



March 24, 2026

Position: **SUPPORT of HCR6/HR5, AFFIRMING AND SUPPORTING THE REQUIREMENT THAT HOSPITALS PROVIDE LIFE-SAVING EMERGENCY CARE TO PREGNANT PEOPLE, INCLUDING REPRODUCTIVE AND ABORTION SERVICES, WHEN SUCH CARE IS MEDICALLY NECESSARY TO STABILIZE A PATIENT UNDER THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL TREATMENT AND ACTIVE LABOR ACT**

To: Representatives Gregg Takayama and Lisa Marten, Chairs
Representatives Sue L. Keohokapu-Lee Loy and Ikaika Olds, Vice Chairs
Members of the House Committees on Health, and Human Services & Homelessness

From: Llasmin Chaine, LSW, Executive Director, Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women

Re: Testimony in SUPPORT of HCR6/HR5, AFFIRMING AND SUPPORTING THE REQUIREMENT THAT HOSPITALS PROVIDE LIFE-SAVING EMERGENCY CARE TO PREGNANT PEOPLE, INCLUDING REPRODUCTIVE AND ABORTION SERVICES, WHEN SUCH CARE IS MEDICALLY NECESSARY TO STABILIZE A PATIENT UNDER THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL TREATMENT AND ACTIVE LABOR ACT

Hearing: Wednesday, March 25, 2026, 9:30 a.m.
Conference Room 329, State Capitol

On behalf of the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women, I would like to thank the committees for hearing this important measure. The Commission **supports HCR6/HR5** as it directly advances the Commission's mission to promote equality, health, and safety for women and girls in Hawaii. In light of shifting federal policy and guidance regarding the Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act (EMTALA), **HCR6/HR5 provides guidance and affirms existing legal protections for those seeking and providing emergency care**, including reproductive and abortion services, which are central to bodily autonomy and the well-being of women and girls across the state.

Delaying or denying emergency care is harmful and illegal. [When pregnant people are denied care, they are more likely to experience increased maternal health complications and long-term negative health effects.](#) This is especially true for marginalized communities who experience intersecting levels of oppression in health systems.

I respectfully urge these Committees to **pass HCR6/HR5** in support of individuals seeking health care, strengthening our community's safety and well-being.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony.



To: Hawaii State House Committee on Health

RE: Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of HCR6/HR5

Dear Chair Takayama, Vice Chair Keohokapu-Lee Loy, and members of the Committee,

The members of AAUW of Hawai'i thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this resolution.

We strongly support HCR6/HR5 affirming and supporting the requirement that hospitals provide life-saving emergency care to pregnant people, including reproductive and abortion services. This resolution ensures the federal Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act protections stay in place to protect pregnant people in Hawai'i, no matter what happens at the federal level. Pregnant people need to know that the medical providers will respond to their needs in emergency situations.

Please pass this resolution. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Younghee Overly
AAUW of Hawai'i Public Policy Committee

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) of Hawai'i is an all-volunteer, statewide chapter of a national organization with close to 4000 members and supporters across all four counties - Hawai'i, Honolulu, Kaula'i, and Maui. AAUW has state chapters in all 50 states and our mission is to advance gender equity through education and advocacy. Economic security for women is our goal.

HR-5

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 11:36:05 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/25/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jen Wilbur	Planned Parenthood Alliance Advocates	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Planned Parenthood Alliance Advocates stands in strong support of this important resolution addressing EMTALA and urges the committee to pass it through.



March 25, 2026 at 9:30 am
Conference Room 329

House Committee on Health

To: Chair Gregg Takayama
Vice Chair Sue L. Keohokapu-Lee Loy

House Committee on Human Services and Homelessness

To: Chair Lisa Marten
Vice Chair Ikaika Olds

From: Paige Heckathorn Choy
Vice President, Government Affairs
Healthcare Association of Hawaii

Re: Submitting Comments
HCR 6/HR 5, Affirming and supporting the requirements that hospitals provide life-saving emergency care to pregnant people, including reproductive and abortion services, when such care is medically necessary to stabilize a patient under the Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii (HAH), established in 1939, serves as the leading voice of healthcare on behalf of 170 member organizations who represent almost every aspect of the health care continuum in Hawaii. Members include acute care hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, home health agencies, hospices, assisted living facilities and durable medical equipment suppliers. In addition to providing access to appropriate, affordable, high-quality care to all of Hawaii's residents, our members contribute significantly to Hawaii's economy by employing over 30,000 people statewide.

