

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



WESLEY LUM, PhD, MPH
DIRECTOR

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ACTING DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

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STATE OF HAWAII
EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON AGING
NO. 1 CAPITOL DISTRICT
250 SOUTH HOTEL STREET, SUITE 406
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-2831

Committee on Finance

HB160, HD1, RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES AND HEALTH

**Testimony of Wes Lum
Director, Executive Office on Aging
Attached Agency to Department of Health**

Tuesday, March 1, 2011

4:00 p.m.; Agenda #7

1 **EOA's Position:** The Executive Office on Aging (EOA) supports the intent of this measure and
2 defers on the fiscal implications until the Executive Budget has been finalized. Should funds be
3 available, EOA requests that these funds be placed in EOA's base budget (HTH 904). EOA also
4 recommends changes to Section 1 as specified below.

5 **Fiscal Implications:** EOA currently receives \$4,854,305 for Kupuna Care services on an annual
6 basis. This measure appropriates an additional \$3,500,000 for each of year of the fiscal biennium.
7 EOA is currently working with the county offices on aging to verify the accuracy of this funding
8 request, and we will notify your committee if the request should be adjusted.

9 **Purpose and Justification:** The House Committee on Health amended the original bill by,
10 among other things, referencing each of the programs receiving funding as part of the Kupuna
11 Care appropriation. EOA believes that the intent was to provide examples of agencies that are
12 currently providing such services to Hawaii's older adults. While well intended, EOA notes that
13 the identified the names of private non-profit entities receiving funding as part of the Kupuna Care
14 appropriation are based entirely in Honolulu; the Kupuna Care program is statewide and the list of

1 the agencies neglects to mention the current service providers in Maui, Hawaii, and Kauai
2 counties.

3 EOA recommends that references to these programs be deleted from the Section 1. In
4 addition to the list being incomplete, Kupuna Care services are competitively procured, and
5 therefore, listing the names of the agencies that provides the service has the potential to create
6 confusion because the legislature cannot appropriate funding to a private non-profit, but rather,
7 can make a grant under Chapter 42F, HRS, to such an entity. Kupuna Care is allocated by EOA
8 according to a Kupuna Care funding formula recently re-negotiated with the four county-based
9 Area Agencies on Aging (AAA). EOA contracts with the AAAs to administer Kupuna Care, and
10 in turn, the AAAs procure through open competition for Kupuna Care services. As a result of the
11 competitive procurement, one or more of the named agencies may or may not be awarded.

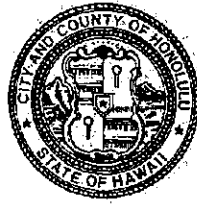
12 Additionally, the naming of specific agencies also runs contrary to EOA's efforts, in line
13 with nationwide best practices and our system's change federal grants, to use person-centered
14 planning. Support plans are to be designed based on the needs and values specific to each
15 participant. Person-centered planning is not supported when the proportion of funds allotted to
16 each service, or agency, is predetermined. Services need to be allocated as each individual's
17 support plan is designed.

18 EOA also recommends that page three, lines 16-17, be corrected as follows: "...3,277
19 elders received meals [were] delivered to their homes..."

20 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

715 SOUTH KING STREET, SUITE 311 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813 • AREA CODE 808 • PHONE: 768-7762 • FAX: 768-7792



PETER B. CARLISLE
MAYOR

SAMUEL E. H. MOKU
DIRECTOR

BRIDGET HOLTHUS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Testimony of the Department of Community Services

MEASURE:

H.B. NO. 160, H.D. 1, RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES AND HEALTH.

COMMITTEE(S):

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

HEARING DATE: Tuesday, March 1, 2011

TIME: 4:00 p.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 308

COMMITTEE REQUESTS 2 COPIES

TESTIFIER(S): Samuel E.H. Moku, Director
(Written testimony only. For more information, please call
Elizabeth Bethea, Elderly Affairs Division, at 768-7705.)

Chair Oshiro and Members of the Committee:

The City and County of Honolulu's Elderly Affairs Division strongly supports this bill.

The 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.

This bill provides additional funding for the Kupuna Care program, which provides essential services that support the needs of the increasing population of frail elderly residents in Hawaii. The funding included in this bill is essential to maintaining the health and welfare of our most vulnerable seniors. We respectfully urge the Committee to pass this bill.

While we strongly support the additional appropriation in this bill, we also strongly support including appropriations for the Kupuna Care program in the Executive Office on Aging (EOA) base budget in the future. This would reduce administrative costs by eliminating the need for EOA to execute separate contracts or amend base budget contracts with service providers, and would help maximize the framework of long-term care and caregiver services that already exists in each county.

