



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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### Written Testimony Presented Before the House Committee on Finance

March 26, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.  
AGENDA #1

by  
Virginia S. Hinshaw, Chancellor  
and  
Dr. Gary K. Ostrander  
Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Education  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

### **SB2831 SD1 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII CENTER ON AGING EDUCATION AND RESEARCH**

Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify. The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa supports Senate Bill 2831 SD1, which would allocate funds to the University of Hawai'i Center on Aging for program expenses and faculty positions in an effort to bolster research and education on issues related to eldercare in the State of Hawai'i.

The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (UHM) is deeply committed to education, research, and service across multiple disciplines in the area of aging. The Center on Aging was established by the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents in 1988 to address the needs of the elderly in the State of Hawai'i, and Hawai'i's demographics underline the importance of such a center. Therefore and in response to legislative requests, we have prepared a funding proposal for a Center on Aging that is sustainable, inclusive, transparent, and interdisciplinary to address the needs of the elderly across the state.

The Center will bring together people and resources within the State of Hawai'i to advance healthcare, public policy, education, legal concerns, research, and other issues associated with the process of aging. Its focal point will be to strengthen efforts dedicated to understanding the aging process and addressing the needs of the elderly in Hawai'i. To provide this focal point, the Center will maintain both a multidisciplinary UHM and statewide scope of activities.

I hope you will agree that this is an important endeavor that will greatly benefit the State of Hawai'i's growing elderly population. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

TO: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH –  
Rep Josh Green, M.D., Chair  
Rep. John Mizuno, Vice-Chair

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES AND HOUSING  
Rep. Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair  
Rep. Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair

FROM: Archie Hapai, III  
Member of PABEA (Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs)

SUBJECT: SB 2831 SD1 Relating to the University of Hawaii Center on Aging  
Education and Research

HEARING: 10:00 AM March 26, 2008  
Conference Room 309, Hawaii State Capitol

PURPOSE: Establishes additional faculty positions and needed funds for the UH  
Center on Aging Research and Education (CARE) to assist in fulfillment of its  
mission.

POSITION: As a citizen and member of the PABEA., I support the appropriation  
for the UH Center on Aging Research and Education.

**RATIONALE:**

\_ The UH Center for Aging Research and Education (CARE) is currently without a  
director or any faculty positions and has been unable to admit students for 3 years to  
its academic programs. Several of us from the Legislative Committee of PABEA have  
met twice with Chancellor Virginia Hinshaw, who began after the UH Manoa  
Supplementary budget request was developed. She has indicated her strong support  
for CARE and has drafted a plan calling for similar resources as proposed in this bill.

\_ The UH Center constitutes the principal resource for technical consultation for  
agencies serving the elderly, training programs and workshops for professional and  
Para professional staff working in the community and academic programs to prepare  
students to enter this growing field In conclusion, the UH Center on Aging in the past  
provided important service to the state of Hawaii and these resources are needed to  
regain its momentum in serving this important role.

Thank you for allowing me to testify.

## FINTestimony

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**From:** manis [manis@lava.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 25, 2008 11:06 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** SB 2831 SD1 Testimony

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE  
Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair  
Rep. Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair

Wednesday, March 26, 2008 10:00 A.M. Conference Room 308

SB2831 SD1 RELATING TO UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII CENTER ON AGING EDUCATION AND RESEARCH  
Appropriates fund to the University of Hawaii center on aging research and education  
faculty positions and program expenses.

SUPPORT

Kokua Council whose mission includes advocating for the the health of the elderly and  
those vulnerable populations who can not advocate for themselves supports this bill.

The Center on Aging at the University of Hawaii served a vital role to the State of  
Hawaii and the creation of public policy in the area of aging. They have trained  
gerontologists and researchers who have helped state and nonprofit agencies staff and  
develop their programs.

Our state has to prepare now for the onslaught of the baby boomers reaching 60 in the next  
few years and who will be having needs that require a new look at state services and best  
practices.

The Center has never been fully supported by the university and has since lost their staff  
and funding and are no longer accepting students.

We suggest the Center of Aging be located in the office of the Vice Chancellor for  
Research, Gary Ostrander who has expressed interest in housing the Center. Virginia  
Hinshaw, Chancellor has supported this placement. This is a good fit since Aging is  
interdisciplinary and will need input from many departments.

Please support this bill.

Laura G. Manis, Legislative Chair  
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