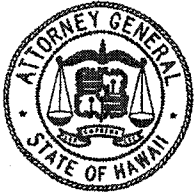


SCR 82



**TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE, 2010**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

S.C.R. NO. 82, REQUESTING A TASK FORCE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SYSTEM TO ASSIST WITH MISSING OR LOST SENIOR CITIZENS.

BEFORE THE:

SENATE COMMITTEES ON HUMAN SERVICES AND ON
JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

DATE: Thursday, March 25, 2010 **TIME:** 3:00 p.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 016

TESTIFIER(S): Mark J. Bennett, Attorney General, or
Andrea J. Armitage, Deputy Attorney General

Chairs Chun Oakland and Taniguchi and Members of the Committees:

The Department of the Attorney General opposes this concurrent resolution.

The resolution finds that "the Attorney General has in place the beginnings of a facial recognition program which could be used to assist in returning lost or disoriented senior citizens to their homes." The resolution asks the Attorney General to establish a task force "to develop, implement, and oversee a system, which is intended to include a facial recognition system that can be used to locate and return missing senior citizens to their homes."

The Department of the Attorney General does not "have in place the beginnings of a facial recognition program." The Department's Hawaii Criminal Justice Data Center is assisting the Honolulu Police Department to test facial recognition software for investigative purposes only, but the software is loaded on just one desktop computer at the Honolulu Police Department, for only a one-year period that will end in January 2011.

We estimate that purchasing a facial recognition system for law enforcement purposes alone would cost the State more than \$500,000. This resolution would require the task force to actually implement and oversee a facial recognition system. Without funding (this resolution provides none), this is an impossible task.

It appears there may be a misunderstanding about the nature of facial recognition software. For law enforcement purposes, facial recognition software may help police discover the name (but not directly the whereabouts) of an unidentified suspect, for example, by comparing a facial photo taken during a crime to mug photos in a database of past offenders. In contrast, when an elderly person is missing, the person's family already knows exactly who they are looking for. And when a disoriented senior cannot remember his or her name or address, police can simply check for a report of a missing senior and contact the family that made the report. (According to the Honolulu Police Department, a total of 89 citizens with dementia or Alzheimer's disease were reported as missing in Honolulu in 2009, and all of them were found.) Facial recognition software would make a difference only if a senior's family never reported that the senior was missing. This would be exceedingly rare.

We respectfully ask that this concurrent resolution be held.



Randy Ferreira *Executive Director*
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HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

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The Twenty-Fifth Legislature, State of Hawaii
Hawaii State Senate
Committee on Human Services
and
Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations

Testimony by
Hawaii Government Employees Association
March 25, 2010

**SCR 82 – REQUESTING A TASK
FORCE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF
A SYSTEM TO ASSIST WITH MISSING
OR LOST SENIOR CITIZENS.**

The Hawaii Government Employees Association Retirees Unit, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO, strongly supports SCR 82. This Senate Concurrent Resolution asks that the Department of the Attorney General establish a task force to develop, implement, and oversee a system that employs a facial recognition program as a means to identify missing senior citizens.

Our Retirees Unit consists of 9,471 members, of which 7,548 are between the ages of 65 and 105 years old. Therefore, we are well aware of the issues that confront our retiree members and our population in general due to aging. To the extent that the Department of the Attorney General already has a program that can be adapted to identify missing senior citizens so that they can be returned to their loved ones, that technology should be used as the foundation for a state-wide system that can find and return senior citizens to their homes.

In addition, SCR 82 names a number of private and public entities that should be participants in the Task Force. We believe the agencies and organizations that are named in SCR 82 are a good cross-section of the interests that should be involved in the location and return of disoriented senior citizens.

For the foregoing reasons, we strongly support SCR 82. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this resolution.

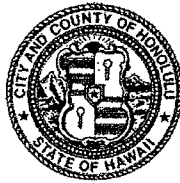
Respectfully submitted,

Nora A. Nomura
Deputy Executive Director



POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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MUFI HANNEMANN
MAYOR

LOUIS M. KEALOHA
CHIEF

DELBERT T. TATSUYAMA
RANDAL K. MACADANGDANG
DEPUTY CHIEFS

OUR REFERENCE
RR-NTK

March 25, 2010

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
and Members
Committee on Human Services
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi
and Members
Committee on Judiciary and
Government Operations
The Senate
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chairs Chun Oakland and Taniguchi and Members:

Subject: Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 82, Requesting a Task Force for the Development of a System to Assist with Missing or Lost Senior Citizens

I am Richard C. Robinson, Captain of the Criminal Investigation Division of the Honolulu Police Department, City and County of Honolulu.

The Honolulu Police Department opposes Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 82, Requesting a Task Force for the Development of a System to Assist with Missing or Lost Senior Citizens.