TO : COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Rep. Marcus Oshiro, Chair
Rep. Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair

FROM: Eldon L. Wegner, Ph.D.
POLICY ADVISORY BOARD FOR ELDER AFFAIRS (PABEA)

HEARING: 4:00 pm Tuesday March 1, 2011
Conference Room 308, Hawaii State Capitol

SUBJECT: HB 160 HD1 Relating to Human Services and Health

POSITION: As a member of The Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs, I **strongly support** HB 160 HD1 which would provide additional funds for the Kupuna Care program through the fiscal year 2013.

RATIONALE:

The Policy Board for Elder Affairs has a statutory obligation to advocate on behalf of the senior citizens of Hawaii. While we advise the Executive Office on Aging, we do not speak on behalf of the Executive Office of Aging.

§ We understand the current fiscal crisis facing the state of Hawaii. However, the care of frail elders is an immediate need and should be an important priority for public support.

§ The Kupuna Care services, which persons not eligible for Medicaid services, enable families to care for their elders at home and also keep persons from having to go on Medicaid. Not to fund basic home and community services would result in many case of persons having to use higher cost residential care, usually at public expense.

§ The current Kupuna Care services fall short of meeting the critical need, and the demand for these services will continue to grow. There are wait lists for most services, although they are urgently needed. The state is falling far short of providing for its most vulnerable citizens who are in critical need.

§ These critical services have major impacts on the quality of life of frail elders and their caregivers and the cost of the services is relatively low compared to other expenditures of the state. Thus, I strongly

recommend support for additional funding in order to meet our moral obligations to those in greatest need.

Thank you for allowing me to testify on this bill.

Committee on Finance

HB160, HD1, RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES AND HEALTH

**Testimony of Deborah Arendale
Executive on Aging, Maui County Office on Aging**

Tuesday, March 1, 2011

4:00 p.m.; Agenda #7

1 **MCOA's Position:** The Maui County Office on Aging (MCOA) supports the intent of this
2 measure and shares the same concerns as noted in testimony provided by Dr. Wesley Lum,
3 Director, Hawaii State Executive Office on Aging (EOA) as noted below. MCOA requests that
4 the appropriated funds be placed in EOA's base budget (HTH 904). MCOA also recommends
5 changes to Section 1 as specified below.

6 **Fiscal Implications:** EOA currently receives \$4,854,350 for Kupuna Care services on an annual
7 basis that is subsequently distributed to each County according to an intra-state funding formula.
8 This measure appropriates an additional \$3,500,000 for each of year of the fiscal biennium.

9 **Purpose and Justification:** The House Committee on Health amended the original bill by,
10 among other things, referencing each of the programs receiving funding as part of the Kupuna
11 Care appropriation. MCOA believes that the intent was to provide examples of agencies that are
12 currently providing such services to Hawaii's older adults. While well intended, MCOA notes
13 that the identified the names of private non-profit entities receiving funding as part of the Kupuna
14 Care appropriation are based entirely in Honolulu; the Kupuna Care program is statewide and the
15 list of the agencies neglects to mention the providers in Maui, Hawaii, and Kauai counties.

16 MCOA agrees with EOA's recommendations that references to these programs be deleted
17 from the Section 1. In addition to the list being incomplete, Kupuna Care services are procured,
18 and therefore, listing the names of the agencies that provides the service has the potential to create
19 confusion because the legislature cannot appropriate funding to a private non-profit, but rather,

1 can make a grant under Chapter 42F, HRS, to such an entity. Kupuna Care is allocated by EOA
2 according to an intrastate funding formula recently re-negotiated with the four county-based Area
3 Agencies on Aging (AAA). EOA procures Kupuna Care services by contracting with the AAAs,
4 and in turn, the AAAs procure through open competition for subcontracts. As a result of the
5 competitive procurement, one or more of the named agencies may be awarded a contract, but may
6 not.

7 Additionally, the naming of specific agencies also runs contrary to EOA's and each
8 County AAA's efforts, in line with nationwide best practices and our system's change federal
9 grants, to use person-centered planning. Support plans are to be designed based on the needs and
10 values specific to each participant. Person-centered planning is not supported when the proportion
11 of funds allotted to each service, or agency, is predetermined. Services need to be allocated as
12 each individual's support plan is designed.

13 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

14



To: House Committee on Finance
Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair

Date: March 1, 2011, Conference Room 308, 4:00pm.

Re: **HB 160, HD1 - RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES AND HEALTH**

Chair Oshiro 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 nearly 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 HB 160, HD1. The purpose of the bill is to appropriate out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$3.5 million for the fiscal year 2011-2012, and the same sum for the fiscal year 2012-2013 for the Kupuna Care program. This funding shall be in addition to the \$4,854,350 executive office on aging base budget.

