



## **Hawai'i Primary Care Association**

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### **Senate Committee on Health**

The Hon. Josh Green, MD, Chair

The Hon. Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair

### **Senate Committee on Economic Development & Technology**

The Hon. Carol Fukunaga, Chair

The Hon. Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

## **Testimony in Support of S. B. 22 RELATING TO HAWAII HEALTH CORPS & S.B. 791**

### **RELATING TO HEALTH**

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

**February 9, 2011 2:45 p.m. Agenda, Room 229**

The Hawai'i Primary Care Association asks for your support for this measure, which would address the shortage of primary care physicians and dentists in Health Professional Shortage Areas, which are largely in rural Hawai'i. We believe that both the state-based loan repayment program and the recruitment program will provide much-needed incentives to help primary care clinicians choose to practice where they are most needed, including neighbor islands and other rural areas. We appreciate this bill's emphasis on prioritizing applicants with educational and life experience in Hawai'i we have too often seen promising clinicians with no local ties leave Hawai'i when they're loans have been repaid. Our communities and our home-grown clinicians deserve the opportunity provided by this bill.

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