



A driving force for health equity

Submitted via electronic email

March 11, 2024

The Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole
State Capitol, Rm 10 Room 205
415 S Beretania St
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: SB 2918, Relating to the State Health Planning and Development Agency

Dear Senator Keohokalole ,

On behalf of OCHIN, I appreciate the opportunity to offer support for SB 2918, which would further health care quality and access by providing funds for strategic health IT planning and coordination of resources. OCHIN is a nonprofit innovation health information technology and research network that supports 32,000 active providers serving 5.9 million active patients at over 2,000 health care delivery sites across over 43 states including Hawaii. We applaud the inclusion of funds for health IT staff and technical assistance, healthcare access, cost effectiveness tracking and standards for development and research on artificial intelligence and remote monitoring.

For over two decades, OCHIN has advanced equitable health care solutions by leveraging the strength of our network's unique data set and the practical experience of our members to drive technology innovation at scale for patients and providers in underserved communities. OCHIN is dedicated to its network of providers and patients to increase access to health care through modernized health information technology (IT), workforce development and training, uniform digital data and technical standards, and sustainable payment and delivery models.

We support essential health IT planning, funding for staff to undertake health IT planning, and technical systems as this drives provider adoption of sustainable and equitable payment delivery models. This is a critical first step towards bridging the gaps in health care for communities that lack access to integrated comprehensive care and that have historically been left behind.

We applaud and support the efforts of this bill to allocate funding to further health care quality, access, and sustainability. Please contact me, stollj@ochin.org, if you have questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Jennifer Stoll".

Jennifer Stoll
Chief External Affairs Officer