



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Health & Human Services  
Friday, February 9, 2018 at 8:30 a.m.

By

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And

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### HB 2546 – MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR AN OUTPATIENT CENTER

Chair Mizuno, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 2546 which makes an appropriation for the financing of construction of a family medicine outpatient center adjacent to the Pali Momi Medical Center. Through a public-private partnership, the goal of the project is to build a new accredited Family Medicine Ambulatory Practice and team-based training site to create a pipeline of primary care physicians for Hawai'i.

At the University of Hawai'i John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM), we strive to teach and train high-quality physicians, biomedical scientists, and allied health workers for Hawai'i and the Pacific by providing an opportunity for a medical education previously unavailable to residents of Hawai'i and other Pacific nations. The family medicine outpatient clinic is an integral part of the network of training sites for JABSOM's Family Medicine Residency Program. Our mission is to train the next generation of primary care doctors in Hawai'i for Hawai'i. At JABSOM we know that over 80% of students who receive their medical education and complete their residency in Hawai'i stay in Hawai'i. Many of our graduates who have trained in rural communities and on the neighbor islands have remained in those areas to practice.

The family medicine clinic will be developed along the lines of the transformed primary care model including the integration of behavioral health, diabetes education, pharmacy practice, and social work at a single site. This provides patients with enhanced access to healthcare services. Obtaining access to appropriate primary care services has become increasingly difficult in Hawai'i. Situating the clinic near Pali Momi creates a major ambulatory patient care center and training site for future primary care physicians in a location of need. Being located in the Aiea/Pearl City area, the facility will serve patients from Central and West O'ahu. With Pali Momi Medical Center less than one block away, the clinic is in an ideal location for immediate access to acute care as well as clinical care. Additionally, co-locating with the UH JABSOM OB/GYN department clinical practice site allows for comprehensive care of women, infants and families under

one roof. It also creates the foundation for expanding the number of residency training positions available in Hawai'i so that graduating JABSOM students will have the opportunity to train and practice in Hawai'i.

We respectfully request that the bill be amended so that the funding will go to the University Clinical, Education and Research Associates (UCERA) dba University Health Partners of Hawai'i (UHP), which is JABSOM's faculty practice plan. UCERA dba UHP will oversee the project. We also request to delete any reference to Hawai'i Pacific Health. The proposed amendment is attached for the committee's reference.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

HB 2546  
PROPOSED AMENDMENT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR AN OUTPATIENT CENTER.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

SECTION 1. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,000,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 to the department of health; provided that the funds shall be used to assist ~~[Hawaii Pacific Health]~~ University Clinical, Education and Research Associates (UCERA) dba University Health Partners of Hawai'i (UHP), the Faculty Practice Plan of the University of Hawaii, John A. Burns School of Medicine, in the financing of construction of a family medicine office practice and team-based training site adjacent to the Pali Momi outpatient center which will serve as the Family Medicine Office Practice for the John A. Burns School of Medicine Family Medicine Residency Program.

The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of health in coordination with the University Clinical, Education and Research Associates (UCERA) dba University Health Partners of Hawai'i (UHP) for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 2. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2018.