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Friday, March 1, 2013 – 9:00 am
Conference Room 329

The House Committee on Health

To: Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair
Representative Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

From: Virginia Pressler, MD, MBA

Re: **HCR 20 Urging The Formation Of A Work Group To Develop Nutrition Guidelines For Government Agencies**
Testimony in Strong Support

My name is Virginia Pressler, MD, MBA, Executive Vice President and Chief Strategic Officer for Hawai'i Pacific Health (HPH). HPH is a nonprofit health care system and the state's largest health care provider anchored by its four nonprofit hospitals: Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children, Pali Momi Medical Center, Straub Clinic & Hospital and Wilcox Memorial Hospital on Kauai. HPH is committed to providing the highest quality medical care and service to the people of Hawai'i and the Pacific Region through its four affiliated hospitals, 49 outpatient clinics and service sites, more than 5,400 employees and 1,300 physicians on staff,

I am writing in strong support of HCR 20, which urges the formation of a work group to develop nutrition guidelines for government agencies. The purpose of this resolution is to encourage interagency dialogue and action to coordinate and align state procurement policies to prevent childhood obesity.

Obesity is a major health and economic concern for Hawaii and the nation, causing higher medical costs and lower quality of life. In Hawaii adult obesity has more than doubled between 1995 and 2009 and childhood obesity has increased by 38% in the ten years between 1999 and 2009. The development and adoption of nutritional guidelines to prevent obesity in government-run facilities and functions would help to create work environments that support a healthy and productive workforce which is important to Hawaii's economy, and at the same time demonstrates state leadership toward decreasing the incidences of obesity.

This measure thus provides a vital step toward lessening the problem of obesity and the resulting health problems. We ask that this Committee pass the measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.



morikawa2 - Shaun

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 21, 2013 12:27 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HCR20 on Mar 1, 2013 09:00AM*

HCR20

Submitted on: 2/21/2013

Testimony for HLT on Mar 1, 2013 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, 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.

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