

INDA LINGLE
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STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
P. O. Box 339
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LATE

February 26, 2008

MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senate Committee on Human Services and Public Housing

Honorable David Y. Ige
Senate Committee on Health

FROM: Lillian B. Koller, Director

SUBJECT: S.C.R 35 - REQUESTING THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON AGING,
THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN
SERVICES TO CONDUCT A COLLABORATIVE STUDY AND MAKE
RECOMMENDATIONS RELATING TO INFRASTRUCTURE DEFICIENCIES
IN THE ACCESSIBILITY AND AVAILABILITY OF CARE SERVICES
AND FACILITIES FOR SENIORS, VETERANS, AND PERSONS WITH
DISABILITIES IN THE STATE.

Hearing: Tuesday, February 26, 2008, 1:00 p.m.
Conference Room 016, State Capitol

PURPOSE: The purpose of S.C.R. 35 is to request that the Department on Aging, Department of Health, and the Department of Human Services report and make recommendations to the Legislature regarding the infrastructure and workforce shortages in the state, as well as deficiencies in the accessibility and availability of care services and facilities for seniors, veterans, and persons with disabilities in the state.

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) appreciates the intent of this resolution to form another task

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AGENCY

force relating to long-term care but cannot support this resolution at this time.

As the Legislature is well aware, the Department of Human Services, the Department of Health, the Counties, and other State and private community agencies have built strong partnerships through participation in the S.C.R. 144 Task Force which has already begun developing a long-term care infrastructure plan for Hawaii which will ensure public safety while supporting aging in place and has already begun to build momentum towards solving many of the State's shortcomings that the development of the proposed Task Force intends to address.

The Department is also concerned that should the new task force be established, this momentum could be slowed or even halted as a result of questions regarding which task force is responsible for what priorities.

The Department would recommend that support be given to the continuing work of the S.C.R. 144 Task Force to address the issues of concern expressed in this resolution and that members be added to the S.C.R. 144 Task Force who can contribute to the work of the S.C.R. 144 Task Force to work on the concerns expressed in this resolution.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



NOEMI PENDLETON
DIRECTOR

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DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

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Committee on Human Services and Public Housing

Committee on Health

SCR35, REQUESTING THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON AGING, THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO CONDUCT A COLLABORATIVE STUDY AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS RELATING TO INFRASTRUCTURE DEFICIENCIES IN THE ACCESSIBILITY AND AVAILABILITY OF CARE SERVICES AND FACILITIES FOR SENIORS, VETERANS, AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES IN THE STATE.

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

Tuesday, February 26, 2008

1:00 p.m.

1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health and the Executive Office on Aging have
2 serious concerns about this senate concurrent resolution and respectfully oppose it.

3 **Fiscal Implications:** Unknown

4 **Purpose and Justification:** The purpose of SCR35 is to request EOA, DOH, and DHS to
5 conduct a collaborative study and make recommendations relating to infrastructure deficiencies in
6 the accessibility and availability of care services and facilities for seniors and persons with
7 disabilities in the state. While we appreciate the intent of this resolution, EOA has major concerns
8 about the scope of work, feasibility, and timeline. Each of the 9 itemized goals is a project in and
9 of itself, and requires resources that EOA does not have. Additionally, the timeframe is too short
10 and would only leave 5 months to conduct a comprehensive study.

1 The administration's Long-term Living Initiative, of which DOH, DHS, EOA, and other
2 state agencies are members of, has already started working on issues of long-term care
3 infrastructure, and the accessibility and availability of care services and facilities for seniors and
4 persons with disabilities in the state. EOA believes that the goals of this resolution can be
5 integrated into the future projects of the administration's Long-term Living Initiative, and
6 therefore, EOA believes that this resolution is unnecessary.

7 Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

**LATE**

HAWAII DISABILITY RIGHTS CENTER

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TESTIMONY TO THE TWENTY-FOURTH STATE LEGISLATURE, 2008 SESSION

To: Senate Committee on Human Services and Public Housing
Senate Committee on Health

From: Gary L. Smith, President
Hawaii Disability Rights Center

Re: SCR 35

Hearing: Tuesday, February 26, 2008, 1:00 PM
Conference Room 016, State Capitol

Members of the Committee on Human Services and Public Housing:
Members of the Committee on Health:

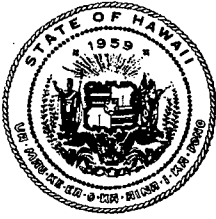
Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony supporting SCR 35.

I am Gary L. Smith, President of the Hawaii Disability Rights Center, formerly known as the Protection and Advocacy Agency of Hawaii (P&A). As you may know, we are the agency mandated by federal law and designated by Executive Order to protect and advocate for the human, civil and legal rights of Hawaii's estimated 180,000 people with disabilities.

We support this Concurrent Resolution because it contains a wealth of recommendations from the Maui Health Initiative Task force to address the needs of community based services for individuals with disabilities. In particular, many of the proposals deal with issues of capacity in the community for housing and long term care services. In our experience, these are pressing needs which will over time, become even more critical. The problem is compounded on the neighbor islands which face an even greater lack of capacity than does Oahu. The collaborative approach called for in this Resolution is a good start towards solving these important problems.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this Concurrent Resolution.





DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

919 Ala Moana Boulevard, Room 101 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96814
Ph. (808) 586-8121 (V/TDD) • Fax (808) 586-8129

February 26, 2008

TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON HUMAN SERVICES AND PUBLIC HOUSING AND HEALTH

Senate Concurrent Resolution 35 - Requesting the Executive Office on Aging, the Department of Health, and the Department of Human Services to Conduct a Collaborative Study and Make Recommendations Relating to Infrastructure Deficiencies in the Accessibility and Availability of Care Services and Facilities for Seniors, Veterans, and Persons with Disabilities in the State

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) supports the intent of Senate Concurrent Resolution 35 for its comprehensiveness in identifying some of the critical areas needing attention for improving the availability of care services and facilities for seniors, veterans, and persons with disabilities, the last category being of interest to DCAB.

We express concerns that the scope of the requested study is extremely broad and attempts to address far too many different topics in one study. In addition, the time frame and lack of funding seems to make the effort nearly insurmountable.

We suggest that the Legislature focus on one narrow topic of priority for consideration and pursue that in depth. We defer to the agencies listed to conduct the study as to their ability to do so with given resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,

PATRICIA M. NIELSEN
Chairperson
Legislative Committee

FRANCINE WAI
Executive Director

LATE

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To: Senate Committee on Human Services and Public Housing
Senate Committee on Health

From: Gary L. Smith, President
Hawaii Disability Rights Center

Re: SCR 35

Hearing: Tuesday, February 26, 2008, 1:00 PM
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Members of the Committee on Human Services and Public Housing:
Members of the Committee on Health:

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Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this Concurrent Resolution.