

A JOINT LEGISLATIVE EFFORT

E-Mail to: HLTtestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov
Regarding: Committee on Health
Hearing on: February 4, 2008 @ 9:30 a.m. in room 329

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Date: January 31, 2008

To: House Committee on Health
The Honorable Josh Green, Chair
The Honorable John Mizuno, Vice Chair

From: Kelly M. Rosati, JD
Executive Director, Hawaii Family Forum
Lobbyist, Roman Catholic Church in the State of Hawaii

Re: **Support for HB 3242 Relating to Health**

Honorable Chair and members of the House Health Committee, I am Kelly Rosati, representing both the Hawaii Family Forum and the Roman Catholic Church in the State of Hawaii. Hawaii Family Forum is a non-profit, pro-family education organization committed to preserving and strengthening families in Hawaii. The Hawaii Catholic Conference is the public policy voice for the Roman Catholic Church in Hawaii, which under the leadership of Bishop Larry Silva, represents over 230,000 Catholics in Hawaii.

I am writing in support of HB 3242, which will improve care for people living with pain in Hawai'i. In 1999 HFF, along with the Hawaii Medical Association, founded Hawaii's Partnership for Appropriate and Compassionate Care, a coalition of medical, disability rights and faith-based groups committed to improved end of life care and to stopping legalized physician assisted suicide and death.

We strongly believe that improved end-of-life care, including improved pain management and palliative care, is essential to effective health care delivery for all Hawaii residents.

This legislation will remove barriers to the provision of quality pain management for those who need it and help to ensure best practice standards in the state. We value your support of palliative and hospice care issues and your serious consideration of this bill.

Please do not hesitate to contact me for more information. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.