

1/31/08

**The Arc in Hawaii  
3989 Diamond Head Road  
Honolulu HI 96816**

**Testimony In Support of SB 2102**  
Relating to Care Homes  
January 31, 2008 1:30 PM  
Conference Room 016

**Senate Committee on Human Services and Public Housing**  
The Twenty-Fourth Legislature, Regular Session of 2008

Senator Chun Oakland and Members:

I am Thomas Huber, the volunteer President of The Arc in Hawaii and the parent of an adult with mental retardation.

~~The Arc in Hawaii supports Senate Bill 2102~~ which increases payments for level of care for specified long-term care facilities, including developmental disabilities domiciliary homes ("DD Dom Homes").

The Arc in Hawaii operates ten developmental disabilities domiciliary homes on Oahu, providing home, sustenance, care and dignity for forty low indigent adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

The State has a dire need not only to continue these DD Dom Homes in existence, but also to encourage and expand the number of long term care homes of the types covered by SB 2102. More, not fewer, of these facilities are needed to address the existing crisis in long-term care of the ill, elderly, and disabled. And adequate compensation is essential to the continuance and expansion of these homes.

The rate of payment for domiciliary care has been woefully inadequate to fairly compensate the operators of long-term care facilities. In the case of agency operated DD Dom Homes such as those operated by The Arc in Hawaii, the level of payment has not been adequate to allow us to pay a fair and adequate wage for our employees who staff these homes.

Therefore, The Arc in Hawaii supports any increase in the level of support for DD Dom Homes and other long-term care facilities.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Thomas P. Huber  
President

To the Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Human Services and Public Housing who have scheduled a public hearing on Thursday, January 31, 2008 @ 1:30 p.m. in Room 016 on a bill to increase payment levels for ARCHs.

Aloha kakou,

Our jurisdiction is "under bedded" and needs to have more Care Homes, i.e. ARCH types I and II. I am in support of S.B. 2102 as it will increase payments for level of care of residents in ARCHs. An ARCH is not only residential ("step down") care for frail elders and the disabled, but is also a business. Increased payments for residents in these ARCHs will facilitate more ARCHs being developed and opened and will facilitate operators to decide to stay in business, in the face of rising costs. Please support S.B. 2102.

Me ka mahalo pono,  
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