Fee Increase for UH Hilo SMS

Gregory Zukeran <gregoryz@hawaii.edu>  To: BOR Testimony <bor.testimony@hawaii.edu>  Mon, Mar 2, 2020 at 9:34 AM

Aloha,

Attached is my letter of support for an increased fee for UH Hilo Student Medical Services Center.

Thank you,
Greg

[Quoted text hidden]
To whom this may concern,

My name is Gregory Zukeran and I am currently a nursing student here at the University of Hawaii at Hilo. I am writing to you in support of the fee increase that is proposed by the Student Medical Services center. To my knowledge, it is currently at $7 per person, per semester. With the types of services and products that are readily available, the fee that is charged to each student ($7), it is hardly sufficient enough to maintain these services. Increasing the fee for Student Medical Services would give them the opportunity to provide these services without the worry of running out of resources for the students. It would also give them the opportunity to increase staff so there is no worry for being short-staffed. I would hope that you take this into consideration when making a decision about the fee increase. Your time is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Gregory Zukeran
To Whom It May Concern,

As a student of the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo, I have used the Student Medical Services regularly. The clinic has been my only source of family planning services for the past four years. I support a fee increase to continue providing students like myself with crucial medical services at a convenient location on-campus.

Mahalo nui loa for your services,

Taliesin Sumner-Longboy, Family Support Case Worker II
120 Pauahi St. Suite 210
Hilo, HI 96720
(808) 238-3358 (office)
(808) 430-5407 (cell)
(808) 934-9553 (fax)
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Letter of Support for Fee Increase - University of Hawaii at Hilo Student Medical Services

Helen Tak <helentak@hawaii.edu>
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Mon, Mar 2, 2020 at 1:03 PM

Please see attached.

Yours truly,
Helen Tak
Administrative Fiscal Specialist
University of Hawai'i at Hilo
Student Medical Services
Cell: 808-936-3590
Office: 808-932-7806
Fax: 808-932-7368
Email: helentak@hawaii.edu

Letter of Support Fee increase 2020 March.docx

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To whom it may concern,

Letter of Support for fee increase for the University of Hawaii at Hilo Student Medical Services

I am writing in support of University of Hawaii at Hilo Student Medical Services for increasing the student fee. This fee increase is overdue in my opinion because this clinic services the entire college population from UHH and the sister college as well. I have witnessed many times over how this clinic helps the students, staff and public community. They are shorthanded in professional staff and cannot offer any benefits and there is no coverage for the provider because of the lack of funds. The clinic relies on grants that can really only provide a certain type of care such as family planning services. This clinic needs full time staff to ensure proper and effective care for the patients. The provider does everything and they rely on the part time students to run this clinic that should in my opinion be operating at a lower level because of the lack of funding however it does not stop them from providing the individualized care. Student Medical Services is a great place to learn. This clinic also allows volunteer/shadowing with Hawaii Community College Nursing students, UH-Hilo Nursing students, Bridge to hope students, Pharmacy and Doctorate of Nursing Program students and this clinic has benefited them greatly. Please allow this fee increase so that Student Medical Services will be able to hire a nurse and provide the professional staff with benefits which will help keep this clinic running at its best to provide the ultimate services for the college community.

Sincerely,

Helen Tak

808-936-3590
To whom it may concern,

My name is Lovely Paz and I am a UH Hilo BSN student. I am writing this letter to give my support to increase the fee for student medical services. I am currently doing my clinical hours at the clinic and during my time here I see how this clinic is valuable to the student population as well as to the community. The clinic provides services and resources that are beneficial to the populations (students and community) health care. I hope this letter of support to be considered.

Thank you,
Lovely Paz, BSN student
Aloha Board Members:

I am a nurse practitioner who has volunteered in the UH Hilo Student Medical Services Clinic. I have observed first-hand the shortage of resources available in the clinic. I have several points to make and for brevity and clarity will list them as follows:

1. The clinic has been unable to afford an electronic health record (EHR) which is the standard of care. This should actually have been in effect prior to the 2014 EHR mandate.

2. The clinic is grossly understaffed with only one APRN. The number of students seen on a daily basis warrants the addition of another provider in this busy clinic. As there is only one APRN, when that provider is not available, there is no one qualified to treat patients in the clinic.

3. Because of budget restraints, there is no RN employed in the clinic. The role of the RN in a health clinic includes triage, medication review, coordination of care, preventive education, and managing other staff.

4. Because there is no RN employed in the clinic the APRN is also responsible for the duties which could be handled by an RN. These include training, scheduling and monitoring of temporary student workers who are employed by the clinic while attending UH Hilo.

5. As Hilo is the most ethnically diverse campus in the United States, many of our students are unable to access health care off campus and depend on our services. At the current time, the APRN has been able to secure grants to cover some medication for our students who have no insurance or whose insurance will not cover them here. These grants of course are not guaranteed and many of our students need financial assistance in order to afford medication.

It is my understanding that a fee increase is under consideration at this time. I respectfully request this be approved.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of any further assistance. Thank you for your time,

Joyce Norris-Taylor, DNP, FNP-C, APRN-RX
Assistant Professor of Nursing
DNP Coordinator
Office UCB 237
(808) 769-2225

Nurse’s prayer: Let me be patient, let me be kind, make me unselfish without being blind. I may have faith to make mountains fall, but if I lack LOVE then I am nothing at all.
Aloha Board of Regents Committee on Budget and Finance,

I have attached my testimony of support to this email. If you have any further questions please feel free to reach out to me.

Mahalo,
Allison Dupre

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Allison Dupre
BBA Healthcare Management | University of Hawaii at Hilo
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Email: dupre4@hawaii.edu
Pronouns: She Her Hers

RHFI Letter of Support Dupre.pdf
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March 2, 2020

Dear Board of Regents Committee on Budget and Finance,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Request for Health Fee Increase at the University of Hawaii at Hilo. I am originally from Alaska and moved to Hawaii in 2017 to attend UH Hilo. I am a junior majoring in Business Administration with a concentration in Healthcare Management. I currently hold a 3.78 GPA and have made the Dean’s List three times over the last two years.

I work in the Women’s Center on campus where I get to plan programs and events based on my special interest area of women’s health. Some of the health related programs I have put together in the past are The Breast Cancer Awareness Project and World Aids Day. Currently, I am putting together a really big event that will be about menstrual health called, #periodtalk. In this event, we will be discussing period poverty and sustainable options for menstruation. Through my work at the Women’s Center on campus, I hope that you can see that I am very passionate about health and how it affects those around us.

As a student at UH Hilo, I know of other students who have also been able to benefit from the great work of Student Medical Services. I have been able to get a numerous amount of services such as family planning services, fire ant treatment, and ear infection prescriptions. Since I have out of state insurance, it is very difficult to find a provider in the area. Eventually when I found a temporary one, I had to take the day off and drive almost two hours to get basic health services. While I was fortunate to have transportation, it is not the case for most students. The closest medical office to UH Hilo is Hilo Urgent Care but they charge astronomical prices for simple services that could be provided for low costs at the university. I believe that the increased health fee of $23 is a much cheaper solution than receiving care off campus and that it will increase the value of our student medical services. I am so grateful to have these resources available to me and I know that other students have greatly benefited from these provided services.

I look forward to what the proposed health fee increase could mean for students like me at UH Hilo. I strongly support this Health Fee Increase proposal and ask for your support as well.

Sincerely,

Allison Dupre