



A driving force for health equity

Submitted via electronic email

April 23, 2024

The Honorable Lynn DeCoite
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania St., Room 231
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: SB 2775, Relating to Health Care

Dear Senator Lynn DeCoite,

On behalf of OCHIN, I appreciate the opportunity to offer support for SB 2775, which would create a rural taskforce to address specific health care needs. 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 emphasis on the development of recommendations and solutions for rural hospitals, facilities, workforce, and telehealth to increase rural healthcare access and sustainability for underserved and rural communities.

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 supports increasing 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 sustainability of rural healthcare workforce and hospitals to strengthen rural communities.

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