



A driving force for health equity

Submitted via electronic email

April 23, 2024

The Honorable Sharon Moriwaki
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 223
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: SB 2526, Relating to Information Technology

Dear Senator Sharon Moriwaki,

On behalf of OCHIN, I appreciate the opportunity to offer support for SB 2526, which would ensure that data and critical state information technology systems are kept within a facility that maintains the reliability necessary to prevent downtime and safeguard infrastructure. 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. We applaud the focus on the protection of critical IT state infrastructure to incorporate disaster preparedness through the collaboration of working groups, the Office of Enterprise Technology Services, and potential partnerships with private providers and carriers.

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 the essential support and safeguarding of technical systems as this drives the increase in cybersecurity for critical state systems which impacts all sectors, such as healthcare, as well as vulnerable populations OCHIN proudly represents. This is a critical first step towards bridging the gaps in health care for communities and for the state's critical IT infrastructure to ensure it is equipped to reduce the potential for disruption or failure in providing essential services.

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

