Department Testimony:** The Disease Outbreak and Control Division (DOCD) provides the
9 following testimony on behalf of the Department.

10 DOCD has historically provided direct vaccine services only in vaccine preventable outbreaks
11 (COVID-19, MPOX, etc.) or in exercising emergency preparedness for outbreaks such as the
12 Stop Flu at School vaccine program. DOCD provides a safety net in times of outbreak and would
13 encourage direct services in a similar philosophy. DOCD is currently not funded or structured to
14 provide direct vaccination services. A coordinator position would be required to oversee a

1 direct services contract and encourage vaccination amongst non-government providers before
2 deploying DOCD's direct services contract.
3 DOCD would encourage broadening the scope of services outside homebound to other
4 vulnerable populations to ensure a wider safety net that could be leveraged based on evolving
5 public health needs and priorities.

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9 **Offered Amendments:**

10 Strike homebound and add populations with reduced access to vaccines.

11 Add language: HDOH will work with non-government entities to explore opportunities to
12 transition vaccine services to interested entities when HDOH deems that the quality, scope and
13 cost of vaccine delivery to these populations can meet or exceed HDOH's efforts.

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15 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

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20 **Offered Amendments:** HIGHLIGHT AND REPLACE TEXT (e.g., None)

21 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII
KE KIA'ĀINA O KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I



CAROLINE CADIRAO
DIRECTOR
Executive Office on Aging

KENNETH FINK, MD, MGA, MPH
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH
KA LUNA HO'OKELE

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1921
RELATING TO MOBILE VACCINATIONS

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH & HOMELESSNESS
REP. DELLA AU BELATTI, CHAIR
REP. JENNA TAKENOUCI, VICE CHAIR

Testimony of Caroline Cadirao
Director, Executive Office on Aging
Attached Agency to the Department of Health

Hearing: Wednesday, February 7, 2024, 9:45 A.M., Conference Room 329

- 1 **EOA Position:** The Executive Office on Aging (EOA), an attached agency to the Department of
- 2 Health (DOH) supports the intent of this measure.
- 3 **Fiscal Implications:** Appropriates funding within the DOH for a position and operating funds.
- 4 **Purpose and Justification:** EOA supports the intent of this measure to have DOH conduct
- 5 mobile vaccination services for homebound individuals as this would support our kupuna. EOA
- 6 is willing to partner with DOH in identifying older adults with access issues in our community.
- 7 **Recommendation:** EOA supports the intent of this measure and defers to the DOH for further
- 8 comments and recommendations.
- 9 Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.



February 7, 2024

The Honorable Della Au Belatti, Chair
The Honorable Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair
House Committee on Health & Homelessness

Re: HB 1921 – RELATING TO MOBILE VACCINATIONS

Dear Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee:

Hawaii Medical Service Association (HMSA) appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 1921, which would appropriate funds to the department of health for mobile vaccination services for homebound individuals.

We have seen the positive impact of vaccines in our communities and how they can dramatically decrease the health impacts on our residents. We appreciate the legislature's efforts in helping those in our communities that would otherwise be unable to travel to vaccination sites or facilities by funding operations that would support community vaccination efforts.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this measure.

Sincerely,

Dawn Kurisu
Assistant Vice President
Community and Government Relations

Dear Chair Belatti and members of the Committee on Health and Homelessness:

SUBJECT: SUPPORT HB1921, MOBILE VACCINATIONS

I am writing in strong support for HB 1921, Mobile Vaccinations.

As we have aged, we are finding it more difficult for my husband and me to get around as we are both in our 90s and need either our family or HandiVan to get to and from medical clinics and/or pharmacies. We have a hard time walking and we use canes and walkers and at times we need wheelchairs.

During the pandemic, the federal government paid for mobile vaccination clinics to come to our house. This was a Godsend. We believe that without these types of services we would get sick and become a burden to our family and friends. We have been self-sufficient until recently and do not ask for much; however, we are now asking for your help to provide something for us.

We appreciate even the smallest services now in our golden age. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Beverly & Francis Wong

HB-1921

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 9:18:01 PM

Testimony for HLT on 2/7/2024 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Olderr	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill; vaccinations not only keep a person healthy but also protect the community. I support this bill to help with Vaccination outreach and to help those who cannot travel or leave their homes. And if it levels out the burden of the hospitals, then that is a bonus.