



February 24, 2024

To: COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair

RE: Strong Support of SB2474 SD1 – Relating to Paid Family Leave Bill

Hrg: Wednesday, February 28, 2024 at 10:01am

The Hawai'i Public Health Association (HPHA) is a group of over 450 community members, public health professionals, and organizations statewide dedicated to improving public health. Our mission is to promote public health in Hawai'i through leadership, collaboration, education and advocacy. Additionally, HPHA aims to call attention to issues around social justice and equity in areas that extend beyond the traditional context of health (e.g., education, digital equity, cultural sensitivity), which can have profound impacts on health equity and well-being. Therefore, as stewards of public health, HPHA is also advocating for equity in all policies.

HPHA is in **STRONG SUPPORT** of Paid Family and Medical Leave that provides working 'ohana with paid time off from work to care for and bond with a new keiki or to address caregiving needs for themselves or loved ones. PFML allows people to balance work and family kuleana because workers can time off without sacrificing income.

I humbly ask for your **SUPPORT** of SB2474 SD1 for state funding.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly Kessler
Executive Director