Thank you for the opportunity to **support** this resolution. Hospitals across Hawaii are firmly committed to patient safety and the delivery of high-quality care to every individual who presents with an emergency medical condition. This includes pregnant patients experiencing serious complications who require immediate, life-saving treatment. Under the Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act, hospitals are required to provide stabilizing care, and our providers take these obligations seriously.

In emergency situations, care decisions are guided by clinical judgment, accepted standards of care, and the need to protect the life and health of the patient. This includes providing all medically necessary services— including reproductive and abortion-related care—when required to stabilize a patient. These are often complex and time-sensitive situations, and

clinicians respond quickly and appropriately to ensure patients receive the treatment they need without delay.

This resolution reinforces longstanding commitments by medical professionals and helps maintain public confidence that hospitals will continue to serve as safe and reliable access points for emergency care. Thank you for the opportunity to provide our comments on this important matter.



March 23, 2026

TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES
& HOMELESSNESS

For Hearing on Wednesday, March 25, 2026
9:30 AM, Conference Room 329

Re: H.R. NO. 5 and H.C.R. NO. 6

Chair and Members of the Committees,

My name is Stacey Jimenez, and I serve as the Executive Director of A Place for Women in Waipio, where we provide medical services and care to women facing pregnancy-related decisions across our island community. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on H.R. 5 and H.C.R. 6.

We affirm the importance of ensuring that no woman in Hawai‘i experiencing a medical emergency is denied timely, life-saving care.

In every pregnancy-related emergency, there are two patients under a physician’s care, the mother and her unborn child. Good medicine seeks to preserve the life and health of both whenever possible, and physicians are trained to act quickly to stabilize the mother while recognizing the presence of both patients in their clinical decision-making.

However, both H.R. 5 and H.C.R. 6 present a specific interpretation of the Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act (EMTALA) that is not explicitly stated in the statute and remains legally contested. The assertion that EMTALA does not allow for religious or conscience-based considerations does not reflect the full scope of federal law, which continues to include longstanding conscience protections.

These resolutions frame abortion as a required response in emergency care, rather than recognizing the physician’s responsibility to make rapid, case-specific decisions that prioritize stabilization while accounting for both patients.

EMTALA requires stabilizing treatment, not a single prescribed course of care. Physicians must be able to exercise sound medical judgment based on the clinical circumstances of each patient.

For these reasons, we respectfully oppose H.R. 5 and H.C.R. 6, as they present an incomplete and legally contested interpretation of federal law that may create confusion in clinical care.

Stacey Jimenez
Executive Director
A Place for Women in Waipio.

HR-5

Submitted on: 3/24/2026 7:08:49 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/25/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Yvette Kay	Kona Indivisible & Matriarchy Rising	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this resolution to ensures the federal Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act protections stay in place and protect pregnant people in Hawai‘i, no matter what happens at the federal level. Pregnant people deserve to know that providers will respond to their needs in emergency situations.

Testimony options:

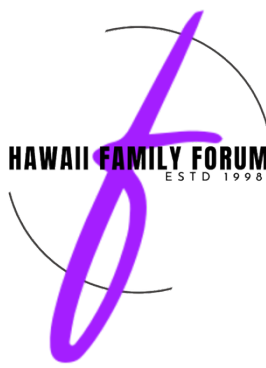
1. Click “Support” and enter into Testimony box: “I strongly support HB 1961 (SB2845)”
2. If more time, write and attach a document that includes some of the content above and/or add a personal story + state your community of residence, especially if your rep is on the Committee hearing the bill.

My name is Yvette Kay and I am a resident of Kailua Kona in Hawai'i County. I am on the leadership team for Kona Indivisible and run the protest arm of Kona Indivisible named, Matriarchy Rising. I support this bill.

yvettekay_99@yahoo.com

96740

415-706-9638



Submitted Online: Tuesday, March 24, 2026

TO: House Committee on Health
Rep. Gregg Takayama, Chair
Rep. Sue Keohokapu Lee-Loy, Vice Chair

FROM: Eva Andrade, President

POSITION: Opposition to HR 5 & HCR 6 (EMTALA Expansion Resolution)

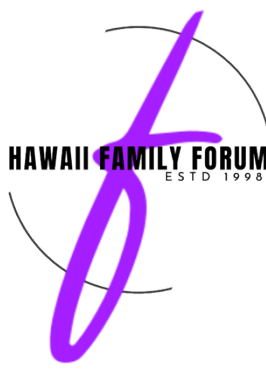
Hawaii Family Forum is a non-profit, pro-family education organization committed to preserving and strengthening families in Hawai‘i. We respectfully oppose HR 5 and HCR 6.