AARP is requesting that to be consistent with the Kupuna Care appropriation in Act 191, Session Laws of Hawaii 2010, Sections 5 and 15, this bill break out the Kupuna Care allocation as follows:

1. \$3,000,000 for Kupuna Care
2. \$500,000 for meals for the elderly for Kupuna Care

The passage of this bill is vital as:

- This bill will provide an ongoing, sustainable source of revenue for Kupuna Care, that can be counted upon each year by seniors and their caregivers who depend and rely upon Kupuna Care to provide occasional, yet important respite services.
- Hawaii's population over age 65 is increasing rapidly and projected to increase by 86% between 2007 and 2030.
- More than one out of every five (22%) Hawaii residents will be age 65 or older in 2030.
- The population ages 85 and over will increase by 64% between 2007 and 2030.
- Approximately 169,000 family caregivers are the backbone of Hawaii's long term care system and currently provide \$1.4 billion a year of unpaid care. But they need help – in the form of respite and some services.
- The number of family caregivers is declining. The primary family caregiver group is 50-64 years old. This group will decline by 10% by 2030, and cause further strain on seniors and remaining caregivers.

We urge you to support seniors by passing HB 160, HD1 with the suggested amendment, as it funds safety net programs that support our most vulnerable population – the elderly, caregivers, and seniors.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony.

State of Hawaii
House Committee on Finance
The Honorable Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
The Honorable Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
Hawaii State Legislature

March 1, 2011; 4:00pm
Room 308

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HB 160, HD 1, Relating to Human Services and Health

Good afternoon, Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the House Finance Committee,

Lanakila Pacific strongly supports measure HB 160, HD 1, to provide much needed additional funding for the Kupuna Care program. As a nonprofit organization that serves thousands of seniors each year with meals, we understand that this group is an especially vulnerable population in our community.

As a Kupuna Care service provider, Lanakila Meals on Wheels, a program of Lanakila Pacific, serves more than 250,000 meals for seniors each year. Our staff and volunteers deliver more than a nutritious meal, as they may be the only person that the senior will spend time with each day. Our average meal recipient is a woman of Asian or Pacific Island decent, 83 years old with an income of less than \$1,000 per month.

As a Kupuna Care program, we also provide nutritional education and counseling, monitor health and welfare, and serve as an important bridge to support services, helping seniors remain in their homes rather than more costly premature institutionalization.

The passage of this bill is vital as it will provide an ongoing, sustainable source of revenue for Kupuna Care that can be counted upon each year by seniors and their caregivers who depend upon Kupuna Care. Aging network providers cannot meet the growing demand for services when faced by years of flat or reduced State and Federal funding and the growing cost of service delivery due to increased cost of food, gas and utilities, etc.

We urge you to support seniors by voting yes on HB 106, HD 1, as it funds safety net programs that support the most isolated and vulnerable seniors in Hawaii.

Respectfully submitted,

Marian E. Tsuji
President & CEO



CATHOLIC CHARITIES HAWAII

TO: Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
Committee on Finance

FROM: Diane M. Terada, Division Administrator *DMTerada*

DATE: Tuesday, March 01, 2011 (4 p.m., Room 308)

RE: Support of HB 160, HD1, Relating to Human Services and Health
(with comments)

Catholic Charities Hawai'i (CCH), is a tax exempt, non-profit agency that has been providing supportive home and community based services to elders since 1973 and currently serves approximately 5,000 older persons each year. We support HB160, HD1 to provide additional funding through general revenues for the Kupuna Care program, which funds essential services for seniors.

Catholic Charities Hawai'i would like to offer the following comments:

1. **Assisted Transportation and Kupuna Care Transportation are essentially the same service** – the bill references both. Service is normally called Kupuna Care Transportation, not Assisted Transportation.
 - **Recommendation:** Delete “Assisted Transportation” due to duplication w/ “Kupuna Care Transportation”.
2. **Provider agencies identified in bill** – please note that the provider agencies identified in the bill are only Oahu providers.
3. **“Meals for the Elderly”** - this service has been added as a new service under Kupuna Care. If the intent of adding this new service is to allow for funding of congregate meal sites (which is currently funded through Federal Older Americans Act funds¹), it may add more clarity to identify the service as “congregate meal sites”.

Catholic Charities Hawai'i has provided Kupuna Care Transportation Services on the island of Oahu for a number of years. In addition, we have been partners with other Oahu aging network providers who also provide essential State-funded Kupuna Care Services such as home-delivered meals, case management, chore & housekeeping, bathing service and more.

State-funded Kupuna Care currently funds a set of basic, essential services that help frail elders remain independent and avoid institutionalization or homelessness. In addition, these services support family caregivers who are providing support to frail elderly relatives who still want to maintain their independence but require supportive services, from family and the community, in order to do so.

