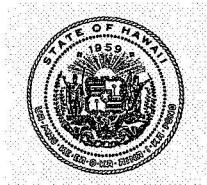


LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII

CHIYOME L. FUKINO, M.D.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH



STATE OF HAWAII
EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON AGING
NO. 1 CAPITOL DISTRICT
250 SOUTH HOTEL STREET, SUITE 406
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House Committee on Legislative Management

SB 2129 SD 2, RELATING TO ELDER AFFAIRS

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

Thursday, March 27, 2008

2:00 P.M.

1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health and the Executive Office on Aging (EOA)
2 have 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 authorize the policy advisory board
5 for elder affairs to directly testify before the legislature on any matter related to its duties and
6 responsibilities.

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

1 stakeholders in the aging network. However, amending HRS 349-4 is not necessarily the most
2 appropriate approach.

3 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



To: House Committee on Legislative Management
Rep. Michael Y. Magaoay, Chair
Rep. James Kunane Tokioka, Vice-Chair

Date: March 27, 2008
Conference Room 423
2:00 pm

Re: SB 2129, SD2 RELATING TO ELDER AFFAIRS

Chair Magaoay and Members of the Committee:

My name is Ed Thompson, Associate State Director of Advocacy for AARP Hawaii. We are a membership organization for people 50 and older with 156,000 members in Hawaii. AARP provides access to services and information, meaningful volunteer opportunities, and the opportunity for our members to create positive change in their lives.

AARP supports SB 2129, SD2, which authorizes the policy advisory board for elder affairs to directly testify before the legislature on any matter related to its duties and responsibilities.

Proper advocacy of policies and programs that will enhance and promote the well-being of elder citizens of our State requires unencumbered, open, and honest discussion and communication in order to achieve best policies and first-rate programs. SB 2129 enables such candid debate and dialogue.

We urge you to support SB 2129, SD 2, and recommend its passage.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify before your committee.

Carol L. Kanoho

From: Michael Sumja [michaelsumja@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 25, 2008 11:24 PM
To: LMGtestimony
Subject: Testimony RE: SB2129

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT
Rep. Michael Y. Magaoay, Chair
Rep. James Kunane Tokioka, Vice Chair

Rep. Pono Chong
Rep. Lynn Finnegan
Rep. Blake K. Oshiro

RE: NOTICE OF HEARING for SB 2129, SD2
(HSCR1145-08)

DATE:
Thursday, March 27, 2008
TIME:
2:00 PM
PLACE:
Conference Room 423
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Chair Magaoay and Members of the Committee:

As the current Chair of PABEA, I am submitting testimony in FIRM SUPPORT of SB2129. This bill represents a very basic concept in regard to the right and lawful functioning of the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs, that we are able to advise the Governor and the State Legislature from an open and independent position.

We are most grateful to Senator Mizuno for originally presenting this legislation. We appreciate the concern and support of Senators Chun-Oakland and Les Ihara in supporting this bill, which not only acknowledges PABEA's efforts, but also paves the way for all boards and commissions to be able to function unencumbered.

I humbly ask that you please seize this opportunity to make a difference for our Kupuna, by passing this important piece of legislation, SB2129, with an amended inception date of July 1, 2008 or earlier.

Thank you for your time and consideration.
Michael B. Sumja
Chair of PABEA

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Carol L. Kanoho

From: manis [manis@lava.net]
Sent: Tuesday, March 25, 2008 5:29 PM
To: LMGtestimony
Subject: Testimony for SB2129 Sd2

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT
Rep. Michael Y. Magaoay, Chair
Rep. James Kunane Tokioka, Vice Chair

Thursday, March 27, 2008 2:00 PM Conference Room 423

SB 2129, SD2 RELATING TO ELDER AFFAIRS. Prohibits the director of the executive office on aging from altering, editing or withholding any work product issued by the policy advisory board for elder affairs because it is inconsistent with the policy of the administration.

SUPPORT

My name is Laura Manis and I have been a member of the Legislative Committee of the Policy Board for Elder Affairs for many years. I hold my seat, by law, as representing the elders in the community and so have not been appointed by the Governor. The Legislative committee is required to have a majority of Governor appointees but the minority is appointed by the committee. We explore the needs and concerns of the elderly population in the state and decide with the approval of PABEA which to pursue in the State Legislature as advocates. We act under the Regulations of the Older Americans Act and the By-laws of PABEA and the Legislative Committee. The directors also have their priorities. We rarely disagree but on the few occasions when this has happened, we have each submitted our own testimony.

However, in 2003 and again in 2004 and 2007, the administration requested that we submit our testimony to the Governor's office for approval before testifying. After lengthy discussion each time, it was agreed, considering time constraints and our obligation to represent the concerns of the community to precede each testimony with the following disclaimer.

