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March 12, 2019

Representative John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair  
Committee on Health

Dear Chair Mizuno, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and Committee Members:

**RE: SB 1410, SD1, HD1 Relating to Emergency Services (Ka'u Hospital)**

While I do not have enough information to comment on part II of your proposed SB 1410, SD1, HD1, I want to thank you for retaining the original provision in the bill (now Part I) dealing with the Ka'u Rural Health Clinic.

Ka'u Hospital is a small rural facility serving a very large geographic area. Although the traditional population centers of Pahala and Naalehu are fairly stable, the number of residents in Ocean View has grown enormously, and so has traffic (and the potential for traffic-related injuries). While Ocean View can be serviced by either Ka'u Hospital or Kona Community Hospital, the need for emergency care in Ka'u is clear.

I know you have limited resources and unlimited priorities. I can only hope that Part I of proposed SB1410, SD1, HD1, will be seen as a small investment of funds with life-saving rewards.

Respectfully Submitted,

Harry Kim  
MAYOR