

SB2260

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII

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DIRECTOR OF HEALTH



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EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON AGING
NO. 1 CAPITOL DISTRICT
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Senate Committees on Health/Human Services

**S.B. 2260, Relating to Human Services and Health
Written Testimony of Noemi Pendleton
Director of Executive Office on Aging
Attached Agency to Department of Health**

February 1, 2010

2:45 p.m. Conference Room 016

1 **Department's Position:** The Executive Office on Aging (EOA) is committed to Kupuna Care
2 and appreciates the intent of this bill; however at this time, EOA is not able to support this bill
3 because of the state's declining economic outlook and rising State budget deficit.

4 **Fiscal Implications:** There is \$2,963,411 appropriation of general funds for State Fiscal Year
5 2011 to the Department of Health for KUPUNA CARE services.

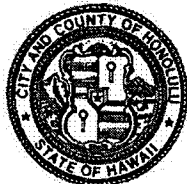
6 **Purpose and Justification:** The purpose of this Act is to provide additional funding for the
7 kupuna care program in addition to the \$4,854,350 Executive Office on Aging base budget.
8 Kupuna Care fills an important gap in assistance for the elderly in Hawaii and cuts in service
9 would be detrimental to their ability to live with independence and dignity.

10 At this time, EOA regrets that it is unable to support any appropriation from state general funds
11 that is outside the Executive Budget because of the state's declining economic outlook and rising
12 State budget deficit.

13 Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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MUFI HANNEMANN
MAYOR

DEBORAH KIM MORIKAWA
DIRECTOR

ERNEST Y. MARTIN
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

January 27, 2010

The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Health
The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Human Services
The State Senate
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Ige, Chair Chun Oakland and Members:

**Subject: Providing Comments on S.B. 2260
Relating to Human Services and Health**

The City and County of Honolulu's Elderly Affairs Division is Honolulu's designated Area Agency on Aging and operates in accordance with the Older Americans Act of 1965 to coordinate, advocate, and improve services to assist older persons in leading independent, meaningful, and dignified lives in their own homes and communities for as long as possible. We are strongly in support of S.B. 2260 Relating to the Human Services and Health.

This bill provides additional funding for the Kupuna Care program which provides for essential services that support the needs of the increasing population of frail elderly residents in Hawaii. The funding included in this bill would be essential to maintaining the health and welfare of senior citizens in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Deborah Kim Morikawa".

Deborah Kim Morikawa
Director

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elizabeth Bethea".

Elizabeth Bethea
County Executive on Aging
Elderly Affairs Division

CY:ab
sb 2260

January 28, 2010

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Josh Green, MD, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES
Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair

From: Lyn Moku, Office Manager

Hearing: February 1, 2010 at 2:45 p.m., Conference Room 016

Subject: **SUPPORT of SB 2260 RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES
AND HEALTH. Appropriates additional funding for the Kupuna care
program.**

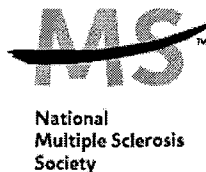
The National Multiple Sclerosis Society supports SB 2260 relating to Human Services and Health and the appropriation of additional funding for the Kupuna care program.

Nearly a quarter of individuals living with multiple sclerosis will require long-term care services and supports at some point during the course of the disease. Individuals with MS who have more significant disabilities require long-term and significant amounts of assistance with virtually all ordinary activities. A recent study on informal caregiving to people with MS found that both caregivers and persons with MS were close to sixty years old, significantly older than the MS population; and eighty percent of such care is provided by informal caregivers, usually family members.

The National MS Society is dedicated to helping people living with MS and their families, the elderly, and others with chronic disabling diseases secure the critical services they need. The Society supports expansion of public and private long-term care options, especially those that keep individuals in the community and functioning at the highest possible level.

We support SB 2260 and ask you to vote in favor of this Bill. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

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Hawaii Office, All America Chapter
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Honolulu, Hawaii 96817

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To: Senate Committee on Health
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Josh Green, M.D. Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Human Services
Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair

Date: Feb. 1, 2010 - Conference Room 016 - 2:45 p.m.

Re: **SB 2260 RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES AND HEALTH**

Chairs Ige, Chun Oakland, and Committee Members:

My name is Barbara Kim Stanton, State Director of AARP Hawaii. AARP is a membership organization of people 50 and older with 150,000 members in Hawaii. We are committed to championing access to affordable, quality health care for all generations, providing the tools needed to save for retirement, and serving as a reliable information source on issues critical to Americans age 50+.

AARP strongly supports additional funding for Kupuna Care, and is pleased to see that the need to increase the base budget is recognized in this measure.

The Kupuna Care program addresses the need for affordable home and community based long-term care services that help people remain at home for as long as possible. This program helps individuals who fall within the “gap group” – people who cannot afford to pay for services but do not qualify for Medicaid. Kupuna Care provides an important safety net that can prevent older adults from going into poverty due to the high cost of long-term care.

The base budget for Kupuna Care from Hawaii’s general fund has remained flat at \$4,854,350 since 2002 and has not kept pace with the need for services due to Hawaii’s rapidly expanding aging population. Additional money was appropriated in 2007 (500k), 2008 (475k), and 2009 (475k) to accommodate the inadequacy of the funding and to reduce the waitlist for Kupuna Care services. However, the 2009 money was restricted by the Governor.

AARP Hawaii appreciates the Legislature favorably considering a means of financing that provides additional funding for Kupuna Care. Funds added to the base budget would be more sustainable especially after no growth in its budget for the past seven years.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

From: moisrctr [moisrctr@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2010 4:17 PM
To: HTHTestimony
Subject: RE: Hearing on SB 2260

RE: Joint Hearing by the Senate Committees on Health and on Human Services
Monday, February 01, 2010
2:45 p.m.
Conference Room 016

Chair Ige and members of the Committee on Health;
Chair Chun Oakland and members of the Committee on Human Services;

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on behalf of SB 2260 Relating to Human Services and Health which would appropriate additional funding for the kupuna care program. We are in favor of this.

My name is Jill Kitamura, the Program Director of the Moiliili Senior Center program at the Moiliili Community Center. Although our program is not a part of the Kupuna care program, we do work with the different agencies that provide the services that are essential to assisting the seniors in maintaining their independence at home. Seniors cannot wait for services as they live day to day. Going into an institution is an expensive alternative for everyone. Your assistance in getting services to seniors quickly would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Jill T. Kitamura
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