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February 7, 2006

Temporary Health Care Task Force  
Rep. Josh Green, M.D.,  
Chair  
Rep. Patricia Blanchette, M.D.  
Vice Chair

**By Fax: 585-7932**

DATE: Tuesday, February 7, 2006.  
TIME: 4:00 p.m.  
PLACE: John A. Burns School of Medicine

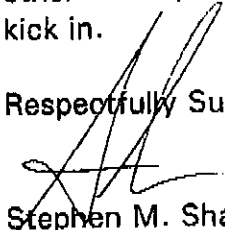
**TESTIMONY OF STEPHEN M. SHAW**

The Single Payer System will not be legislated voluntarily, because the state's insurance industry is too strong; and nationally, no industry member will agree to the single payer system in any state. In Hawaii, 4 of 9 votes to select and retain state trial judges and appellate justices are controlled by insurance companies. So, when the SPP faces court challenges, it will not likely survive.

A solution to the effects of public corruption by insurance campaign donors and insurance lawyers (who pick our judges) is an approach used by the Hawaii Medical Malpractice Underwriting Plan (Ch. 435C) at HRS §435C et seq. The preamble illuminates: "The purpose of this chapter is to provide a contingency plan to be instituted by the insurance commissioner upon the unavailability of medical malpractice insurance". Emphasis added.

Using this statute as a model, the task force could continue to develop the single payer system to automatically replace the present hodge-podge when it is not affordable for the least sophisticated consumer working at minimum wage. In other words, at a certain mathematical point, the SPP, as a contingent statute, will kick in.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Stephen M. Shaw