



House HUS/HLT Committee  
Thurs, Jan 28, 2010  
9:30 am  
Room 329

National Association of Social Workers

Hawaii Chapter

January 27, 2010

TO: Representative John Mizuno, Chair  
Members of the House Human Services Committee  
Representative Ryan Yamane, Chair  
Members of the House Health Committee

**LATE  
Testimony**

FROM: Debbie Shimizu, LSW  
National Association of Social Workers, Hawaii Chapter

RE: HB 1886 Relating to Case Managers

Chair Mizuno, Chair Yamane and members of the House Human Services and Health Committees, I am Debbie Shimizu, Executive Director of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW). **NASW supports HB 2154 Relating to Health Care Case Management with amendments.**

This bill will establish a health care case management task force within the department of human services that will be tasked to review case managers and case management agencies' policies and procedures, standards for best practices, underlying needs, enforcement processes and whether state funds are used appropriately. This will be valuable information as the need for case managers increases due to an increase in the elder population. The task force must also submit a report of its findings and recommendations before the 2011 legislative session.

I have experienced being on other task forces and believe it is more successful if an entity is designated to staff the task force. If it is the intent of the Legislature that DHS provide the staffing for this task force, I would suggest that specific language be added to state that intent. If DHS feels it cannot provide the staffing due to their reduced workforce, perhaps the Legislature could offer House Majority office staff or the University of Hawaii Policy Center might be of assistance.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.