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February 19, 2010

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
Committee on Finance
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 308

RE: HB2157 HD1 Relating to Expanded Adult Residential Care Homes

Dear Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and Members of the Committee:

I am John H. Radcliffe and on behalf of the Alliance of Residential Care Administrators (ARCA) we are in strong support of this bill which will permit type I residential care homes to add one more nursing home resident. Our reasoning for this is simple and direct:

- It is more efficient, and yet does not significantly increase the span of control necessary to care for our clients.
- It will be a considerable cost saving to the State of Hawaii in these difficult times.

This bill brings together elements that will greatly improve Hawaii's adult care home experience and we thank those legislators responsible for this progressive legislation.

We urge you to pass this bill. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully Submitted,

John H. Radcliffe
Vice President

Jocelyn Harris, APRN

Akamai Adult Residential Carehome

Committee on Finance

Hearing: 2/22/10

Measure #: HB 2157

I support increasing ICF / SNF / Expanded beds in the Adult Residential Care Homes from two to three.

Allowing Adult Residential Care Homes licensed by Registered Nurses to care for three expanded level of care residents, will provide quality cost effective residential care in a home based setting. Thus, easing the financial burden of the State of Hawaii, and saving millions of dollars by having residents pay for expanded care in the community for a longer period of time, before needing to apply for State funded services.

Many adult residential care homes are licensed by Registered Nurses who provide comprehensive clinical assessments daily, have years of experience, and an in depth educational nursing background. I have been a registered nurse for 18 years, have an Advance Practice Registered Nurse License, and am certified in Case Management and have extensive wound care experience. I have practiced at The Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific for the past 15 years and am a Certified Rehabilitation Registered Nurse.

Allowing three nursing facility level residents in a type one care home licensed by a registered nurse would ease the community burden for nursing homes, provide continuity of care (for new and existing residents) and a quality of care for many more clients in a community based home. I have had two residents in my care home for a year, at which time they became ill (one with an extended stroke and the other with a new diagnosis of cancer of the stomach added to the existing Alzheimer's diagnosis) and at the point of discharge from the hospital their level of care was expanded and both had to go into a different care home. Thus, disrupting their usually physical environment, having different care providers than what they were accustomed to and causing behavioral reactions to these situations.

The high cost to the State of Hawaii for institutional care would be minimized since residents would be able to afford their expanded care in a home based setting for a longer period of time before needing state assistance.

REP. MARCUS OSHIRO – FINANCE CHAIR

RE – HB 2157 – INCREASE CAPACITY OF ICF/NURSING LEVEL RESIDENTS
(EXPANDED CARE) IN TYPE I HOMES FROM 2 – 3

TESTIMONY – STRONGLY SUPPORT

REASONS:

1. MORE COST EFFECTIVE – SPECIALLY DURING THIS TIME OF FINANCIAL CRISIS. RESIDENTS IN THESE TYPE OF HOMES PROVIDE QUALITY CARE AT AFFORDABLE PRICE OF \$2,500 A MONTH, WHILE NURSING HOMES CHARGE FROM \$9,000 TO \$10,000 A MONTH, THUS SAVING THE ELDERLY THEIR FAMILIES AND THE STATE A LOT OF MONEY.
2. CARE HOMES ARE HIGHLY REGULATED BY THE DEPT. OF HEALTH, OFFICE OF HEALTH CARE ASSURANCE, THE SAME AGENCY REGULATING NURSING HOMES.
3. CARE HOMES PROVIDE MORE DIRECT SUPERVISION AND CONTACT WITH RESIDENTS AND CONTINUITY OF CARE IS MORE EFFICIENT BECAUSE THERE'S MORE STAFF TO RESIDENT RATIO.
4. EACH NURSING LEVEL RESIDENT IS BEING FOLLOWED UP BY A LICENSED RN OR SW CASE MANAGER TO PROVIDE OVERSIGHT IN THE DELIVERY OF CARE.

FROM: MEDY DE LARA, RN
ARCA

Finance Committee

February 22, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

I wholeheartedly support House Bill #2157 (Increase of Expanded Beds from two to three in an Adult Residential Expanded Care Home). Our community as a whole needs it right now especially in this trying times! This bill will eliminate the problem of overcrowding in hospitals. This bill will save the elderly and their families money. A typical Nursing Home charges start at about \$7,000.00 per month, where as a typical Care Home charges start at \$2,500.00 per month.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this bill and thank you for your consideration and undivided attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Virginia Baptista RN, CRRN, CMC