Aging network providers cannot meet the **growing demand for services** when faced by years of **flat or reduced State and Federal funding** and the **growing cost of service delivery** due to

¹ http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/AoA_Programs/HCLTC/Nutrition_Services/index.aspx#congregate



aging vehicles, increased cost of gas and utilities, increased cost of providing health insurance for employees, etc.

At over \$100,000 a year,² nursing home care is unaffordable for most elders and results in more cost to taxpayers and government. Additional funding for community-based Kupuna Care services will allow our kupuna to remain in the community (which they prefer) and avoid costly institutionalization.

Please support additional funding for Kupuna Care services. Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Please feel free to contact me at 527-4702 or diane.terada@catholiccharitieshawaii.org if I can provide any further information.

² Genworth Financial, Hawaii State-Specific Data from the Genworth 2010 Cost of Care Survey,
https://pro.genworth.com/content/etc/medialib/genworth_v2/pdf/ltc_cost_of_care.Par.87942.File.dat/Hawaii_gnw.pdf, April 2010



National
Multiple Sclerosis
Society
Hawaii Division

February 26, 2011

To: COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair

From: Lyn Moku, Office Manager

Hearing: March 1, 2011 at 4:00 p.m., Conference Room 308

Subject: **SUPPORT OF HB 160, H.D. 1, RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES AND HEALTH.
KUPUNA CARE. Appropriates additional funding for the Kupuna care program July 1, 2011**

The National Multiple Sclerosis Society supports HB 160, H.D. 1 which appropriates additional funds for the Kupuna Care program.

The additional funding will help ensure that services provided through the Kupuna Care program will be available for people who depend on these services to maintain their independence and quality of life. That includes independence and quality of life for family caregivers—for too often personal freedom and resources, identity, and health are diminished or lost as the care recipient's needs increase.

Very few among us would not want to help a loved one. It's the way we are. It's our culture and our responsibility. It makes us feel good. Yet over time and as needs increase, it can become more challenging to help another person maintain their independence while losing our own. That's why the services provided through Kupuna Care are so important. Every one of the services provided help people remain at home for as long as possible, support families, and ease caregiver burden. Everyone benefits from Kupuna Care: people with multiple sclerosis and other chronic, disabling diseases, older people, and family members, society as a whole.

The National MS Society supports the expansion of public and private long-term care options, especially those that keep individuals in the community and functioning at the highest possible level; the development of a coordinated approach to the delivery of health care and other services provided; and respite services to help caregivers cope with constant, oftentimes overwhelming duties. We need to ensure that Kupuna Care is sustained and available to those who need help the most.

We support HB 160, H.D. 1 and ask you to vote in favor of this Bill. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

###

To: Committee on Finance
Representative Marcus Oshiro Chair
Representative Marilyn Lee, Vice Chair

Date: Tuesday, March 1, 2011
Time: 4:00 p.m.
Place: Conference Rm. 308

Testifier: Eudice Schick, Chair Policy Advisory Board For Elder Affairs
"PABEA"

Bill: HB 160 HD1
In Strong Support

Chair Oshiro and Committee Members, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of HB 160 HD1, relating to Health and Human Services.

I am Eudice Schick, current Chair of PABEA. The following testimony is being given by myself as an individual and in no way represents the views of the Executive Office on Aging.

As Chair of PABEA and, as a Kupuna, the passage of HB160 HD1 is vital, as this bill will provide an ongoing and sustainable source of revenue for Kupuna Care. It is important that our Kupuna, as well as their caregivers, each year, have a source of revenue that they can depend on. Our Kupuna, here in Hawai'i, wish to remain at home for as long as possible. By doing so it is far less expensive for the government. Through this bill, and the funds that it would provide, our caregivers would be able to have the much needed respite services.

Family Caregivers are the backbone of Hawaii's long term care system and currently provide over \$1 Billion a year of unpaid care. I encourage you to support HB160 HD1.

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony.

Sincerely,
Eudice Schick, Chair PABEA

To: The House Committee on Finance
The Honorable Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
The Honorable Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair

Date: Tuesday, March 1, 2011, 4: 00 p.m.

Place: State Capitol, Room 308

From: Rose Nakamura, Administrator, Project Dana

Subject: Testimony in support of HB 160, HD1, Relating to Human Services and Health

I strongly support H.B. 160, HD 1 – Relating to Human Services and Health. Most specifically this House Bill 160, HD 1 addresses an appropriation of \$3.5 million to Kupuna Care Programs for FY 2012-2013 in addition to the Executive Office on Aging Base Budget.

Kupuna Care has for years through the Executive Office on Aging in partnership with the county area agencies on aging provided much support to the elders throughout the State of Hawaii. The numbers of elders needing long term care assistance are ever increasing as the demographics lean heavily towards an aging society. In a few years, older adults 60 and over, will make up 25% of Hawaii's population.

