

STATE CAPITOL HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

MEDIA RELEASE Date: June 27, 2013 MEDIA CONTACT: Cassandra Harris 586-7148

Governor Signs Measures to Support Hawaii's Kupuna

Honolulu- Governor Neil Abercrombie today signed into law several measures central to the continued support and protection of Hawaii's kupuna.

"I am appreciative to the Governor for signing these priority measures," said Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, chair of the Senate Committee on Human Services and co-convener of the Hawaii State Legislature's Kupuna Caucus. "As Hawaii's population ages, it remains incumbent upon us to offer the programs and tools necessary to make certain that our parents and grandparents are well taken care of. The enactment of these bills shows the State's continued dedication to serving Hawaii's kupuna, ensuring that they can continue to thrive."

House Bill (HB) 529, relating to care homes, requires all operators of adult foster homes, assisted living facilities, and expanded adult residential care homes to obtain and maintain a sufficient amount of liability insurance with respect to their operations.

HB 120, relating to health, requires the Department of Health to post on its website reports of all inspections at state-licensed care facilities occurring on or after January 1, 2015. It also establishes a Working Group on Licensed Care Facilities.

<u>SB 106</u>, relating to aging, establishes and funds a position for an Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia Services Coordinator. The measure also appropriates funds for programs and services that support the State's elderly population, including Kupuna Care and Health Aging Partnership and establishes the Task Force on Mobility Management.

<u>HB 398</u>, relating to human services, establishes a working group to review issues relating to the transition of oversight of home and community-based facilities from the Department of Human Services to the Department of Health. The working group is required to submit a report prior to the 2014 Regular Session.

<u>SB 102</u>, relating to elderly, requires financial institutions to report instances of suspected financial abuse of an elder directly to the appropriate county police department and the Department of Human Services.