



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Health
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By
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**HCR 118/HR 73 – REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR AND THE LEGISLATURE OF
THE STATE OF HAWAII TO PROVIDE IMMEDIATE AND EMERGENT
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO WAHIAWĀ GENERAL HOSPITAL.**

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Creagan, and members of the Committee, thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of HCR 118/HR 73, which requests the governor and legislature to provide financial assistance to Wahiawā General Hospital.

Wahiawā General Hospital has served the people of Central O'ahu and the North Shore for over 70 years. For more than 20 years, the hospital has been an important partner of the John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) Family Medicine Residency Program. Wahiawā General Hospital is also the largest private employer in Wahiawā, providing jobs for hundreds of individuals.

Over the last several years, the hospital has suffered financially due in part to decreased reimbursement from the federal government and the opening of The Queen's Medical Center West. Wahiawā General Hospital needs critical support from the state at this time to keep its doors open. The closure of yet another hospital would result in serious consequences for the state.

We urge this committee to pass HCR 118/HR 73.