Aging in place is the desire for everyone in Hawaii and assistance in various nature i.e. case management, information and referral, meals on wheels, transportation, housing, personal care, attendant care, etc. is increasing. Kupuna Care is a cost effective program and plays a vital role in maintaining seniors to live happily in their homes. Many older adults are isolated, shut-in, lonely and helpless and need some assistance in coping with daily living. The numerous unmet needs of elders must be met. Elders are our bridge to our past, our heritage and our treasured resource.

Funding for Kupuna Care is imminent to Hawaii's Kupuna to age in place with your whole hearted and sensitive support.

Thank you very much.

To: Committee on Finance, Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair

Date: Tuesday, March 1, 2011, State Capitol Conference Room 308, 4:00pm.

Re: HB160 HD1 - Relating to Human Services and Health

Chair Oshiro and Committee Members, thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of HB 160 HD1, Relating to Human Services and Health. My name is Jack Katahira and I am a retiree providing part-time care for my two grand-daughters. I live in the Alewa Hights area.

The passage of this bill is vital for the provision of ongoing and sustainable source of revenue for Kupuna Care. Kupuna Care services are counted upon each year by seniors and their caregivers for occasional, yet important respite services. Most people requiring care prefer to live at home where they are amongst family and friends. People receiving the services of Kupuna Care will require less institutional care and in the long run will be less of a burden on the Hawaii Medicaid program. Kupuna Care services is safety net for home and community based services that allow people who are not poor enough to qualify for Medicaid, but not wealthy enough to pay for services, to have access to respite services.

I urge you to support seniors by voting yes on HB160, HD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony.

Jack H. Katahira
1331 B Mamalu Street
Honolulu, HI 96817

Subject: Testimony HB 160 HD1 - Relating to Human Services and Health

Faxed to: 586-6001

To: Committee on Finance, Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Date: Tuesday, March 1, 2011, State Capitol Conference Room 308, 4:00pm.
Re: HB160 HD1 - Relating to Human Services and Health

Chair Oshiro and Committee Members, thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of HB 160 HD1, Relating to Human Services and Health. My name is Flemming H. Carstensen, my wife and I live in a retirement community at Waialae Nui, lower ridge area. We do not have family here. However, there are many families and seniors in our neighborhood who depend and rely upon Kupuna Care. These seniors prefer to stay in their home versus moving into a nursing home, which is far more costly to them, as well as to the government. In view of this, the passage of this bill is vital as:

This bill will provide the funds to maintain Kupuna Care services for seniors and their caregivers who depend and rely upon Kupuna Care to provide occasional, yet important respite services.

This bill also provide a safety net of home and community based services as needed to allow people who are not poor enough to qualify for Medicaid, but not wealthy enough to pay for services, to have access to respite services.

Family Caregivers are the backbone of Hawaii's long term care system.

Chair Oshiro and Committee Members I urge you to support seniors by voting **yes on HB 160 HD 1**

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony.

Flemming H. Carstensen *FHC*

Waialae Nui, lower ridge area

To: Committee on Finance, Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Date: Tuesday, March 1, 2011, State Capitol Conference Room 308, 4:00pm.
Re: HB160 HD1 - Relating to Human Services and Health

Chair Oshiro and Committee Members, thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of HB 160 HD1, Relating to Human Services and Health. My name is David Klemer and I live on the east side of Kauai

I feel this bill is so important as it will allow seniors to stay in their homes longer relieving the government and tax payer of the much more expensive institutional care. In these economically challenging times, I feel a little expense is better than a BIG one.

I urge you to support seniors by voting yes on HB160, HD1.

Thank you for this opportunity.

David Klemer

Anahola, Hawaii

To: Committee on Finance, Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Date: Tuesday, March 1, 2011, State Capitol Conference Room 308, 4:00pm.
Re: HB160 HD1 - Relating to Human Services and Health

Chair Oshiro and Committee Members, thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of HB 160 HD1, Relating to Human Services and Health. My name is Deana Shelby and I live in Anahola on the island of Kauai.

The passage of this bill is so important as a:

- Sustainable source of revenue for Kupuna Care: One that can be counted upon by seniors and their caregivers who rely upon Kupuna Care.
- Safety net of services for people who are not poor enough to qualify for Medicaid, but not wealthy enough to pay for needed services.
- Stop gap, allowing a longer stay in their own homes for those who would otherwise be using much more expensive nursing home care.

I urge you to support seniors by voting yes on HB160, HD1.

Thank you for this opportunity.

