2023 Hawaii Medical Association Legislative Priorities

The Hawaii Medical Association is committed to long-term and systemic changes in public policy which advance community health, improve the care of patients, and ensure Hawaii physicians can practice medicine with integrity and excellence. Our priorities reflect these commitments and provide the framework for evaluating and advancing specific policy proposals and initiatives.

Access to Care
- Use data collected in the statewide survey, Access to Care: Health for Our Communities (July 2022) report to educate our lawmakers and community on the crisis of healthcare access.
- Continue to work with our patients and providers to reduce barriers to healthcare access throughout the state.
- Address the critical Hawaii physician shortage using a sustainable, multifaceted approach. This includes expanding incentives to recruit and retain physicians and removing current barriers that make the practice of quality medicine economically and personally unfeasible.

Quality Care
- Ensure all patients receive high quality care by promoting team-based healthcare led by physicians.
- Support non-physician providers in offering care within the scope of their training and under the appropriate supervision of physicians.

Behavioral Health
- Advocate for improved and expanded behavioral health services to address the growing crisis of mental health disorders present in our community.
- Support comprehensive, wrap-around services for substance use disorder treatment and homelessness, issues often inextricably connected to mental health disorders.

Preventative Care
- Expand opportunities for evidence-based lung, breast, cervical, and colorectal cancer screenings.

2023 Hawaii Medical Association Officers
Angela M. Pratt, MD - President • Michael Champion, MD - Immediate Past President
Elizabeth Ann Ignacio, MD - President Elect • Tom Kosasa, MD - Secretary
Nadine Tenn-Salle, MD - Treasurer • Marc Alexander - Executive Director

2023 Hawaii Medical Association Public Policy Coordination Team
Elizabeth Ann Ignacio, MD - Chair • Beth England, MD - Co-Chair
Linda Rosehill, JD - Government Relations • Marc Alexander - Executive Director