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GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P.O. Box 3378
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

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C & C OF HONOLULU
Res. 14-2
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LINDA ROSEN, M.D., M.P.H.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

In reply, please refer to
File:

CITY COUNCIL, CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

14-2, URGING THE MAYOR TO PARTICIPATE IN THE "LET'S MOVE! CITIES, TOWNS, & COUNTIES" INITIATIVE TO HELP COMBAT CHILDHOOD OBESITY AND ENCOURAGE HEALTHY EATING AND LIVING.

**Testimony of Linda Rosen, M.D., M.P.H.
Director of Health**

March 12, 2014

- 1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health (DOH) strongly supports this resolution.
- 2 **Fiscal Implications:** None.
- 3 **Purpose and Justification:** The purpose of Resolution 14-2 is to encourage the Mayor to make the
- 4 City and County of Honolulu an official partner in the Let's Move! Cities, Towns, and Counties
- 5 Initiative. The resolution also encourages the Mayor to work in collaboration with the State, the private
- 6 sector, and other stakeholders to promote a healthy City by identifying strategies to address childhood
- 7 obesity and chronic illnesses. The Mayor is also encouraged to update the City Council on the City's
- 8 efforts in the Let's Move! Cities, Towns, and Counties initiative and to seek the Council's support for
- 9 necessary legislation or funding.

10 Participation in the national campaign by the City & County is a commitment to be part of the

11 solution for reversing the trend of childhood obesity within one generation. Currently, the state expends

12 \$470 million a year on obesity-related, and \$770 million on diabetes-related medical costs. In 2012

13 13.2% of high public school students in Hawaii (2012, Youth Risk Behavior Survey), and 23.6% of

14 adults were obese (2012, Behavioral Risk Factors Surveillance Study). By 2030 half of adults in Hawaii

1 are projected to be obese without effective interventions (2013, Trust for America’s Health).

2 Environmental opportunities and societal supports can facilitate healthy behaviors.

3 The City can play an important role in efforts to address childhood obesity, and achieve
4 recognition and support by participating in the Lets Move! Cities, Towns, and Counties initiative. The
5 initiative outlines five achievable and sustainable goals for healthy eating and physical activity. The
6 Department looks forward to partnering with the City on achieving their Let’s Move goals.

7 Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.