Deana Shelby

Anahola of Kauai

hb160 testimony.txt

To: Committee on Finance, Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Date: Tuesday, March 1, 2011, State Capitol Conference Room 308, 4:00pm.
Re: HB160 HD1 - Relating to Human Services and Health

Chair Oshiro and Committee Members: thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in strong support of HB 160, Relating to Human Services and Health. My name is Steve Godzsak and I live in the Hilo area. The passage of this bill is vital because:

- Family Caregivers are the backbone of Hawaii's long term care system and currently provide an estimated \$1.4 billion a year of unpaid care. But they need help - HB160 could provide the financial help for thousands of needy individuals and their caregivers.
- This bill will provide a sustainable source of revenue for Kupuna Care ensuring the services provided to the seniors and their caregivers will remain uninterrupted and furthermore, that the services will be available to Hawaii's escalating senior population.
- Kupuna Care helps people to remain at home for as long as possible. When polled, seniors have overwhelmingly stated they wish to live out their lives in the comfort and familiarity of their own home. Kupuna Care provides meals and home visits for these individuals, many of whom are living alone.
- Cost analyses of home based vs institutional care show it is far less expensive for individuals and for the government when seniors remain at home. Kupuna care provides meals, companionship, housekeeping, personal care, and vital transportation that enables a person to remain mostly independent and stay in their home.
- A safety net of home and community based services is needed to allow people who are above the Medicaid threshold, but not wealthy enough to pay for services, to have access to the services provided by Kupuna Care.

I urge you to support those seniors who need this service by voting yes on HB160. Thank you for this opportunity to submit my testimony.
Steve Godzsak
Hilo, HI 96720

To: Committee on Finance, Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair

Date: Tuesday, March 1, 2011, State Capitol Conference Room 308, 4:00pm.

Re: HB160 HD1 - Relating to Human Services and Health

Chair Oshiro and Committee Members, thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of HB 160 HD1, Relating to Human Services and Health. My name is Jack Katahira and I am a retiree providing part-time care for my two grand-daughters. I live in the Alewa Hights area.

The passage of this bill is vital for the provision of ongoing and sustainable source of revenue for Kupuna Care. Kupuna Care services are counted upon each year by seniors and their caregivers for occasional, yet important respite services. Most people requiring care prefer to live at home where they are amongst family and friends. People receiving the services of Kupuna Care will require less institutional care and in the long run will be less of a burden on the Hawaii Medicaid program. Kupuna Care services is safety net for home and community based services that allow people who are not poor enough to qualify for Medicaid, but not wealthy enough to pay for services, to have access to respite services.

I urge you to support seniors by voting yes on HB160, HD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony.

Jack H. Katahira
1331 B Mamalu Street
Honolulu, HI 96817

To: Committee of Finance, Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Date: Tuesday March 1, 2011, State Capitol Conference Room 304, 4:00pm

Re: HB160 HD1 - Relating to Human Services and Health

Chair Oshiro and Committee Members. My name is Reinze Young, I am a senior and I live in the Hilo area. This bill is vital as most people want to remain at home where it is far less expensive for individuals and the government.

I urge you to support seniors by voting YES on HB160 HD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony.

Reinze Young
Hilo, Hawaii County

To: Committee on Finance, Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Date: Tuesday, March 1, 2011, State Capitol Conference Room 308, 4:00pm.
Re: HB160 HD1 - Relating to Human Services and Health

Chair Oshiro and Committee Members, thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of **HB 160 HD1**, Relating to Human Services and Health.

Please support this bill for the most needy seniors and their caregivers who need the respite services offered through Kupuna Care.

When Hawaii citizens hear legislators debating the need for basic senior services, the question arises:

"Is there a reason to value seniors in our society?"

If so, why do we not support their basic needs? The work of their lives has produced the foundation of our society. This has been challenging enough.

Representative Oshiro, please confer with your distinguished committee members to vote in favor of HB160, HD1, abating further challenges of health and welfare, allowing the seniors of Hawaii to survive in this tenuous economic environment.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Olah
Honolulu Resident
P.O.Box 3294
Honolulu, HI 96801

To: Committee on Finance, Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Date: Tuesday, March 1, 2011, State Capitol Conference Room 308, 4:00pm.
Re: HB160 HD1 - Relating to Human Services and Health

Chair Oshiro and Committee Members, thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of HB 160 HD1, Relating to Human Services and Health. My name is Roy T. Matsuo. I and my wife Joyce have been caregivers for both of my parents; we live in the Kalihi Valley area on Oahu.

I STRONGLY SUPPORT PASSAGE OF THIS BILL for the following reasons:

This bill will provide an ongoing, sustainable source of revenue for Kupuna Care, that can be counted upon each year by seniors and their caregivers who depend and rely upon Kupuna Care to provide occasional, yet important respite services. My wife and I have witnessed many local families in dire financial need to help care for their elderly parents. Some of these caregivers must work at two or more jobs just to meet their family budget and additional costs of caregiving, thus neglecting the critical needs of their children and spouses.

