



February 26, 2020

To: The Senate Committee Members on Ways and Means
The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

Re: Strong Support of SB75, SD1, Relating to Appropriations

Hrg: February 27, 2020 at 2:15 PM State Capitol, Conference Room 211

The Hawai'i Public Health Association (HPHA) is a group of over 600 community members, public health professionals and organizations statewide dedicated to improving public health. HPHA also serves as a voice for public health professionals and as a repository for information about public health in the Pacific.

HPHA strongly **supports** SB75 SD1, which would appropriate funds to the Department of Health for the public health response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019, or COVID-19 outbreak. It is difficult to forecast the exact impact this virus will have in Hawai'i and the totality of resources that will be needed. However, appropriating funds now, prior to an outbreak in Hawai'i will best enable the Department of Health and the public health workforce to respond expeditiously and effectively when needed.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on important health issues affecting people in Hawai'i.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Claire Townsend Ing', is written over a horizontal line.

Claire Townsend Ing, DrPH
Legislative Committee Chair
Hawaii Public Health Association