

FINTestimony

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Subject: Testimony for SB2286 on 3/25/2010 11:00:00 AM

Testimony for FIN 3/25/2010 11:00:00 AM SB2286

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
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Submitted on: 3/25/2010

LATE TESTIMONY

Comments:

Chairman Oshiro and members of the committee. My name is Anthony Lenzer. I am a retired professor and former director of the Center on Aging at the University of Hawaii. I'm testifying in support of this bill on behalf of of the policy advisory board for elder affairs, an advisory body to the executive office on aging. My testimony reflects only the views of the board.

This bill extends the reporting deadlines for the long-term care commission. These extensions are critical, in order to allow the commission time to complete its very important work. The extension was made necessary because the commission had to spend months seeking funding for its work, when the governor refused to release appropriated funds contained in the original legislation.

The commission is now engaged in a research project which will provide information needed to develop a five year plan for meeting Hawaii's long-term care needs. Hawaii offers many long-term care services, both public and private, and both institutional and community-based. However, like most states, we lack a coordinated approach to providing and funding such services. This is precisely what the commission is tasked to do in its five-year plan.

Please give the commission time to complete its work by passing this legislation. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this matter.