We agree that every person (especially a pregnant woman experiencing a medical emergency) deserves timely, compassionate, and life-saving care. Protecting the life and health of both mother and child should always be a priority, and no one should ever be denied necessary emergency treatment.

However, these resolutions go beyond affirming emergency medical care and instead promote a specific interpretation of federal law that is both legally unsettled and deeply concerning. As stated in the resolution, recent federal guidance on EMTALA has changed and created confusion nationwide. Rather than providing clarity, these measures adopt one side of an ongoing national legal debate and present it as settled policy.

Importantly, EMTALA itself does not explicitly mandate abortion as the required treatment in every emergency circumstance. Medical professionals are often able to treat serious pregnancy-related conditions—such as ectopic pregnancy, miscarriage complications, or preeclampsia—with interventions that prioritize saving the mother’s life without intentionally ending the life of the unborn child. These are complex medical situations that deserve careful clinical judgment, not broad policy declarations.

We are also concerned by language in the resolutions urging compliance “regardless of religious affiliation.” While Hawai‘i’s healthcare system has a strong record of providing high-quality emergency care, policies in this area should still respect the diversity of ethical perspectives among healthcare providers. Medical professionals and institutions often navigate complex situations guided by both clinical judgment and deeply held principles. Any policy statement should take care not to diminish the importance of conscience protections or create unnecessary tension between patient care and ethical considerations.



Additionally, Hawai'i already has strong systems in place to ensure that patients receive appropriate emergency care. There is no evidence that hospitals in our state are denying life-saving treatment. For this reason, these resolutions appear unnecessary and may instead introduce confusion where none currently exists.

At a time when federal courts and agencies continue to debate the scope and application of EMTALA, Hawai'i should exercise caution rather than adopting a one-sided policy position through resolution. A more balanced approach would affirm both the importance of emergency care and the protection of conscience rights for healthcare providers.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge you to oppose HR 5 and HCR 6.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit written testimony.



Protect Democracy Move Forward

www.indivisiblehawaii.org

info@indivisiblehawaii.org

LATE

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES AND HOMELESSNESS
Hearing Date/Time: Wednesday, March 25, 2026 at 9:30 AM
Place: Hawaii State Capitol, Room 329
Re: Testimony in **SUPPORT of HCR 6 and HR5**

Dear Rep. Gregg Takayama, Chair, Rep. Sue L. Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Vice Chair, Rep. Lisa Marten, Chair, Rep. Ikaika Olds, Vice Chair, and Members of Committees,

The Indivisible Hawai'i Healthcare Team strongly supports this resolution to protect emergency care for pregnant women, including abortion care. This resolution ensures the federal Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act protections stay in place and protects pregnant people in Hawai'i, no matter what happens at the federal level. Pregnant people deserve to know that providers will respond to their needs in emergency situations.

Sincerely,
Indivisible Hawai'i Healthcare Team

The mission of the 14-chapter Indivisible Hawai'i Statewide Network (IHSN) is to protect Hawai'i and democracy by defending civil rights, communities and values, most importantly, Hawai'i's Constitutionally protected spirit of Aloha. In October 2025, IHSN with other partners turned out over 22,000 residents on all major islands to say No Dictators! and to stand up for democracy. This call-to-action was part of Indivisible national's mobilization of more than 7 million across the country as the voice of the people, committed to election integrity and to evolving as a place of equity, opportunity and peace.



*American College of
Obstetricians and Gynecologists
District VIII, Hawai'i (Guam & American
Samoa) Section*

LATE

TO: Committee on Health
Rep. Gregg Takayama, Chair
Rep. Sue L. Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Vice Chair

DATE: Wednesday, March 25th, 2026

PLACE: Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 329

FROM: Hawai'i Section, ACOG
Dr. Tiffinie R. Mercado, MD, FACOG, Chair
Dr. Ricardo A. Molero Bravo, MD, FACOG, Legislative Chair

Re: Affirming and supporting the requirement that hospitals provide life-saving emergency care to pregnant people, including reproductive and abortion services, when such care is medically necessary to stabilize a patient under the Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act.
Position: SUPPORT

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee:

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG), Hawai'i Section, **strongly supports HCR6 and HR5**, which affirm the requirement that hospitals provide life-saving emergency care to pregnant patients, including abortion care when medically necessary.