³I am offering testimony on behalf of PABEA, the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs, which is an appointed board tasked with advising the Executive Office on Aging (EOA). My testimony does not represent the views of the EOA but of the Board.²

This disclaimer was written by representatives of the Governor and since then those testifying for PABEA have done so and also send their testimony as information only to the Governor's office.

As far as I know, no one on the legislative committee or PABEA has instigated this bill. However, I am in support of it in the hope that the role of all advisory boards are clarified and not expected to follow or support the policies of whatever political party or administrator that happen to be in office at the time.

Laura G. Manis
597-8838

TO: COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT

Rep. Michael Y. Magaoay, Chair
Rep. James K. Tokioka, Vice Chair

FROM: Eudice R. Schick
PABEA (Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs)

SUBJECT: SB 2129, SD2 Relating to Elder Affairs

HEARING: Thursday March 27, 2008, 2 p.m. room 423

POSITION: Strong Support of SB 2129, SD 2

I am offering testimony on behalf of PABEA, the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs, which is an appointed Board tasked with advising the Executive Office on Aging (EOA). My testimony does not represent the views of the EOA but of the Board.

This bill is very important to the work and constant efforts of the Policy Advisory Board of Elder Affairs. PABEA works hard to help our Kupuna. If we cannot have the freedom of speech we will be held back in our efforts to advocate, to the fullest, for our Kupuna.

Your support is greatly appreciated.

Eudice R. Schick

Carol L. Kanoho

From: Gary Simon [GarySimon@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2008 8:42 AM
To: LMGtestimony
Cc: Sumja, Michael; Lum, Wes L. W.; Wegner, Eldon; Stowell, Diane; Mattson, Harry; McCullough, Bruce; Manis, Laura; Schick, Eudie; Thompson, Ed; Simon, Gary
Subject: Testimony In Support Of SB 2129, SD 2; Hearing Date & Time: March 27, 2008, 2:00 p. m.

To: **House Committee on Legislative Management**
Representative Michael Y. Magaoay, Chair,
Representative James Kunane Tokioka, Vice Chair

From: Gary Simon
Chair
Legislative Committee
Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs
Email: GarySimon@hawaii.rr.com

I am submitting written testimony only.

The Committee is requesting five copies of the testimony.

Date and Time of Hearing: Thursday, March 27, 2008, 2:00 p. m.

Position: Support for SB 2129, SD 2, Relating to Elder Affairs

I am Gary Simon, Chair of the Legislative Committee of the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs (PABEA), which is an appointed board tasked with advising the Executive Office on Aging (EOA).

I am testifying as an individual who has worked in healthcare for over twenty years, and I am offering testimony on behalf of PABEA.

My testimony does not represent the views of the EOA but of PABEA.

On behalf of PABEA, I am pleased to state our support of SB 2129, which authorizes PABEA to directly testify before the legislature on any matter related to its duties and responsibilities.

3/27/2008

Proper advocacy of policies and programs which will enhance and promote the well-being of the elder citizens of our State requires unencumbered, open, and honest discussion and communication in order to achieve the best policies and the best possible programs. SB 2129 enables such candid debate and dialogue.

We urge you to support SB 2129, SD 2, we urge you to recommend its passage, and we thank you for seriously considering the Bill.

Carol L. Kanofo

From: Carolyn Lancaster [carolyn96755@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 25, 2008 11:49 PM
To: LMGtestimony
Subject: SB2129--Testimony

Testimony for SB2129, relating to Elder Affairs to be heard by:

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT
Rep. Michael Y. Magaoay, Chair
Rep. James Kunane Tokioka, Vice Chair

Rep. Pono Chong
Rep. Lynn Finnegan
Rep. Blake K. Oshiro

NOTICE OF HEARING

on DATE:
Thursday, March 27, 2008
TIME:
2:00 PM
PLACE:
Conference Room 423
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Gentle Chair and members of this important committee:

As a concerned citizen, I appreciate the opportunity to submit the following testimony:
My name is Carolyn Lancaster and I am a member of the Kohala Senior
Citizen's Club on the Big Island of Hawaii.
I AVIDLY SUPPORT SB 2129.

I understand that this bill will make it more clear how our Policy Advisory Board for
Elder Affairs will be able to advise the Governor and the State Legislature about Kupuna
issues. This board should be able to do their job of advising, without being censored by
other agencies. After all, I believe that advising IS the primary purpose of PABEA.

I am so thankful that the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs is there at the state
level, monitoring legislation and working hard on my behalf. It is because of these
dedicated volunteers that I feel my aging issues will be brought to the forefront and
handled openly and fairly.

PABEA needs your support, so that they may do their job without being inhibited by
unnecessary and debilitating censorship.

i humbly ask that you please pass SB 2129 for me, and for the future of ALL Hawaii's
elders. Mahalo for hearing these thoughts from my heart.

Aloha,
Carolyn Lancaster
Kohala Senior Citizen

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