The additional responsibilities placed on elderly family member caregivers create much stress in their lives and places an enormous burden on them in taking care of their own immediate family members. Unfortunately, some of these stressed-out caregivers will end up adding to our already overloaded criminal court system and social programs should they resort to abuses of their family members.

As you are well-aware, our aging population is already increasing in greater numbers, and this will create an even greater need for family caregivers' Respite services. If we fail to provide continued support to our family caregivers, our State stands the great risk of having to provide more and more social services support at the expense of our taxpayers and ever dwindling financial resources.

Family Caregivers are the backbone of Hawaii's long term care system and currently provide \$1.4 billion a year of unpaid care. But they need help – in the form of respite and some services.

I urge you to support seniors by voting yes on HB160, HD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony.

Respectfully submitted,
Roy T. Matsuo

House District No. 30

To: Committee on Finance, Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Date: Tuesday, March 1, 2011, State Capitol Conference Room 308, 4:00pm.
Re: HB160 HD1 - Relating to Human Services and Health

Chair Oshiro and Committee Members,

With humble gratitude I would like to take this opportunity to submit written testimony **in STRONG SUPPORT of HB 160 HD1: Relating to Human Services and Health**. My name is Mayumi Levesque, and I am a graduate student in social work. I live in the Lower Manoa area (96822). To me, the passage of this bill is vital as:

Looking forward, I am aware to the swiftly increasing number of older adults entering a phase in their lives in which access to services is critical for their livelihoods. Kupuna Care is a network of services that provides such services, and HB 160 HD1 will provide Kupuna Care with an ongoing, sustainable source of revenue that can be counted upon each year by seniors and their caregivers. As many of these seniors fall in the middle of the income gap, they are not poor enough to qualify for Medicaid, but do not have enough to themselves pay for service or have access to respite services. Kupuna Care is an effective and wide-reaching solution to help those in the middle be self-sustaining and thriving.

Moreover, support is critical for family caregivers who are the backbone of Hawaii's long term care system. These caregivers currently provide \$1.4 billion a year of unpaid care. But they need help – in the form of respite, and home and community based services.

As graduate student of social work, it is extremely important to me that the needs of vulnerable populations, especially those of our kupuna, are adequately addressed through the cooperation of service providers, administrators, legislators, and the public. Kupuna Care provides this channel in assuring that seniors are not forgotten nor undervalued, and that we as a community are as committed to them as they have been to us their entire lives.

I urge you to support seniors by **voting yes on HB160, HD1**.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony.

Mayumi Levesque
House District 24

To: House Committee on Finance
Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair

Date: Tuesday, March 1, 2011, 4:00 p.m.
State Capitol Conference Room 308

Subject: Testimony on HB 160.HD1 Relating to Human Services and Health

Chair Oshiro and Committee Members. My name is Esther Ueda and I am a resident of Pearl City, Honolulu. I am submitting this testimony in support of HB 160, HD1 Relating to Human Services and Health .

House Bill 160, HD1 would provide an additional \$3.5 million from the general revenues for Kupuna care and support programs providing vital services relating to the health, safety and welfare of our seniors.

As a volunteer for Meals on Wheels and Project Dana, I know how important these types of services are to help our seniors enjoy a better quality of life and to remain independent in their own homes for as long as possible.

➤

Please support our seniors and provide this additional funding for Kupuna Care programs. Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

To: Committee on Finance, Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Date: Tuesday, March 1, 2011, State Capital conference Room 308, 4:00 PM
Re: HB 160 HD 1 – Relating to Human Services and Health

Chair Oshiro and Committee Members, thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of HB 160 HD 1, Relating to Human Services and Health. My name is Leona Pereza and I am a licensed nurse, licensed social worker and a former family caregiver for my parents, brother, and sister during their terminal illnesses until their passing.

Having lived through the experience of being a caregiver four times I humbly advocate for passage of this bill. It is a resource which can make the difference in the peaceful outcome for present and future caregivers. Family members facing end of life circumstances need the support physically, mentally and emotionally that can only be shared to the degree that families can give. At the same time, caregivers need the support and respite to enable them to do a job that is 24/7 and at the same time cope with their own sadness of losing a loved one, caring for children, holding down a job, and multiple other demands on a caregiver.

In my experience, my parents and siblings longed to be home surrounded by family until the end came but they were hesitant to ask knowing the burden it would put on me. I could think of nothing more gratifying than to fulfill their wishes, knowing that the peace and comfort we would all share was priceless.