As physicians, we are guided by evidence-based medicine and our ethical duty to provide timely, appropriate care. Under the Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act (EMTALA), hospitals must provide stabilizing treatment to any patient with an emergency medical condition. This includes pregnancy-related emergencies such as hemorrhage, ectopic pregnancy, and severe hypertensive disorders, where abortion care may be the necessary, life-saving intervention.

Recent shifts in federal guidance have created confusion across the country. While EMTALA remains in effect, this perceived uncertainty is already impacting clinical care in other states. Emerging evidence shows that physicians across multiple specialties are experiencing delays in providing time-sensitive, life-saving treatment due to unclear legal and institutional guidance.

Physicians report that patients are experiencing restricted and delayed treatment, sometimes waiting until clinical deterioration occurs before appropriate care can be provided. In some cases, delays occur because additional administrative, legal, or institutional steps are required before acting, even in urgent situations. These delays can lead to increased morbidity, including progression to critical illness, need for more invasive interventions, and preventable complications.

Importantly, these impacts extend beyond ObGyn care. Specialists in critical care, pulmonology, and other fields report that abortion restrictions are affecting their ability to manage critically ill patients, including those with sepsis, cardiopulmonary disease, or other life-threatening conditions during pregnancy. This highlights that reproductive healthcare restrictions are not

isolated—they affect the entire healthcare system and multiple specialties involved in patient care.

Hawai'i has long upheld a strong standard of care in which clinicians provide medically necessary treatment without delay, prioritizing patient safety and dignity. These resolutions reaffirm that commitment and provide clarity to patients, providers, and institutions at a time when clarity is urgently needed.

ACOG Hawai'i believes that no patient experiencing a medical emergency should face delays in care due to uncertainty or fear. Ensuring clear, consistent standards protects patients, supports physicians, and prevents avoidable harm.

For these reasons, ACOG Hawai'i **strongly supports HCR6 and HR5.**

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
Hawai'i Section (ACOG Hawai'i)

Bibliography:

Hauschildt, K. E., Kumar, A. J., Viglianti, E. M., Vranas, K. C., Bernstein, T., Moroz, L., & Iwashyna, T. J. (2025). *US physicians' perceived impacts of abortion bans in pulmonary and critical care medicine*. CHEST, 168(2), 462–473. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chest.2025.03.008>



Committee: Health
Hearing Date/Time: Wednesday, March 25, 2026 at 9:30am
Place: Conference Room 329 & Via Videoconference
Re: **Testimony of the ACLU of Hawai'i in SUPPORT of HCR6 / HR5**

Dear Chair Takayama, Vice Chair Keohokapu-Lee Loy, and Committee Members:


The ACLU of Hawai'i **supports HCR6 and HR5** affirming and supporting the requirement that hospitals provide life-saving emergency care to pregnant people, including reproductive and abortion services, when such care is medically necessary to stabilize a patient under the Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act.

The Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act (EMTALA) is a nearly 40 year old federal law guaranteeing everyone treatment for emergency medical conditions, regardless of where they live. Patients expect that if they experience a medical crisis during their pregnancy, the hospital will be able to provide them with the care they need — including abortion to save their health or life. Yet instead of protecting patients, the Trump administration has rescinded guidance¹ that reaffirmed hospitals' obligation under the EMTALA.

Confusion caused by the Trump administration's actions have caused irreparable harm to pregnant patients and their families. We know that women will suffer life-changing complications and even die because of the Trump administration's decisions.

It is not enough for Hawai'i to have strong state protections on paper. Patients, providers, and hospital administrators need a clear, unambiguous signal from this Legislature that EMTALA's mandate – including its mandate to provide emergency abortion.

For these reasons, the ACLU of Hawai'i respectfully asks that you move this measure.

Sincerely,


Mandy Fernandes
Policy Director
ACLU of Hawai'i

¹ Department of Health & Human Services. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Rescinded Reinforcement of EMTALA Obligations specific to Patients who are Pregnant or are Experiencing Pregnancy Loss (QSO-21-22-Hospitals). <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/qso-22-22-hospitals-rescinded-05292024.pdf>

With more than 4,000 Hawai'i-based members, the mission of the American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i is to protect the fundamental freedoms enshrined in the United States and Hawai'i State Constitutions through legislative, litigation, and public education work. The ACLU of Hawai'i is a non-partisan and private non-profit organization that provides its services at no cost to the public and does not accept government funds. The ACLU of Hawai'i has been serving our communities in Hawai'i for over 60 years.

