

UNIVERSAL CASE MANAGEMENT, LLC

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**LATE
Testimony**

To: Representative John Mizuno, Chair
Representative Tom Brower, Vice Chair
To the Committee on Human Services

From: Rosy E. Thomas, RN, BSN, LCM
Owner, Universal Case Management, LLC
Secretary, Case Management Council
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Date: Thursday, March 18, 2010
Time: 1030 AM
Place: Room 329

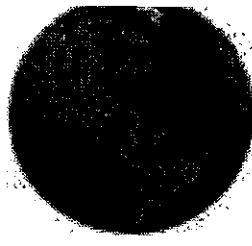
RE: Multiple: HR: 13/HCR51; HR15/HCR 53; HR22/HCR 62; HR24/HCR 64 and HR 234/HCR 319.

I would like to thank the Committee on Human Services: Rep. John Mizuno, Chair, Rep. Tom Brower, Vice Chair and to the Committee on Health: Rep Ryan Yamane, Chair and Rep. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair and to all the Committee members for allowing me to give my testimony.

My name is Rosy Thomas, RN, Case Manager, Owner of Universal Case Management Agency who manages and oversee the care and well being of the Aged, the Blind and the Disabled population in our community.

HR13/HCR 51: Declaring the second week in October as Case Management Week: I am in agreement to this proposal and I would like to give my heartfelt THANK YOU to all the members in the committee for finally acknowledging all the Case Managers in the islands who deserves to be recognize for their hard work and dedication of serving our ABD population in our community.

HR 15/ HCR 53: Requesting the Auditor to conduct a sunrise review to determine whether Case Managers should be certified by the Department of Commerce and consumer affairs: I am NOT in favor of this bill due to the following reasons: #1. The State of Hawaii is currently in financial shortfall. It is not necessary at this time, to pursue this sunrise study for it will be too costly for the State to hire a group of people



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to do the study. And #2. The Community Based Case Managers are already subjected to close scrutiny and licensed by (CTA) Community Ties of America to ensure our credibility. Therefore, certification of the Case Managers by the DCCA is not necessary. This is another cost reduction measure for the State in this time of economic crisis.

HR 22/HCR 62: Supporting Caregivers and recognizing their role in maintaining the health and well being of Hawaii's frail and vulnerable population: I am in support for this bill because the Caregivers are vital in our community, for without their diligence, their hard work and their sacrifices to care for the elderly in our community, our elderly population will have no place to go to with the possibility of transferring them to the mainland nursing homes thereby causing undue family separation.

HR 24/HCR 64: Recognizing March as "Adult Residential Care Home and Adult Foster Home Operators' month: I am in support of this because all the Caregivers deserve recognition. They have been taken for granted for so long and they all deserved to be recognized for the work that they do and that they are a vital part of the community. Without them, we would have a nursing home crisis for we would have no place to house our elderly population.

HR 234/HCR 319: Requesting a Management and Financial audit of all community-based programs and services receiving medicaid funding or subsidizing individuals eligible for Medicaid: I oppose to this bill because The Case Management Agencies should be excluded from this category. We are individually owned and we are not a State contracted Agencies. We are already being audited by three agencies: The CTA, Evercare and Ohana.

Thank you for allowing me to give my testimony.

Rosy Thomas, RN, BSN, LCM
Owner, Universal Case Management, LLC



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

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LATE
Testimony

March 18, 2010

TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEES ON HUMAN SERVICES AND HEALTH

House Resolution 22/House Concurrent Resolution 62 – Supporting Caregivers and Recognizing their Role in Maintaining the Health and Well-Being of Hawaii's Frail and Vulnerable Population

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) supports both House Resolution 22 and House Concurrent Resolution 62 supporting caregivers and recognizing their role in maintaining the health and well-being of Hawaii's frail and vulnerable population.

There are individuals with disabilities who depend on life-long caregivers who may be family members, friends, group home operators, caregivers in adult residential care homes, domiciliary care homes, or foster homes. All of these living options provide care that is more independent and cost effective when compared to life in an institution.

Caregivers in all of these settings provide valuable services to maintain the health and well-being of individuals with disabilities who cannot take care of themselves and deserve recognition for the support and care provided.

DCAB shares in the Legislature's recognition of the important and valuable work that caregivers, who are partners, in sustaining an optimal quality of life for the frail elderly and individuals with disabilities with their life-long care. We support these resolutions to recognize and acknowledge the contribution caregivers make to enhance the quality of life for their residents.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES W. FLEMING
Chairperson
Legislative Committee

FRANCINE WAI
Executive Director