



Akamai Cannabis Clinic

3615 Harding Ave, Suite 304
Honolulu, HI 96816

October 9, 2020

Elizabeth A. Char, MD
Director, Department of Health
1250 Punchbowl Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RESURRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Dear Director Char,

During the 2015 Legislative Session, when the Senate and House were battling over a Medical Cannabis Dispensary bill for the State of Hawaii, we saw the Senate Committee on Health ([HTH](#)) unceremoniously lose its Chair, and become folded into the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection ([CPN](#)), to create the current combined Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health ([CPH](#)).

The combination of CPN and HTH under one roof not only creates an inherent conflict of interests between commerce and health, but it also places excessive power in the hands of a single Chair.

I have tried to bring this issue up with Senate President Kouchi on several occasions with no response. Therefore, I am requesting your assistance with resurrecting the Senate Committee on Health under a new Chair so that we can once again have a single committee that is dedicated to focusing on the health and welfare of our patients.

Could you please tell me your plans for addressing this issue with President Kouchi.

I appreciate your attention to this matter.

Aloha,

Clifton Otto, MD
cliftonotto@hotmail.com
808-233-8267.

“An Accepted Medical Use Supporter”