

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 17 2011

RE: S.B. No. 1508

Honorable Shan S. Tsutsui
President of the Senate
Twenty-Sixth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2011
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Human Services, to which was referred S.B. No. 1508 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES AND HEALTH,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to provide additional funding for the Kupuna Care program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Executive Office on Aging, Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs, National Multiple Sclerosis Society, AARP Hawaii, Lanakila Pacific, Child & Family Service, Catholic Charities Hawai'i, Project Dana, and fifteen individuals.

Your Committee finds that the elderly population in Hawaii is one of the fastest growing in the country. The number of persons over age sixty-five is increasing rapidly and is projected to increase by eight-six percent between 2007 and 2030.

Your Committee further finds that because Hawaii's culture and values revolve around family, most caregiving of the elderly in Hawaii is provided by family members. Approximately 169,000 family caregivers form the backbone of Hawaii's long-term care system, and currently provide over \$1,000,000,000 a year in unpaid care. Financial stability and the burden of providing care are the main issues for the elderly and their caregivers and families, and your Committee recognizes that they need help in the form of respite and other services.



Your Committee also finds that the Kupuna Care program is a home- and community-based program designed to address the increased need for affordable long-term care and the desire by many kupuna to remain in the community. The goal of Kupuna Care is to give Hawaii's older adults access to affordable and quality home- and community-based services that are client-centered and family-supportive, allowing the elderly to live with independence and dignity.

Your Committee further finds that the Kupuna Care program is directed at serving those who fall through the gaps in coverage or eligibility for essential services. It provides a safety net to prevent institutionalization and support seniors in their homes. The waitlist for Kupuna Care services continues to grow as the senior population in Hawaii increases.

Your Committee finds that funding for Kupuna Care services is of vital importance, as these services target the most isolated and vulnerable seniors in Hawaii.

Your Committee notes that an additional \$3,500,000 is needed for Kupuna Care, and your Committee recommends that an appropriation of this amount be added to the base budget of Kupuna Care to allow the program to continue meeting the needs of the senior community.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1508 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Human Services,

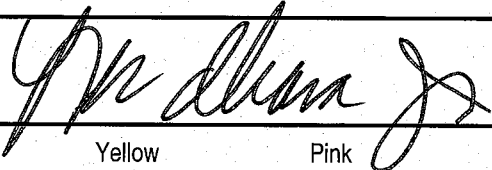
Suzanne Chun Oakland

SUZANNE CHUN OAKLAND, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Sixth Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Human Services
HMS

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SB 1508	HMS, WARM	2-8-11		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312	<input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311	<input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310		
<input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne (C)	✓			
IHARA, Jr., Les (VC)	✓			
GREEN, M.D., Josh	✓			
SLOM, Sam	✓			
TOTAL	4	0	0	0
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
				
Distribution:				
Original	Yellow	Pink	Goldenrod	
File with Committee Report	Clerk's Office	Drafting Agency	Committee File Copy	

*Only one measure per Record of Votes