American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i
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LATE



March 25, 2026

Representative Gregg Takayama, Chair
Representative Sue Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Vice Chair
Committee on Health

Re: HCR 6: AFFIRMING AND SUPPORTING THE REQUIREMENT THAT HOSPITALS PROVIDE LIFE-SAVING EMERGENCY CARE TO PREGNANT PEOPLE, INCLUDING REPRODUCTIVE AND ABORTION SERVICES, WHEN SUCH CARE IS MEDICALLY NECESSARY TO STABILIZE A PATIENT UNDER THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL TREATMENT AND ACTIVE LABOR ACT

Hearing: Wednesday, March 25, 2026, 9:30 AM, Conference Room 329 & Videoconference

Dear Chair Takayama, Vice Chair Keohokapu-Lee Loy, and the Members of the Committee on Health:

Hawaii Women Lawyers is a lawyer's trade organization that aims to improve the lives and careers of women in all aspects of the legal profession, influence the future of the legal profession, and enhance the status of women and promote equal opportunities for all.

Hawaii Women Lawyers submits testimony in support of HCR6, which affirms and supports the requirement that hospitals provide life-saving emergency care to pregnant people, including reproductive and abortion services, when such care is medically necessary to stabilize a patient under the Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act.

The Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act (EMTALA) was enacted in 1986 to ensure public access to emergency services regardless of ability to pay. For pregnant patients, this obligation includes treatment of emergency medical conditions that threaten their health, which, depending on the clinical circumstances, may include reproductive and abortion services.

In June 2025, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services rescinded its 2022 guidance that had specifically clarified hospitals' EMTALA obligations to provide appropriate abortion care. That rescission has created uncertainty for hospitals and providers across the country about whether and when they must provide emergency reproductive care.

In the absence of clear federal guidance, state-level affirmations like HCR 6 send an important signal to Hawaii's hospitals, providers, and patients that are in our state, the

expectation is that EMTALA's requirements will include providing abortion care when it is necessary to stabilize pregnant patients.

Medical emergencies do not wait, and the quality of emergency care a pregnant person receives should not vary based on the political climate in which a hospital operates. This resolution reaffirms what federal statute already requires: that hospitals stabilize patients in emergency situations, and that pregnant patients are entitled to the full scope of that protection.

For the above reasons, we support HCR 6 and respectfully request that the Committee pass this measure.

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

HR-5

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 8:15:51 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/25/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
James E Raymond	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you. I am a member of Indivisible Windward.

HR-5

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 9:38:07 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/25/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jane Aquino	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this resolution to ensures the federal Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act protections stay in place and protect pregnant people in Hawai'i, no matter what happens at the federal level. Pregnant people deserve to know that providers will respond to their needs in emergency situations.

Thank you, Jane Aquino, Indivisible

HR-5

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 10:07:04 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/25/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ron Brown	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this bill. How horrifying it is that critical care for women could be denied for suffering women.

HR-5

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 12:27:56 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/25/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tim Huycke	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HCR6.

HR-5

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 1:07:16 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/25/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jessie L Gonsalves	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support affirm emergency care for pregnancy and abortion

HR-5

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 1:45:25 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/25/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Judith White	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please pass this life saving measure!

Judith White, Kapaa

HR-5

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 2:52:21 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/25/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brodie Lockard	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

HR-5

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 7:32:44 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/25/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Vivian S. Toellner	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill. It is sick we have some legislators who want to enter a patient's personal area and tell the Doctor and patient what they have to do.

I needed some special reproductive assistance back in my younger days. Believe you me, it was upsetting enough without the prying of government.

Outside opinions are not appreciated, when you are going through such life changing events.

Thank you for the opportunity to vent. Please support a persons right to privacy.

Aloha & Mahalo, Most Sincerely, Vivian S. Toellner

HR-5

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 8:48:45 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/25/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lily Troy MD	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a retired Ob/Gyn

I SUPPORT HCR6/HR5

HR-5

Submitted on: 3/22/2026 10:43:51 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/25/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gail Morrison	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this resolution to ensures the federal Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act protections stay in place and protect pregnant people in Hawai‘i, no matter what happens at the federal level. Pregnant people deserve to know that providers will respond to their needs in emergency situations.

