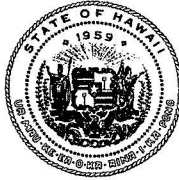


LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



CHIYOME LEINAALA FUKINO, M.D.  
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII  
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In reply, please refer to:  
File:

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY**

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

**H.B. 2157, HD 1 RELATING TO EXPANDED ADULT RESIDENTIAL CARE HOMES**

**Testimony of Chiyome Leinaala Fukino, M.D.  
Director of Health**

**February 19, 2010**

1 **Department's Position:** The department respectfully OPPOSES this bill as unnecessary.

2 **Fiscal Implications:** This bill appropriates no money for the department's time and effort that will be  
3 required under this bill.

4 **Purpose and Justification:** H.B. 2157, HD 1 amends HRS §321-15.62 by raising the ceiling on the  
5 number of nursing facility level residents who reside in Type I Expanded ARCHs from two patients to  
6 three. However, the current statute already permits the DOH to allow more nursing level residents at its  
7 discretion, and this bill leaves this provision intact.

8 There are a grand total of 498 ARCHs with 2,643 beds in Hawaii. There are 254 Type I facilities  
9 with 1,161 beds and 221 Type I Expanded facilities with 1,089 beds. About 40% of the Type I  
10 Expanded beds (or 437 beds) are at the nursing level. The department's professional nurse consultant  
11 surveyors estimate that 10% of the nursing level beds are vacant at any given time. In addition, virtually  
12 all of the requests for additional nursing level beds are approved when the reputation of the home  
13 operator and the quality of care they provide can be validated and since virtually all of the requests are  
14 for residents to age in place. As a result, this bill appears to be unnecessary. Finally, any legislatively

1 mandated increase in the number of nursing level beds would require more licensing oversight, the costs  
2 of which are neither appropriated in this bill nor available at the department's current funding level.

3 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

## House Committee on Finance

Deborah Miller  
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Date of Hearing: Friday, 2/19/10

I respectfully oppose this Bill as written; HB 2157

My name is Deborah Miller. I am currently a BSW student at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. My primary field of interest is gerontology. I have been working in the field for five years presently.

I wish to respectfully testify against HB 2157 which is requesting to increase the capacity from two to three skilled nursing level residents in Type 1 Expanded Adult Residential Care Homes. While I do acknowledge a shortage of beds in the state of Hawaii as the kupuna population is growing at an alarming rate due to longevity and the soon retiring Baby Boomer generation, I am concerned that some Expanded ARCH's will seek out residents elsewhere to fill their own beds. Thus, not supporting the significance of "Aging in Place". The stress and added confusion this can cause a patient can be detrimental.

My second concern is how the added burdens of a third skilled nursing level resident may take away from the quality of care of less needy patients. Staff who are over worked are over stressed which may lead to greater risks of falls, elopements, skin tears, pressure ulcers. These concerns are best remedied by one to one interaction with attention to the respect and dignity of all residents. When staff is overwhelmed the risk for abuse and neglect rises.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against HB 2157.

Respectfully,  
Deborah Miller