

FAX To: Senate Sgt-At-Arms Office (586-6659)  
For Senate Committee on Health, Hearing February 21, 2007,  
1:15 p.m., Conference Room 016, 30 copies.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair  
Senator Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chair

**St. Francis Healthcare System of Hawaii does not support SB1110  
“Relating to Health” (Emergency Contraception)**

St. Francis opposes SB1110, which requires hospitals to provide emergency contraception to sexual assault victims when requested.

Because of its religious tenets, St. Francis Healthcare System does not provide birth control or abortion services. Although St. Francis no longer operates its two medical centers, the Sisters continue to maintain its religious beliefs and therefore, included these tenets as a condition of the sale and lease of the land under the two medical centers. Hawaii Medical Center has agreed to comply with the Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services.

St. Francis respects the intent of those facilities that choose to provide emergency contraception. However, we request an exemption for religiously affiliated hospitals such as those owned and operated by Hawaii Medical Center.

St. Francis urges this committee to amend this legislation to consider the religious doctrine of our health care organization.

Sister Agnelle Ching  
Chief Executive Officer  
St. Francis Healthcare System