Gail Morrison, Honolulu

HR-5

Submitted on: 3/22/2026 1:48:30 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/25/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Calvin Black	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a member of Indivisible. Thank you for supporting this bill.

HR-5

Submitted on: 3/22/2026 2:51:21 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/25/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christine L. Andrews, J.D.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I respectfully request your vote in support of this measure.

Mahalo nui

HR-5

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 8:22:53 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/25/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kehaulani Coleman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you

HR-5

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 10:53:25 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/25/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
John Wassell	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this resolution to ensures the federal Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act protections stay in place and protect pregnant people in Hawai‘i, no matter what happens at the federal level. Pregnant people deserve to know that providers will respond to their needs in emergency situations.

Sincerely,

JJ Wassell

HR-5

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 2:39:27 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/25/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Victor K. Ramos	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

"Pregnant People". Please! Only woman can get pregnant. If you all can't define a woman how am I to trust your judgment on any topic.

Nevertheless, I support this resolution.

HR-5

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 5:14:00 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/25/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Denize Machit	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this resolution to ensures the federal Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act protections stay in place and protect pregnant people in Hawai‘i, no matter what happens at the federal level. Pregnant people deserve to know that providers will respond to their needs in emergency situations. Please support these bills.

Mahalo for allowing me to express my thoughts,

Denize Machit

HR-5

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 7:43:15 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/25/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cory Harden	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha legislators,

I strongly support this resolution to ensures the federal Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act protections stay in place and protect pregnant people in Hawai‘i, no matter what happens at the federal level. People have died in states with inadequate protections.

mahalo,
Cory Harden, Hilo
member, Indivisible

HR-5

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 9:33:55 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/25/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jesse Hutchison	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you!

HR-5

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 10:11:55 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/25/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robert Justice, M.D.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Rep. Gregg Takayama, Chair; Rep. Sue L. Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Vice Chair; Members of the Committee on Health and
Rep. Lisa Marten, Chair; Rep. Ikaika Olds, Vice Chair;
and Members of the Committee on Human Services & Homelessness

RE: HCR6 (HR5) Protect Emergency Abortion Care

I am a retired physician, a resident of Kapolei, and a member of the Indivisible Hawai`i Statewide Network. I am writing to strongly support this resolution to ensure that the federal Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act protections stay in place and protect pregnant women in Hawai`i, no matter what happens at the federal level. Pregnant women deserve to know that providers will respond to their needs in emergency situations.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Robert L. Justice, M.D..

HR-5

Submitted on: 3/24/2026 7:40:28 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/25/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jessica Kuzmier	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I am writing in support of this bill. I believe codifying common sense health measures for medical emergencies such as this into law is good policy. Mahalo for your consideration.

3/24/26

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Women facing medical emergencies deserve immediate, life-saving care. Protecting life and health should always be the priority. Emergency care must always be protected—for both mother and child.

I greatly oppose HR5/HCR 6 and here's why:

This resolution is not needed to ensure emergency care, but it does advance a policy direction that raises concerns about life, medical judgment, and religious freedom.

This resolution goes beyond emergency care—it promotes a specific abortion policy. Rather than simply affirming emergency treatment, the resolution adopts one interpretation of federal law that frames abortion as a required response in certain cases.

Federal law (EMTALA) is still being debated and interpreted. There is ongoing national legal disagreement about how EMTALA applies in these situations. This resolution presents one side of that debate as settled, when it is not.

Doctors already treat pregnancy emergencies without intentionally ending life. Conditions like ectopic pregnancy, miscarriage complications, and preeclampsia are already treated in Hawai'i hospitals. These situations require medical judgment—not broad political statements.

As written, HR5 threatens religious freedom and faith-based healthcare. The resolution urges hospitals to comply “regardless of religious affiliation,” which raises serious concerns for faith-based hospitals that have long served Hawai'i with compassion and excellence.

Hawai'i is not facing a crisis in emergency care. There is no evidence that hospitals in Hawai'i are denying life-saving treatment. This makes the resolution unnecessary and potentially misleading.

The HR5/HCR 6 sets the stage for future policy changes. While non-binding, this resolution signals where lawmakers may be headed next—and could be used to justify future laws that expand abortion requirements or limit conscience protections.

Please vote “NO” to HR5/HCR 6.

