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GOVERNOR OF HAWAII

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Committee on Health

Senate Committee on Human Services and Public Housing

SB 2129, RELATING TO ELDER AFFAIRS

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

Tuesday, January 29, 2008

1:30 p.m.

1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health and the Executive Office on Aging (EOA)
2 have serious concerns with the measure and respectfully oppose it as written.

3 **Fiscal Implications:** Unknown.

4 **Purpose and Justification:** The purpose of this measure is to prohibit the Director of the
5 Executive Office on Aging (EOA) and any other state officer from altering, editing, or
6 withholding any recommendation, position statement, paper, or other work product issued by the
7 Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs (PABEA).

8 All appointed Board members of PABEA, including ex-officio non-voting members who
9 have been appointed by the Administration to represent the various state agencies that provide
10 services and programs to Hawaii's older adults, have an equal opportunity to voice their positions
11 on any recommendations. As it is common in many boards, there are times that EOA and the ex-
12 officio members have occasionally held different viewpoints from PABEA. However, the view
13 points of each member are respected and PABEA Board members can vote their conscience.

1 EOA, like PABEA, is acting in the best interest of Hawaii's kupuna. It is a priority of the
2 Administration to effectively support Hawaii's elder population and to work together with various
3 stakeholders in the aging network. However, amending HRS 349-4 is not necessarily the most
4 appropriate approach.

5 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.