

COMMUNITY
CLINIC
OF MAUI



Where Aloha is more than just a wordSM

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Homeless Resource Center
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Lahaina, HI 96761

**Senate Committee on Ways and
Means**

The Hon. Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
The Hon. Donovan M. Dela Cruz,
Vice-Chair

Testimony in Opposition of HB2466 HD1 SD1
Relating to Non-General Funds
Submitted by Dana Alonzo-Howeth Chief Executive Officer
March 23, 2016 9:15 a.m. Room 211

My name is Dana Alonzo-Howeth, and I am the Chief Executive Officer of Community Clinic of Maui, Inc., now doing business as Mālama I Ke Ola Health Center. We are one of two Federally Qualified Health Centers on the island of Maui and serve the entire of island of Maui with the exception of the Hana and Haiku areas which are served by the Hana Community Health Center.

On behalf of our Health Center and those we serve, we strongly support House Bill 2466 HD SD1, which requires the Department of Budget and Finance to conduct a study on the distribution of the cigarette tax revenues. Hawaii Revised Statutes § 245-15 was passed as a tax charged to wholesalers and dealers with the of discouraging smoking and allocating resulting funds to effectives sources in the prevention and treatment of disease and injury. Among those places deemed as an effective source was community health centers, which has contracted with the Department of Health to provide comprehensive primary care services to uninsured/underinsured individuals across the state.

The CHC Special fund represents several hundred thousand dollars that our Health Center is able to use to serve those who have nowhere else to go for primary care, dental care and all other associated support services such as nutrition, case management, care coordination, etc...

I strongly urge you to support HB2466 HD1 SD1.

Thank you.