

Health Care Task Force  
Summary of Public Testimony a/o 10/25/05

August 24

- Concern about make-up of task force due to conflicts of interest
- Task Force goal should be universal health care in Hawaii
- 4 Cs: Constitutionality, criteria, condition, capitation

September 8

- Concern about conflict of interest of several task force members
- Support for universal single payer system
- Support for Canada's single payer universal health system
- Support for Lewin group to do an unbiased audit/actuarial study of Hawaii's system
- Seek assistance from Physicians for National Health Plan
- Prepaid Health Care Act (PHCA) is unable to provide coverage for all Hawaii residents
- Establish a state Health Care Authority to establish health care for all Hawaii residents
- Amend Prepaid Health Care Act to assess employer payments on all compensation with a cap on total monthly payment
- Eliminate separate medical components of workers comp, auto insurance, homeowner's insurance, liability insurance
- Redundancy in insurance coverage through premiums paid for health care in various policies

September 20

- Consider coverage of complementary and alternative medicine as part of universal health insurance plan
- Practicing physicians concerned about rising health care costs that can be controlled by universal coverage
- National disasters underscore the vulnerability of separate health care systems
- Rising health care premiums are heavy burden on small business and not in best interest of consumers who are not receiving quality care
- Consult with Physicians for National Health Care on conceptual framework of single payer system
- Consult with Lewin Group for feasibility study and number crunching on single payer analysis
- Charge of the Task Force is to develop plan to implement health care for all Hawaii residents
- Single payer plan is only way to reduce barriers to health care

### October 12

- Provider and hospital reimbursements lag in Hawaii compared to rest of the country
- Single payer system will address administrative problems for providers
- Single payer system will eliminate administrative inefficiencies through information system networking
- Support for Lewin Group to conduct feasibility of single pay system for Hawaii
- Support for universal right to health care under a single payer system
- Support for single payer universal health care authority

### October 25

- Investigate the feasibility of single payer system for administering health care for all Hawaii residents
- Universal health care should include mandating integrative medicine
- Concern about using the EUTF benefit plan structure
- Creating a separate plan for uninsured won't work due to high deductibles and co-pays
- Increase reimbursement and risk pool size
- Universal single-payer system may be answer to provide health care for all
- Include coverage for complimentary and alternative treatments
- Question progress of the task force to-date
- Decision on consultant for single payer system must happen soon
- Remember goal of developing plan to implement health care for all
- Consultants with Physicians for National Health Plan are available to assist Task Force
- Concerns about underinsurance and profits gained from insurance companies
- Third party insurance companies take profits that adversely impact practitioners and patients
- Support for adoption of Canada's single-payer health care model