With respect,

Agnes Tauyan

LATE

HR-5

Submitted on: 3/24/2026 9:32:23 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/25/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lisa Shorba	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I STRONGLY OPPOSE HCR 6 and its companion, HR 5. Please Vote NO on this resolution. Mahalo!

• Emergency care must always be protected—for both mother and child

We agree that women facing medical emergencies deserve immediate, life-saving care. Protecting life and health should always be the priority.

• This resolution goes beyond emergency care—it promotes a specific abortion policy

Rather than simply affirming emergency treatment, the resolution adopts one interpretation of federal law that frames abortion as a required response in certain cases.

• Federal law (EMTALA) is still being debated and interpreted

There is ongoing national legal disagreement about how EMTALA applies in these situations. This resolution presents one side of that debate as settled, when it is not.

• Doctors already treat pregnancy emergencies without intentionally ending life

Conditions like ectopic pregnancy, miscarriage complications, and preeclampsia are already treated in Hawai'i hospitals. These situations require medical judgment—not broad political statements.

• Threatens religious freedom and faith-based healthcare

The resolution urges hospitals to comply “regardless of religious affiliation,” which raises serious concerns for faith-based hospitals that have long served Hawai‘i with compassion and excellence.

- **Hawai‘i is not facing a crisis in emergency care**

There is no evidence that hospitals in Hawai‘i are denying life-saving treatment. This makes the resolution unnecessary and potentially misleading.

- **Sets the stage for future policy changes**

While non-binding, this resolution signals where lawmakers may be headed next—and could be used to justify future laws that expand abortion requirements or limit conscience protections.

LATE

HR-5

Submitted on: 3/24/2026 11:22:07 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/25/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Esther Gefroh	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I oppose this resolution based on the premise that emergency care must always be protected for both mother and child.

This resolution is trying to slip in abortion as a treatment.

Doctors already treat pregnancy emergencies without intentionally ending life

Conditions like ectopic pregnancy, miscarriage complications, and preeclampsia are already treated in Hawai‘i hospitals. These situations require medical judgment—not broad political statements.

• Threatens religious freedom and faith-based healthcare

The resolution urges hospitals to comply “regardless of religious affiliation,” which raises serious concerns for faith-based hospitals that have long served Hawai‘i with compassion and excellence.

Sincerely yours,

LATE

HR-5

Submitted on: 3/24/2026 11:54:43 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/25/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Reni Soon	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha committee members -

I am a board-certified OBGYN in Hawaii, and I provide full scope reproductive health care services. I strongly support HCR 6 and HR5. EMTALA has already been challenged on the federal level - we need to affirm that Hawaii is a place where no one will be denied life-saving emergency care. Unfortunately there are real-life situations where this might come up - a pregnant person hemorrhaging during a miscarriage, or experiencing infection due to preterm ruptured membranes to name a few. In these situations, abortion care can be life-saving.

Please pass HCR 5 and HR 5.

Mahalo

Reni Soon, MD, MPH, FACOG

LATE

HR-5

Submitted on: 3/24/2026 4:46:07 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/25/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Doris Segal Matsunaga	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a retired healthcare professional and grandmother living in Waimea on Hawaii Island, I strongly support these resolutions

LATE

HR-5

Submitted on: 3/24/2026 5:42:45 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/25/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dara Yatsushiro	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Absolutely not! Standing in STRONG OPPOSITION.

So this "life-saving abortion" (now THERE'S an oxymoron) could possibly take place *without the patient's consent* because she'd presumably and potentially be *unconscious*? I can see the lawsuits already.

Again, absolutely not and standing in STRONG OPPOSITION as should you all.

LATE

HR-5

Submitted on: 3/24/2026 10:33:13 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/25/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sara Harris	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in strong support of HCR6 and HR5.

As an OB-GYN physician in our community, I have cared for patients facing life-threatening emergencies, including hemorrhage, ectopic pregnancy, and severe preeclampsia. In these situations, timely care—including abortion when medically necessary—is not elective; it is life-saving.

Federal law under EMTALA requires hospitals to provide stabilizing treatment. However, recent confusion at the federal level has led to dangerous delays in care in other states. These resolutions reaffirm Hawai‘i’s commitment to patient safety and help ensure that no pregnant patient is denied or delayed critical emergency treatment.

I strongly support maintaining clear, evidence-based standards of care in our state to protect the health and lives of our patients.

Mahalo for your time and for your continued commitment to the health of our communities.

Sincerely,

Sara C Harris MD