



STATE OF HAWAII
STATE COUNCIL
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
919 ALA MOANA BOULEVARD, ROOM 113
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543
March 1, 2017

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
House Committee on Finance
Twenty-Ninth Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Representative Luke and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: HB 1299 HD1 – Relating to Health

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD) **appreciates the intent of HB 1299 HD1, however, does not feel the passage of the bill is necessary.** The bill authorizes a pharmacy to provide a customized patient medication package to any patient of an institutional facility or any member of the general public, subject to certain conditions.

Last year similar measures (HB 1757 and SB 2390 – Relating to Health) were heard about customized patient medication packaging. With the support of Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair of the Senate Committee on Consumer Protection and Health, the Council worked closely with Peter Oshiro, Department of Health Environmental Health Program Manager (Sanitation/Food and Drug) to assure such packaging was possible without further legislation. We learned that the driver of the measures was a pharmacist-owner who wanted to amend Hawaii Revised Statutes, Chapter 328, Section 328-15 (7) and 328-16 (a) to explicitly allow for a pharmacy to package and dispense medication for a patient that contains one or more different drugs prescribed by the patient's doctor.

Although it was with all good intentions to benefit the consumer, based on information from DOH, and their willingness to disseminate a Memo clarifying the interpretation of the Chapters mentioned above, the Council felt that there was no further need to advocate for enabling legislation. DOH created an Informational Notice dated March 17, 2016, that clarified the practice of customizing patient medication packaging.

The Council was able to share the Informational Notice with individuals who wanted their medication in customized packaging. We found Aiea Medical Center, Tamura's Pharmacy at Waianae, and Times Supermarket Pharmacies were able to offer such customized patient medication packaging.

The Honorable Sylvia Luke
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March 1, 2017

Based on the Informational Notice from the Department of Health, and the fact some pharmacies are able and willing to provide such customized patient medication packaging, we do not feel further legislation is needed.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony supporting the intent of HB 1299 HD1.

Sincerely,



Waynette K.Y. Cabral, MSW
Executive Administrator



Josephine C. Woll
Chair



An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

March 1, 2017

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
The Honorable Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair
House Committee on Finance

Re: HB 1299, HD1 – Relating to Health

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Medical Service Association (HMSA) appreciates the opportunity to testify on HB 1299, HD1, which would authorize pharmacists to provide a customized patient medication package (“package”) the institutionalized patient or member of the general public. HMSA has concerns with this Bill.

HMSA’s goal in the provision of pharmacy services is to ensure our members have access to affordable, high quality medication. We believe that optimal drug therapy results in positive medical outcomes, which helps to manage overall health care costs. To that end, HMSA appreciates the intent of HB 1299, HD1 - to help our members with their medication compliance.

The safety of our members is paramount. Processes must be in place to ensure the quality and safety of the pharmacy packaging process in order to decrease the potential of errors and unintended adverse events affecting our members. The process of packaging the medications also meets the highest standards. Customized patient medication packages must meet the U.S. Pharmacopeia standards and National Formulary standards.

Ensuring a sufficiently designed and staff process will involve an investment, and this will impact the cost of healthcare. Given that, we would want to ensure that this measure does not contemplate a mandate for customized patient medication packaging.

Thank you for allowing us to testify on HB 1299, HD1. Your consideration of our concerns is appreciated

Sincerely,

Mark K. Oto
Director, Government Relations

From: Elsa Talavera <elsa@allisland-cmc.com>
Sent: Monday, February 27, 2017 9:49 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: HB 1299

I am in support for HB 1299. Strip packaging for any setting will greatly improve patient safety and patient dosing. Strip packaging solution makes sure the medication will be taken at the right time and right dosage. This helps increase adherence and hopefully reduces hospital re-admission. It will also simplify medication organizations for both patient and caregivers. With the technology that 5 Minute Pharmacy already have, it surely will assist the caregivers in delivering safe medication.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

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DATE: February 28, 2017

TO: Representative Sylvia Luke
Chair, Committee on Finance
Submitted Via Capitol Website

RE: **H.B. 1299, H.D.1 – Relating to Health**
Hearing Date: Wednesday, March 1, 2017 at 1:00 p.m.
Conference Room: 308

Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance:

We submit this testimony on behalf of Walgreen Co. (“Walgreens”). Walgreens operates stores at more than 8,200 locations in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. In Hawaii, Walgreens now has 20 stores on the islands of Oahu, Maui, and Hawaii.

Walgreens **supports the intent** of HB 1299, H.D.1 which authorizes a pharmacy to provide a customized patient medication package to any patient of an institutional facility or any member of the general public under certain conditions.

