

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



LATE
Testimony

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LATE
Testimony

House Committees on Health/Human Services & Housing

H.B. 2289, Relating to Long Term Care Ombudsman

Testimony of Noemi Pendleton
Director of Executive Office on Aging
Attached Agency to Department of Health

January 23, 2008

9:00 a.m. Conference Room 329

1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health and the Executive Office on Aging prefer the
2 language in HB 2111 addressing the same subject and recommend that HB 2289 be held.

3 **Fiscal Implications:** There is an unspecified amount of general funds appropriated to the
4 Department of Health in fiscal year 2008-2009.

5 **Purpose and Justification:** The purpose of H.B. 2289 is to expand the long-term care
6 ombudsman program by adding three additional ombudsman program positions, one for each
7 neighboring county, and to provide funding to support those 3 programs. House Bill 2111
8 addresses the identical issue and contains the more appropriate language. Again, we appreciate
9 the intent of such a proposal in so much as its implementation does not adversely impact or
10 replace priorities in the Executive supplemental budget.

11 Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

The Twenty-Fourth Legislature
Regular Session of 2008

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Committee on Health

Rep. Josh Green, M.D., Chair
Rep. John Mizuno, Vice Chair

Committee on Human Services & Housing
Rep. Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair
Rep. Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair

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State Capitol, Conference Room 329
Wednesday, January 23, 2008; 9:00 a.m.

**STATEMENT OF THE ILWU LOCAL 142 ON H.B. 2289
RELATING TO LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN**

The ILWU Local 142 supports H.B. 2289, which expands the long-term care ombudsman program by adding three additional ombudsman positions, one for each neighboring country.

As an organization with members on every island, the ILWU supports additional personnel to allow the long-term care ombudsman to monitor long-term care facilities and resolve complaints against long-term care providers. With additional staff, the program can provide training to family members and facility employees, can improve working relationships with providers, and ultimately ensure that better quality care will be provided to those in need of long-term care.

The ILWU urges passage of H.B. 2289. Thank you for considering our testimony.