



Hawai'i Primary Care Association

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House Committee on Health

The Hon. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair

The Hon. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair

Testimony in Support of House Bill 1366

Relating to Health Care

Submitted by **Beth Giesting, Chief Executive Officer**

February 9, 2010 9:30 a.m. Agenda, Room 329

The Hawai'i Primary Care Association asks for your support for this measure, which would establish a patient-centered medical home pilot for the QUEST-Expanded program. We support this bill for two reasons:

- 1) QExA's implementation over the past year has been uneven and disappointing. While serving our most vulnerable people with the most complicated health needs, it has offered generally poor communication and management between plans and patients and their providers. In addition, the QExA plans' record for timely and accurate reimbursement to providers has been very inconsistent.
- 2) The patient-centered medical home (PCMH) model deserves to be demonstrated here in Hawai'i. In other states where the PCMH model has been used with the Medicaid patients with complicated health care needs, it has proven to save tens of millions of dollars due to timely primary care, excellent case management, and reduced duplication. We are confident that Wai'anae Coast Comprehensive Health Center and Waimanalo Health Center are excellent choices for such a pilot both because of their capabilities with the PCMH and because of the needs of their communities.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this measure.