Walgreens utilizes customized medication packaging in its specialty pharmacy setting in working with higher needs patients. Walgreens believes that allowing pharmacists with the ability to provide customized packaging to patients provides a convenience that will ultimately help patients with adherence to their medication.

We would note that we believe that the existing law already permits for the use of customized medication packaging in Hawaii. In addition, if the Committee moves this bill, there are technical amendments needed to ensure that the bill comports with existing language in HRS Chapters 328 and 461. We are happy to provide any information that would assist the Committee in this regard.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

Gary M. Slovin
Mihoko E. Ito
R. Brian Tsujimura
C. Mike Kido
Tiffany N. Yajima
Matthew W. Tsujimura

February 27, 2017
Support for HB1299

Dear Members of the Committee,

My name is Joo Kim and I would like to testify my support for HB1299. As a member of the pharmacy community and liaison to our consumers, I work with many caregivers and case managers. I see a majority of our patients, especially elderly, on multiple medications. The confusion of knowing what to take and when to take it greatly impacts their ability to be compliant. We have already seen a multitude of our patients benefit from our existing customized patient medication package. This not only eases the burden on multiple medications for them but also their caregivers and families. This method of medication administration has been proven to save stakeholders involved money and also reduce large hospitalization costs. There are other types of packaging available, such as blister packs, however there is still confusion in the community about customized medication packaging. There needs to be something written into statute that clearly defines this.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Joo Kim, CPhT

February 28, 2017
Support for HB1299

Dear Members of the Committee,

My name is Derek Tengan and I am a pharmacist and small business owner here in Honolulu, Hawaii. I would like to testify my support for HB1299. As a business owner, I witness first-hand on a daily basis the positive impacts that customized patient medication packages have on our patients and our community. Assisting not only patients, but their caregivers and families with medication administration proves to improve patients' adherence and therefore overall well-being. In addition, it has proven to save insurances providers sums of money due to less hospital readmissions and better adherence to medication. Customized medication packages are no cost to patients or insurance providers, yet save both parties money in the long term.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Derek Tengan, PharmD

February 27, 2017
Support for HB1299

Dear Members of the Committee,

My name is Keri Oyadomari and I am a community pharmacist here in Honolulu, Hawaii. I would like to testify my support for HB1299. As a community pharmacist, I see a majority of our elderly patients on multiple medications. The confusion of knowing what to take and when to take it greatly impacts their ability to be compliant. We have already seen a multitude of our patients benefit from our existing customized patient medication package. This not only eases the burden on multiple medications for them but also their caregivers and families. This method of medication administration has been proven to save stakeholders involved money and also reduce large hospitalization costs. There is no law saying it is illegal, however it poses confusion with our community when there is no written law in place stating it is acceptable.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Keri Oyadomari, PharmD

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 27, 2017 8:20 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: rontthi@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1299 on Mar 1, 2017 13:00PM*

HB1299

Submitted on: 2/27/2017

Testimony for FIN on Mar 1, 2017 13:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ronald Taniguchi, Pharm.D.	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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 Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 11:08 PM
 To: FINTestimony
 Cc: cariagacora@yahoo.com
 Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1299 on Mar 1, 2017 13:00PM

HB1299

Submitted on: 2/28/2017

Testimony for FIN on Mar 1, 2017 13:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Grace Andres	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Thank you for allowing me testify

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
 Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 11:05 PM
 To: FINTestimony
 Cc: emerald68reva@aol.com
 Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1299 on Mar 1, 2017 13:00PM

HB1299

Submitted on: 2/28/2017

Testimony for FIN on Mar 1, 2017 13:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ruthie Agbayani	United Caregivers of Hawaii	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Honorable Chairman and Legislative Members of the Finance Committee. My name is Ruthie Agbayani; my family and I are Community Care Foster Family Providers since 1998, and I am currently the Vice President of the United Caregivers of Hawaii, representing home and community based program providers and caregivers in similar settings statewide. On behalf of our clients, caregivers, families, communities, and the health care professionals we work with, we SUPPORT this measure pertaining to customized patient medication packaging. It is not only convenient, but it also helps reduce medication errors, and increase higher probability of medication compliance. However, this service should be an option and not mandatory. Thus, pharmacies are encouraged to offer this service, and obtain consent from the patient, caregiver, guardian, or prescribing doctor. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

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HB1299

Submitted on: 2/28/2017

Testimony for FIN on Mar 1, 2017 13:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Benita Riingen	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Thank you for allowing me to testify.

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HB1299

Submitted on: 2/28/2017

Testimony for FIN on Mar 1, 2017 13:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Maria Corazon E. Cariaga	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I'm in support of this HB1299 because I know it would enhance the ability and security of any caregivers in acquiring the availability of the medications for each patients. To prevent errors in delivering the availability of medications to patients. Thank you for allowing me to testify.

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