UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM
Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Health
Thursday, January 31, 2019 at 9:30 a.m.
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HB 578 Proposed HD1 – RELATING TO HEALTH

Chair Mizuno, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the House Committee on Health:

I am testifying on behalf of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and the College of Social Sciences **in strong support** of HB 578 Proposed HD1. This bill will help to better inform the All-Payer Claims Database (APCD) analysis of the Medicare population. The collection of the Medicare Advantage data will enable the APCD to analyze the complete Hawai'i Medicare population for cost, quality, and population health comparisons. Medicare Advantage enrollment for the State of Hawai'i is increasing, and Medicare Advantage now accounts for nearly half of Hawai'i Medicare enrollees.

In 2016, the legislature amended section 323D-18.5, Hawai'i Revised Statutes, in Act 139 (16) creating the Hawai'i APCD to compile health insurer enrollment and claims data. This act also designated the Pacific Health Informatics and Data Center (PHIDC) in the College of Social Sciences of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa as the data center "to receive the data and to conduct analysis to further transparency and understanding of health care and to provide information to consumers." Since that time, PHIDC has continued the collaboration with other members of the Hawai'i Health Data Center APCD Steering Committee in a multi-agency collaboration to bring the APCD to fruition.

The Hawai'i APCD intends to provide reports to inform greater transparency, as well as foster better decision making in health care purchasing and spending, service utilization, population health, and policymaking. The collection of Medicare Advantage data further supports the APCD's goals and statewide interests.

The University of Hawai'i through the PHIDC remains strongly committed to its role as a partner in data management, data analytics, and independent research on this critical initiative to produce and provide reliable data on health services, insured care costs, and public health.