

SCR 158

**Measure
Title:**

**ESTABLISHING A LEGISLATIVE INTERIM
TASK FORCE TO IDENTIFY AND DEVELOP
A PRIMARY HEALTH CARE TRAINING
AND RECRUITING PLAN FOR RURAL AND
MEDICALLY UNDERSERVED AREAS OF
THE STATE.**

**Report
Title:**

**Legislative Interim Task Force; Rural
Health Care; Recruiting**

HMSA



An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

April 1, 2009

The Honorable David Ige, Chair
The Honorable Josh Green M.D., Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Health

Re: SCR 158 – Establishing a Legislative Interim Task Force to Identify and Develop a Primary Health Care Training and Recruiting Plan for Rural and Medically Underserved Areas of the State

Dear Chair Ige, Vice Chair Green and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Medical Service Association (HMSA) appreciates the opportunity to testify in support of SCR 158.

As you may know, the HMSA Foundation has supported the development of the University of Hawaii's family medicine training program in Hilo through a three year grant of \$535,000 beginning in 2007. We believe that programs such as these enhance physician recruitment for Neighbor Island practices by exposing students to Neighbor Island life, culture and communities. Studies have shown that oftentimes individuals remain to practice medicine in the area where they have completed their residency training.

We believe that creating a Task Force to examine the issues surrounding recruitment for rural and underserved areas of the state will assist in understanding the myriad problems that rural areas across the nation are facing in trying to recruit and retain physicians.

We are very interested in participating on the Task Force and would respectfully request amending the language in the resolution to include HMSA as a member. HMSA has been working with other stakeholders on this issue for many years and could be able to offer valuable insight on the experiences we have had, including successes and failures. We believe that participating in the Task Force fits in with our own efforts to improve access to health care across the state.

Language to accomplish this would be inserted on page 3, line 32 to read:

A representative from a mutual benefit society in the state; and

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Diesman
Assistant Vice President, Government Relations



Wednesday, April 1, 2009, 2:45 pm, CR 016

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Josh Green, M.D., Vice Chair

From: Hawaii Medical Association
Gary A. Okamoto, MD, President
Philip Hellreich, MD, Legislative Co-Chair
Linda Rasmussen, MD, Legislative Co-Chair
April Donahue, Executive Director
Richard C. Botti, Government Affairs
Lauren Zirbel, Government Affairs

RE: SCR158 ESTABLISHING A LEGISLATIVE INTERIM TASK FORCE TO IDENTIFY AND DEVELOP A PRIMARY HEALTH CARE TRAINING AND RECRUITING PLAN FOR RURAL AND MEDICALLY UNDERSERVED AREAS OF THE STATE. (Legislative Interim Task Force; Rural Health Care; Recruiting)

Chairs and Committee Members:

Hawaii Medical Association strongly believes that the severe shortage of physicians in Hawaii, particularly in rural and underserved areas, requires a multi-tiered, collaborative approach to solutions.

It is crucial that representation from physicians, hospitals, and other providers of care be involved in this discussion. As such, if this measure is passed we respectfully request adding a requirement that representatives of the Hawaii Medical Association, the Hawaii Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists Hawaii Chapter, and the Hawaii Academy of Family Physicians be included in the membership of the task force.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

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UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Written Testimony Presented Before the Senate Committee on Health

April 1, 2009 at 2:45 pm

By
Virginia S. Hinshaw, Chancellor
and
Jerris Hedges, MD, MS, MMM
Dean and Professor, John A. Burns School of Medicine
Barry & Virginia Weinman Endowed Chair

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

SCR 158 – ESTABLISHING A LEGISLATIVE INTERIM TASK FORCE TO IDENTIFY AND DEVELOP A PRIMARY HEALTH CARE TRAINING AND RECRUITING PLAN FOR RURAL AND MEDICALLY UNDERSERVED AREAS OF THE STATE

Chair Ige, Vice Chair Green and members of the Committee:

We are in support of the intent of SCR 158, which is to enhance the physician workforce in the State of Hawai'i through greater post-graduate (residency) training on the Island of Hawai'i.

Because there is one existing, accredited rural-based family medicine residency based on Oahu, the optimal model for supplemental residency training on the Big Island remains to be determined. Determination of the optimal model will be dependent upon financial resources available and hospital training opportunities.

It is likely that annual support of the educational component of residency training on the Big Island will be needed. The funding stream for residency training in Hawai'i largely runs through the sponsoring hospital, although the curriculum, accreditation standards, and trainee supervision remain the responsibility of the John A. Burns School of Medicine. Hence, general fund financial support in the form of an annual stipend for related educational support should be directed to the Hilo Medical Center.

Guidance from the advisory committee should focus upon defining training needs for the region, hospital training opportunities, and resources available to support different residency models as viable and sustainable alternatives to the 6 resident per year (for 3 years) fully independent program.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this measure.



Hawai'i Primary Care Association

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To: **The Senate Committee on Health**
The Hon. David Y. Ige, Chair
The Hon. Josh Green, MD, Vice Chair

Testimony in Support of SCR 158
Establishing a Legislative Interim Task Force to Identify and
Develop a Primary Health Care Training and Recruiting Plan for Rural
And Medically Underserved Areas of the State
Submitted by Beth Giesting, CEO
April 1, 2009, 2:45 p.m. agenda, Room 016

The Hawaii Primary Care Association supports this resolution and will be happy to serve on the proposed task force. We believe that it would benefit the group's processes and recommendations to add a representative of Bay Clinic, Inc., the federally qualified health center that serves the Hilo area, to the task force.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this measure.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 29, 2009 10:04 AM
To: HTHTestimony
Cc: dand@punahealth.org
Subject: Testimony for SCR158 on 4/1/2009 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for HTH 4/1/2009 2:45:00 PM SCR158

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Dan Domizio PA/MPH
Organization: Puna Community Medical Center
Address: 15-2662 Pahoia Village Rd, Ste 306 Pahoia, HI
Phone: 808-930-6001
E-mail: dand@punahealth.org
Submitted on: 3/29/2009

Comments:

Senate Committee on Health
Senator David Ige, Chair
Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair
Honorable committee members:

Thank for this opportunity to express STRONG SUPPORT of this legislation which will, if enacted, creat a definitive path for Hawaii to lift itself out of its perpetual "provider shortage crisis."

A committee of professionals in health and education, and of consumers should be able to envision and design a proactive program of training and education to ensure a steady stream of providers of care at all levels. PCMC supports this, would be able to afford a training site, and would happily participate in such a committee.

Thank you.
Dan Domizio PA/MPH
Clinical Programs Director.