The Honolulu Police Department recognizes that with the aging of the baby boomers, there is a current and growing need for a system to quickly identify and reunite disoriented senior citizens with their families. However, we oppose the development of a task force at this time.

We are in the very beginning stages of a one-year pilot project to test a face recognition system (FRS) with the Department of the Attorney General. This system will be very narrow in scope and will focus primarily on identifying unknown criminal suspects by comparing them to the existing database of mug shots.

Serving and Protecting With Aloha

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and Brian T. Taniguchi, Chairs
and Members

Page 2

March 25, 2010

The potential uses of FRS in the future are extensive and will likely include the identification of unknown, disoriented, or injured persons. At this point, we feel that the development of a task force is premature. The goals of this resolution will best be served by allowing the Department of the Attorney General and the Honolulu Police Department to work together on this project.

The Honolulu Police Department urges you to oppose Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 82, Requesting a Task Force for the Development of a System to Assist with Missing or Lost Senior Citizens.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



RICHARD C. ROBINSON, Captain
Criminal Investigation Division

APPROVED:



POA LOUIS M. KEALOHA
Chief of Police



OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII

1360 S. Beretania St., Suite 301, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

Testimony by:
Avis Sakata, OTR

SCR 194/SR93, Requesting the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives to Authorize the Joint Legislative Committee on Aging in Place to Continue to Meet and Carry Out the Work of the Committee

**Senate HMS Hearing – Thursday, March 25, 2010
Room 016 – 1:15 pm**

Position: Support

Chair Chun Oakland, and Members of the Senate HMS Committee:

I am Avis Sakata, OTR and president of the Occupational Therapy Association of Hawaii, (OTAH), which represents 507 occupational therapists (OTs) licensed in Hawaii. OT's work in many settings throughout the State, including hospitals, schools, prisons, skilled nursing to private facilities and community-based programs.

Occupational Therapy is a science driven, evidenced-based profession that enables people of all ages, from infants to the elderly, to live life to its fullest by helping them promote health and prevent or live better with illness, injury or disability. Occupational Therapists are recognized members of the Healthcare Rehabilitation team which is comprised also of physicians, nurses, physical therapists, speech therapists, social workers and others. As a healthcare provider, OTs provide, but are not limited to: 1) assessment and evaluation of our patients/clients needs and development of an appropriate treatment plan, 2) interventions focused on daily living skills (including self-care), work readiness, play or educational performance skills, 3) and interventions that include sensorimotor, neuromuscular functioning, cognitive or psychosocial components.

OTAH supports the authorization of the continued meeting of the Joint Legislative Committee on Aging in Place, and the extended reporting deadline. The public and private sector collaboration in this effort is an important foundation for meeting the needs of our elders and their desire to live at home for as long as possible. In fact, the informational briefing held recently that featured community providers and organizations provided new information and resources, which we were able to share with our patient consumers. We would encourage broader dissemination of this kind of information to the community-at-large.

OTAH's national organization, the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) has ventured into a partnership with AARP and the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) to collaborate to provide solutions to address this growing societal need of aging in place. Over the past few years, AOTA along with AARP and NAHB have jointly presented seminars at many conferences across the U.S. Three percent of NAHB's designations for Certified Aging in Place Specialists (CAPS) are filled by occupational therapy practitioners.

Occupational Therapy practitioners evaluate the skills of the patient/client and the environmental factors that support or limit performance of skills at home. Based on patient/client assessment, occupational therapists recommend modifications that will improve the environment to support independence and safety within the home.

In addition to supporting this measure, we offer our expertise to the Joint Legislative Committee on Aging in Place. I can be reached at 522-4602 if further information is needed. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

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

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIAR AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senator Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair

FROM: Eldon L. Wegner, Ph.D.,
PABEA (Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs)

SUBJECT: **SCR 82 Requesting a task force for the development of a system to assist with missing or lost senior citizens**

HEARING: 3:00 pm Thursday, March 25, 2010
Conference Room 016, Hawaii State Capitol

PURPOSE: Establishes a taskforce to develop an efficient, cost-effective process for an identification database of services and at-risk adults if they go missing.

POSITION: **PABEA supports SCR 82 as a step towards implementing a Silver Alert program.**

RATIONALE:

I am offering testimony on behalf of PABEA, the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs, which is an appointed board tasked with advising the Executive Office on Aging (EOA). My testimony does not represent the views of the EOA but of the Board. I am also a professor of medical sociology at UH-Manoa who has worked with elderly services in Hawaii for more than 20 years.

PABEA supports the creation the taskforce to develop an efficient, cost-effective process for creating and operating an identification database of services and at-risk senior citizens. Such a program is needed to provide greater safety and security for elder persons with dementia or life-threatening physical illnesses, some of whom become disoriented, wander from home and become lost. Such a program provides a means for families to seek help by enlisting law enforcement agencies in the effort to locate such persons and return them to their homes.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.