

**A JOINT LEGISLATIVE EFFORT**

Fax to: Senate Sgt. At Arms @ 586-6659  
Regarding: Senate Committee on WAM  
Hearing on: February 26, 2007 @ 9:30 a.m. in room #211  
Copies Necessary: 25 copies

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**Date:** February 22, 2007

**To:** **Senate Committee on Ways & Means**  
Sen. Rosalyn Baker, Chair  
Sen. Shan Tsutsui, Vice Chair

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

**Re:** **Support for SB 1918 SD 1 Relating to the Hawaii's Children's Health Care Program**

Honorable Chair and members of the Senate Committee on Ways & Means, 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.

Because of our collective commitment to Hawaii's children and families, we support SB 1918 SD 1 relating to children's health care

This measure would create a three year pilot project to expand health insurance coverage to Hawaii's uninsured children. The project is a public-private collaboration and would benefit as many as 3,500 Hawaii children. Children and families without health insurance inevitably end up in Hawaii's emergency rooms often receiving non-emergency but necessary care in the most expensive setting.

We defer to the legislative and community experts regarding the details of the pilot project but offer our strongest support to the collaborative effort to provide health care access to Hawaii's uninsured children and families.

We urge your support for those collaborative efforts. Mahalo nui loa for your kind consideration.