

**Joint Legislative Committee on Aging in Place
in joint session with the Kupuna Caucus
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 229
Friday, August 7, 2009**

DRAFT MINUTES

Members Present: Senator Les Ihara, Jr. (Co-Chair); Representative Marilyn Lee (Co-Chair); Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland

Members Absent: Senator Rosalyn Baker, Senator Fred Hemmings, Representative Karen Awana, Representative Joey Manahan, Representative Corinne Ching

Others in Attendance: Al Hamai (HARA), Anne Chipchase (Ohana Health Plan), Archie Hapai (PABEA), Arlene Ige (Alzheimer's Association), Audrey Kubota, Audrey Suga-Nakagawa (ADRC), Bonnie Osaki (Graham Builders), Candace Kelsey (House Minority Research Office), Carl Silva (HMSO), Craig Yamaguchi (Elderly Affairs Division), Damian Sempio (Green Coconut Living), Debbie Morikawa (Dept. of Community Services), Debbie Shimizu (NASW), Deborah Arendale (Maui County Office on Aging), Diane Stowell (PABEA), Diane Terada (Catholic Charities Hawaii), Emi Manuia, Eudie Schick (PABEA), Helen Wagner, Jackie Boland (AARP), James Delavan (HMIR), Jeanine Yonashiro (DOH), Keith Ridley (DOH), Laura Manis (Kokua Council), Les Morishige, Marian Tsuji (Lanakila Rehab Center), Maris Protacio (PABEA), Michael Sumja (PABEA), Mila Medallon Kaahanui (Hawaii Coalition of Caregivers), Nancy Moser (EOA), Norma Circle (Maui County Office on Aging), Pat Urieff (Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Task Force Co-Chair), Paula Arcena (AlohaCare), Phyllis Hiramatsu, Samantha Cayetano, TJ Davies (Kokua Council), Tony Lenzer, Heather Bolan (Senator Ihara's Office).

I. Call to Order/Welcome and Introductions

Senator Chun Oakland started the meeting at approximately 2:08 p.m.

The following handouts were distributed to the members and others in attendance:

- (1) copy of the Kupuna Caucus/JLCAIP agenda;
- (2) 1-page report on Issues of Grandparents Raising Grandchildren; and
- (3) AARP prepared handout: Get the Facts about Healthcare Reform.

Senator Chun Oakland that the agenda is a "running agenda" so that no issue gets lost. Brief minutes created for the JLCAIP will be posted on the website for those interested.

II. Kupuna Issues

a. Kupuna Care and Preservation of the Safety Net

Nancy Moser from the Executive Office on Aging reported that they received \$1.67 million in federal money for ADRC and discharge planning. In fiscal 2009 only base funds were available, additional legislative appropriations were not released. EOA has applied for additional federal grants for the community living program and to expand ADRC centers throughout the state. Some funds may become

available for direct services, but details have to be worked out (for example, they may require matching funds to be used in this way, used only for gap group persons who have no other service options, etc.). The Chairs requested a copy of the grant applications. \$485,000 has been allocated to the AAAs for nutrition programs effective June and August and this money can be used for meal delivery. The current federal preference trend is for ADRCs to deliver services. Hawaii County is currently the only AAA with no wait list.

b. Health Aging Partnerships

Jeanine Yonashiro from the Department of Health reported that although levels have been lowered, service has been extended one year, and \$200,000 is available for next year. They have been working on developing alternatives but it is difficult to get rural coverage and the AAAs have agreed to work on sustaining service to rural areas and training. They are also trying to connect with community health centers. There has been some expansion to parks and senior centers. A lot of cross learning is occurring as different conditions arise across the counties. After next year funding will stop. Local insurers are hesitant to get involved and are asking for more data.

c. Aging Disability Resource Center

There was a strategy session to establish an ADRC physical site on Maui which would take five years to build. They will meet again in August. The top priorities are resource mapping, cross training, and the need to get leaders and decision makers involved and identify potential co-services.

d. Senior Centers

Centers are continuing to fundraise. Lanakila, Waikiki, and Moiliili received some funds from Weinberg Foundation. Princess Abigail Kawanakoa also gave \$20,000.

e. Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

Honolulu county trained community aids about supporting grandparent caregivers needs. They are still waiting on action from the Department of Education on Act 99 procedures and forms. They are suggesting a new bill to place grandparent caregivers evicted due to grandchild-in-crisis on a priority list to return to housing after the crisis is over.

f. Website Posting of Care Settings

Due to costs and lack of staff this has been stalled. They are checking into the possibility of using stimulus money to support having the ADRCs do this.

g. Home for Life Task Force

Names have been submitted to the appointing bodies, but no appointments have been made to date. The ad hoc group will meet Aug. 14 at 2:30 and are inviting people to start reviewing items so that when appointed, the Task Force can start work immediately. Even though he is moving on, Wes Lum will convene the first task force meeting.

h. Paid Family Leave

The Legislature overrode the Governor's veto. Rep. Lee will write to the Department of Labor and the UH Center on Aging to get information on how implementation will proceed.

i. Funeral Trusts

Senator Ihara will get Pete Racelis (Funeral Consumers Alliance) and Kokua Council together to look at situation. This issue is not on the AARP's national agenda.

j. Long Term Care Commission

Jackie Boland reported that at the next meeting, August 14 at 1pm at AARP, the Commission will vote on selecting a contractor to do the study. The meeting is open to the public.

k. Center on Aging at the University of Hawaii

No report – reports will be made as needed.

l. Leahi Hospital Master Plan

No report.

m. Certified Nurses Aide Continuing Education

The focus group has been meeting monthly. They were tasked with evaluating core curriculum for continuing education for community providers (for example ARCHs and adult foster homes) as some areas are lacking such as assistance with self-medication.

Question was raised about facilitating new ARCHs in residential areas: will be added to agenda to open dialog between operators and neighbors.

n. Home Care Agency Licensing

The Legislature overrode the Governor's veto. There is no funding so there is no action plan yet. It was suggested that a contingency plan be created so that it can be launched when conditions are more favorable. Grant opportunities could also be explored.

o. Adequate Medicaid Reimbursements

The budget cuts will be going deeper. Immigrants will lose services and dental work has been reduced to extractions only. They are still looking for solutions to fund basic coverage but dialysis and chemo therapy are expensive. Providers are working to have a new plan by September 1 but there are still many unanswered questions. The new program is supposed to be extended to uninsured persons. Congress is trying to add a new reform to add coverage for uninsured immigrants.

p. St. Francis Staying Healthy at Home

No report.

q. Quest Expanded

No report.

r. Fall Prevention

They are continuing to work on legislation.

III. New Items

1. Jackie Boland brought handouts from AARP on the federal healthcare reform which they are following closely to make sure seniors are safeguarded. Hawaii's delegation added an amendment to make

sure prepaid healthcare plans are not impacted unless there is a better item on the table. Employers benefit as they will pay less for coverage. AARP is convening a statewide town meeting September 1 with Congressman Abercrombie and Congresswoman Hirono to get the dialog started. AARP hopes to sponsor other outreach events. More information can be found on the web at: healthactionnow.org.

2. Pat Urieff requested adding a resolution urging a senior housing waiver.

3. Debbie Morikawa requested an update from the Department of Human Services on the APS bill.

4. Rep. Lee announced a broadcast of "Kukui Connection": an interview with Hospice Hawaii on Physician Orders for Life Suspension Treatments will be shown on Channel 54 at 4pm on August 9.

IV. Adjournment

Next meeting: September 4 at 2:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:55 p.m.