

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE  
INTERIM OF 2009

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Tom Brower, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF INFORMATIONAL BRIEFING

DATE: Thursday, August 20, 2009  
TIME: 10:00 a.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 329  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

A G E N D A

The purpose of this informational briefing is to discuss the State's new health plan "Basic Health Hawaii," which becomes effective September 1, 2009. The "Basic Health Hawaii" program reduces coverage to 12 outpatient doctor visits, 10 hospital days, emergency medical and dental care for 7,500 Pacific Islanders. This is being done to cut \$15 million annually from the State of Hawaii, Department of Human Services' budget.

The 7,500 Pacific Islanders affected by the new plan are from nations that are parties to the Compacts of Free Association, or former U.S. Trust Territories that include the Federal States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau. This new plan also affects noncitizen residents in Hawaii.

The briefing will also focus on concerns and allegations of unethical and improper acts by case management agencies under the Department of Human Services. Such concerns may seriously affect the health and safety of the elderly under the care of Community Care Foster Homes. Moreover, concerns with late payment or failure to receive payment from Healthcare providers under DHS will be discussed, as the result of such late payments or non-payments has the devastating effect of closing several CCFHs. Finally, a review on "transfer trauma" will be discussed as it remains an important issue for Hawaii's elderly.

The Department of Human Services will be asked to comment on the proposed cuts and the adverse impact on healthcare for Hawaii's vulnerable adults and families.

The following organizations and/or individuals have been invited to participate:

Members of Hawaii's Congress or their designee

Governor Linda Lingle or her designee

The Department of Human Services

Adult Protective Services, under DHS

State Attorney General's Office

State's Long Term Ombudsman

The National Association of Social Workers, Hawaii Chapter

Micronesians United

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Representatives from the Community Care Health Centers

Affected Dialysis and Chemotherapy patients

American Cancer Society, Pacific Chapter

National Kidney Foundation, Hawaii Chapter

Ruthie Agbayani, Community Care Foster Homes

Mila Ka'ahaanui, Hawaii Coalition of Caregivers Association

Lani Akee, President, Adult Foster Homes Association

Myriam Tabaniag, President, Adult Residential Care Homes

Hawaii Disability Rights Center

Ohana Health Plan

EverCare Health Plan

Community Ties of America

Other individuals or organizations that provide essential public services on behalf of the State of Hawaii who will be affected by the funding reduction in the State Department of Human Services' budget.

To ensure that all testifiers have adequate time to speak, please limit answers and comments to 10 minutes per State Department and Administration and 5 minutes for an individual or group.

If you require special assistance or auxiliary aids and/or services to participate in the House public hearing process (i.e., sign or foreign language interpreter or wheelchair accessibility), please contact the Committee Clerk at 586-6050 or email your request for an interpreter to [HouseInterpreter@Capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:HouseInterpreter@Capitol.hawaii.gov) at least 24 hours prior to the hearing for arrangements. Prompt requests submitted help to ensure the availability of qualified individuals and appropriate accommodations.

For further information, please call the Committee Clerk at 586-6050.

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Rep. John M. Mizuno  
Chair

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Rep. Calvin K.Y. Say  
Speaker of the House

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