



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB2280 HD2
RELATING TO HEALTH**

REPRESENTATIVE SYLVIA LUKE, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Hearing Date and Time: Friday, February 23, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. Room Number: 308

1 **Fiscal Implications:** Undetermined at this time.

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health (DOH) supports this measure.

3 The Department of Health (DOH) places high priority on security at the Hawaii
4 State Hospital (HSH) and appreciates that this bill attempts to provide resources for the
5 various components of HSH Security Action Plan. We support the intent of this bill and
6 defer to the Governor's Supplemental Budget request regarding appropriations.

7 The original intent of this bill was to appropriate funds to the DOH to implement
8 the outstanding recommendations of the HSH security corrective action plan.
9 Specifically, this bill (1) appropriates funds for the purchase of electronic ankle
10 monitoring bracelets and additional metal detector hand wands; (2) appropriate funds
11 for the purchase and installation of additional lighting and closed circuit television
12 cameras; and (3) authorizes the issuance of general obligation bonds to fund capital
13 improvement projects at the HSH campus to improve hospital security.

1 The DOH appreciates the generosity of the legislature in prioritizing the need for
2 appropriations for security enhancements at the HSH. As amended, HB2280 HD2
3 recognizes actions taken by the DOH to address safety and security enhancements at
4 the HSH including the erection of fences, the installation of security screens on
5 windows, the rewiring of the fire alarms system, retraining staff, and modifying census
6 procedures. Enhancements underway include additional fencing and the introduction of
7 Global Positioning System (GPS) ankle bracelets. Other enhancements are in the
8 planning stages including relocating the guard shack and upgrading the closed circuit
9 television monitoring system.

10 The DOH has secured funding via current fiscal year resources, released funding
11 restrictions, and through appropriations in the Governor's Supplemental Budget request

12 Section 8 of this bill requires the DOH to submit a report to the legislature that
13 includes (1) An update of the department's progress in implementing the security
14 corrective action plan; (2) The number of elopements, if any, during the previous year;
15 and (3) Any other findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation.

16 The DOH supports this requirement and asks for the committee's support for this
17 information to be included in the existing HSH Report to the Legislature which is
18 submitted annually in accordance with Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) §334-16. This
19 report summarizes annual data on forensic patients served by the HSH.

20 We thank the committee for considering our testimony and appreciate the
21 committee's support on this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

HB-2280-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/22/2018 10:46:52 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/23/2018 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	OCC Legislative Priorities Committee, Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

HB-2280-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/23/2018 5:38:05 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/23/2018 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Frances	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: