

SB2539

Measure Title: RELATING TO THE SPECIAL ACTION TEAM FOR THE HAWAII STATE HOSPITAL.

Report Title: Special Action Team for the Hawaii State Hospital (\$)

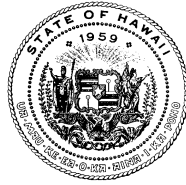
Description: Establishes a temporary special action team for the Hawaii state hospital to address the capacity and census issues at the hospital and the development there of a new forensic facility ready for occupancy by June 30, 2019. Appropriates \$50,000 in general funds for the team.

Companion:

Package: None

Current Referral: CPH, WAM

Introducer(s): TOKUDA, BAKER, DELA CRUZ, INOUYE, Gabbard



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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Testimony SUPPORTING SB2539
Relating to the Special Action Team for the Hawaii State Hospital

SENATOR ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH
Hearing Date: February 4, 2016, 9:00 a.m. Room Number: 229

- 1 **Fiscal Implications:** Undetermined at this time.
- 2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health (DOH) supports this measure. We thank
3 the Legislature for its continued support and in particular the intent of the initiatives in the bills
4 on today's committee agenda. Only through a combination of financing support, building a new
5 facility, support in rebuilding community programs, and fundamental policy changes will Hawaii
6 be able to effectively address the needs of its citizens, the operation of the Hawaii State Hospital
7 (HSH), and be able to provide an effective continuum of mental health supports. Separately, we
8 will be addressing measures the Governor and others have introduced regarding policy and
9 staffing challenges. Clearly, all three branches of government play a critical role in making this
10 system function effectively.

11 The purpose of the measure is to create a temporary special action team for HSH to
12 address capacity and census issues and to develop the new forensic facility which is projected to
13 be ready for occupancy by June 30, 2019. This measure appropriates \$50,000.00 in general
14 funds for this team. The creation of this HSH Special Action Team, as proposed, will convene
15 key stakeholders involved in the development of the new secure building for high risk patients to

1 be built at the HSH. The group will assist and advise, and may support exempting the project
2 from certain permits and approvals which are unnecessary for completion of the project.

3 The prospect of decreasing the burden of bureaucratic “red tape”, and speeding up the
4 time table for the project, is encouraging and the DOH welcomes this effort.

5 The Director of Health is currently chairing a work group on this project, which includes
6 the Departments of Accounting and General Services, Health, Human Services, and Land and
7 Natural Resources. Further discussion may be helpful to clarify the additional benefits of the
8 special action team as proposed.

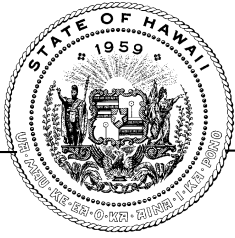
9 Regular reporting, a feature of this bill, may alternatively be accomplished through a
10 resolution as well.

11 Additional discussion of the authority of the special action team, and clarity as to the
12 applicability of open meeting laws to this body, may strengthen the proposal.

13 Historically, the Senate Concurrent Resolution of 2007, known as the SCR-117 Task
14 Force, and the Governor’s Special Action Team on the Hawaii State Hospital Census of 2012,
15 encountered some challenges in the full implementation of the recommended actions from those
16 bodies.

17 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

18 **Offered Amendments:** None.



OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY CONTROL

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

SCOTT GLENN
INTERIM DIRECTOR

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Testimony of
SCOTT GLENN
Interim Director

before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH
Thursday, February 04, 2016
9:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

in SUPPORT of
SENATE BILL 2539
RELATING TO THE SPECIAL ACTION TEAM FOR THE HAWAII STATE HOSPITAL

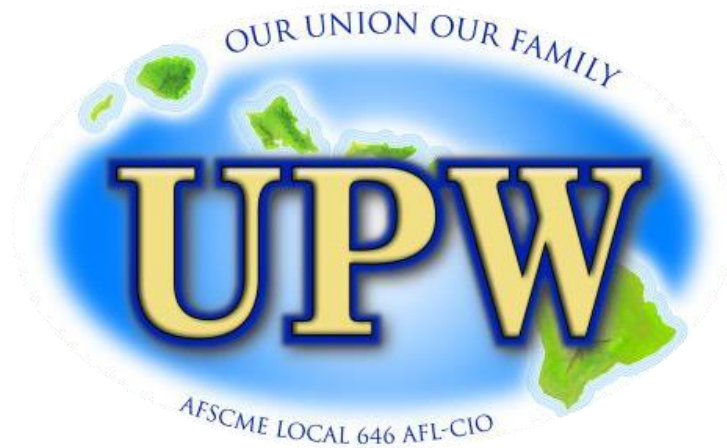
Chair Baker, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Office of Environmental Quality Control (OEQC) administers Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) Chapter 343, Environmental Impact Statements (EIS). The purpose of the EIS law is to “establish a system of environmental review which ensures that environmental concerns are given appropriate consideration in decision making along with economic and technical considerations” (HRS §343-1). Additionally, the OEQC serves “the Governor in an advisory capacity on all matters relating to environmental quality control,” as directed in HRS §341-3.

SB 2539 proposes to establish a temporary special action team for the Hawaii state hospital to address the capacity and census issues at the hospital and the development there of a new forensic facility ready for occupancy by June 30, 2019, and to appropriate \$50,000 in general funds for the team.

The OEQC supports SB 2539 and would work with the special action team in its effort to develop the new forensic facility.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



The Hawaii State Senate
The Twenty-Eighth Legislature
Regular Session of 2016

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER
PROTECTION AND HEALTH (CPH)
The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker Chair
The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

DATE OF HEARING: Thursday, February 4, 2016
TIME OF HEARING: 9:00 a.m.
PLACE OF HEARING: Conference Room 229

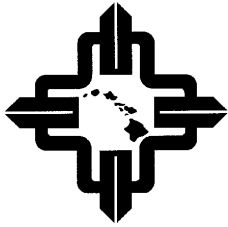
**TESTIMONY ON SB2539 RELATING TO SPECIAL
ACTION TEAM FOR THE HAWAII STATE HOSPITAL**

By Dayton M. Nakanelua,
State Director of the United Public Workers,
AFSCME, Local 646, AFL-CIO

My name is Dayton M. Nakanelua, state director of the United Public Workers, AFSCME, Local 646, and AFL-CIO (UPW). The UPW is the exclusive representative for approximately 11,000 public employees, which include blue collar, non-supervisory employees in Bargaining Unit 01 and institutional, health and correctional employees in Bargaining Unit 10, in the State of Hawaii and various counties.

The UPW supports SB2539 for a temporary special action team to develop a new forensic facility for the Hawaii State Hospital.

Thank you for then opportunity to submit this testimony.



HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS
C O R P O R A T I O N

"Quality Healthcare For All"

Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

February 4, 2016
Conference Room 229
9:00 a.m.
Hawaii State Capitol

Testimony Supporting Intent of Senate Bill 2539 – Relating to the Special Action Team for the Hawaii State Hospital

Linda Rosen, M.D., M.P.H.
Chief Executive Officer
Hawaii Health Systems Corporation

The Hawaii Health Systems Corporation **supports** SB2539 to establish a Special Action Team related to the Department of Health's forensic mental health services. The Special Action team will work to address current capacity and census issues at the Hawaii State Hospital and to expedite the completion of new forensic facility. With this measure, the Senate shows its commitment to address the pressing needs that exist for patients and workers in the forensic mental health system today. It is an honor to be named to participate, and HHSC will give its full effort to this important endeavor.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.