



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

In reply, please refer to:  
File:

LATE TESTIMONY

**Committee on Human Services & Housing**

**HB 2775, Relating to the Executive Office on Aging**

**Testimony of Chiyome Leinaala Fukino, M.D.  
Director of Health**

**January 29, 2007  
8:50 AM**

1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health supports this measure but respectfully suggests  
2 different language to set the salary for this position.

3 **Fiscal Implications:** The bill as currently written would increase the salary of the Director of the  
4 Executive Office on Aging (EOA) by \$10,815. This increase could be accommodated within the  
5 Department of Health budget.

6 **Purpose and Justification:** This measure proposes to amend section 349-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes,  
7 to increase the salary cap set for the Director of the Executive Office on Aging from sixty-nine percent  
8 to eighty percent of the salary of the Director of the Department of Human Resources Development  
9 (DHRD). The Department respectfully suggests that the language setting the EOA Director's salary as a  
10 percentage of the DHRD Director's salary be eliminated and replaced with the following: "Effective  
11 July 1, 2008, the director shall be paid a salary set by the appointing authority."

12 Salaries set in statute as a percentage of the Director of DHRD's salary are especially low  
13 because the Director of DHRD's pay is in the lowest category of pay for department heads and is lower  
14 that the maximum rates applicable to civil service division chiefs. The Department believes it is in the

1 State's best interest to permit the appointing authority to determine the appropriate compensation for this  
2 position in order to attract and retain highly qualified individuals.

3 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.