

# Hawai'i Alliance for Retired Americans

An affiliate of the Alliance for Retired Americans  
c/o AFSCME • 888 Milliani Street, Suite 101 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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## STATEMENT OF THE HAWAII ALLIANCE FOR RETIRED AMERICANS ON S.B. 2857, SD1

Hearing: February 22, 2008, Conference Room 211, 11:00 a.m.

Chair Rosalyn Baker, Vice Chair Shan Tsutsui, and Members of the Committee on Ways & Means:

The Hawaii Alliance for Retired Americans (HARA) supports S.B. 2857, SD1, which requires home care agencies to be licensed by the Department of Health.

HARA is an coalition of organizations working together to improve the living conditions of seniors in Hawaii. Toward that end, we believe that S.B. 2857, SD1 is needed to protect the elderly and disabled who will need the services of home care agencies as well as their families.

Hawaii's elderly population is rapidly growing and the need for home care is expanding. Families unable to provide full care for their loved ones and unwilling to consider institutionalization have been forced to turn to professional care provided by home care agency personnel. These families often have to find, interview, and hire caregivers with very little assistance, if at all. They would welcome a government agency that would monitor these agencies and provide information that they can rely on to make these important decisions. After all, the home care workers are entering their homes and are virtually unsupervised while there.

HARA urges passage of S.B. 2857, SD1. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important matter.

*Ke hana like nei nā kūpuna i 'oi loa a'e 'o Hawai'i*  
Senior citizens working together for a better Hawaii

 Alliance  
for Retired  
Americans

