



HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

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The Twenty-Fifth Legislature, State of Hawaii
Hawaii State House of Representatives
Committee on Health

LATE

Testimony by
Hawaii Government Employees Association
February 6, 2009

H.B. 693 – RELATING TO
HEALTH CARE SERVICES

The Hawaii Government Employees Association opposes the purpose and intent of H.B. 693. The bill proposes to allow the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation to substantially reduce or eliminate direct patient care services without notifying the legislature or requiring their approval.

We believe such safeguards are necessary to preserve the safety net for neighbor island residents who are so dependent upon HHSC hospitals. If the HHSC wants to make adjustments in the level and types of services offered, the HGEA is willing to participate in these discussions along with legislators whose constituents would be affected by such changes.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our opposition to H.B. 693.

Respectfully submitted,

Nora A. Nomura
Deputy Executive Director

