



Hawai'i Primary Care Association

345 Queen Street | Suite 601 | Honolulu, HI 96813-4718 | Tel: 808.536.8442 | Fax: 808.524.0347
www.hawaiipca.net

Senate Committee on Commerce & Consumer Protection

The Hon. Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair

The Hon. Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Health

The Hon. Josh Green, MD, Chair

The Hon. Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair

Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 1506 RELATING TO HEALTH

Submitted by Beth Giesting, Chief Executive Officer

February 10, 2011 8:30 a.m. Agenda, Room 229

The Hawai'i Primary Care Association asks for your support for this measure, which would require that health insurance pay for activities related to reducing childhood obesity. The rapidly increasing rate of obesity among children and youth in Hawai'i is of grave concern for the mental and physical health concerns visited upon young people now, and for the future health problems and costs we will face if we do nothing about it. Given the grievous affects on health of childhood obesity, we believe it is as important to cover intervention activities as it is to pay for the medical care required to address obesity-related health problems. We also believe that legislating this now helps move us toward a patient-centered care model that supports health rather than concentrates all resources on problems we failed to prevent.

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