I urge this committee to pass this bill and assist families to experience that same sense of peace, comfort, and gratification knowing they did everything possible in caring for their loved one. Many want to be able to care for their loved ones at home but they need our help today. It is a win-win situation that will provide the best care and at the same time save the government millions of dollars in health care. Please do not allow this opportunity to slip away.

Respectfully submitted,

Leona Pereza, LPN, MSW, LSW

1191 Kupau St.
Kailua, HI 96734

3920 Hunakai St.
Lihue, HI 96766
February 27, 2011

To: Committee on Finance, Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Date: Tuesday, March 1, 2011, State Capitol Conference Room 308, 4:00pm.
Re: HB160 HD1 - Relating to Human Services and Health

Chair Oshiro and Committee Members,

My name is Janice Bond. I am a retired teacher and live in District 15, Precinct 4. Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of HB 160 HD1, Relating to Human Services and Health.

The passage of this bill is vital as this bill will provide an ongoing, sustainable source of revenue for Kupuna Care, that can be counted upon each year by seniors and their caregivers who depend and rely upon Kupuna Care to provide occasional, yet important respite services.

Most people want to remain at home and it is far less expensive for individuals and for the government, if they should do so. My mom Yukiko Miura Yamane stayed in her home as long as she could. She later stayed with my sister who cared for her along with adult day care center activities in the area.

A safety net of home and community based services is needed to allow people who are not poor enough to qualify for Medicaid, but not wealthy enough to pay for services, to have access to respite services. Family Caregivers are the backbone of Hawaii's long term care system and currently provide \$1.4 billion a year of unpaid care. But they need help – in the form of respite and some services.

As a caregiver, my sister took care of Mom, substituted as an elementary teacher when Mom could be in day care and participated in community activities. Her family and grandchildren depended much on my sister too, but without help through community services, all of these things are in jeopardy for those families caregiving.

I urge you to support seniors by voting yes on HB160, HD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony.

Janice S. Bond

TO: Committee on Finance, Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair

Date: February 26, 2011

Re: HB 160 HD1-Relating to Human Services and Health

Chair Oshiro and Committee Members, thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of HB 160 HD1, Relating to Human Services and Health.

My name is Mariko Tahara and I am a Realtor with Mary Worrall Assoc., Sotheby's International Realty and live in the Hawaii Kai area. The passage of this bill is vital as:

This bill will provide an ongoing sustainable source of revenue of Kupuna Care, that can be counted upon each year by the seniors and their caregivers who depend on Kupuna Care to provide occasional, yet important respite services.

A lot of families cannot afford to pay for day care or leave their loved ones in a private home. They also would like the opportunity to be with their family and loved ones in their last stages of life. There should be more home and community based services to allow people who are not poor enough to qualify for Medicaid, but not wealthy enough to pay for services, to have access to respite services.

I have been a caregiver for a dear uncle who past away a couple of years ago. His retirement could not afford a private carehome and he was not eligible for the State help. He had a stroke and was paralyzed. It was very hard for me to keep him at home because I needed to work and also could not give him the proper care with his conditions. I had to pay out of pocket to get him into a facility because I had no help or time to take care of him. It is hard to let a family member go to a home when they are not used to being with strangers and not fed or cleaned properly. Families should be able to get some kind of help when they want to keep their family members home, but are unable to do so. It was very difficult to pay a lot of money for special care.

Family caregivers are the backbone of Hawaii's long term care system and currently provide \$1.4 billion a year of unpaid care. But they need help in the form of respite and some services.

I urge you to support seniors by voting YES on HB160, HD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony.

Mariko Tahara

Hawaii Kai/Area Residing

To: Committee on Finance, Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Date: Tuesday, March 1, 2011, State Capitol Conference Room 308, 4:00pm.
Re: HB160 HD1 - Relating to Human Services and Health

Chair Oshiro and Committee Members, thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of HB 160 HD1, Relating to Human Services and Health. My name is Elaine Goldberg. I am an X-Ray Technologist and live in Kapolei. The passage of this bill is vital as:

1. The elders in Hawaii need all the services of Kupuna Care as retirement payments are fixed and with the increase of Federal Taxes and increase of food costs older residents cannot meet these higher expenses as their monthly dollars are deficient.
2. Most people want to remain at home and it is far less expensive for individuals and for the government, if they should do so.
3. A safety net of home and community based services is needed to allow people who are not poor enough to qualify for Medicaid, but not wealthy enough to pay for services, to have access to respite services.
4. Family Caregivers are the backbone of Hawaii's long term care system and currently provide \$1.4 billion a year of unpaid care. But they need help – in the form of respite and some services.

I recently retired from 22 years of Federal Service. I was shocked to discover the massive amount of Dollars that decreased my pension check: **The Windfall Elimination Act, COLA wages and Public Law drastically reducing my pension starting at age 62**, I find it impossible to meet my own personal expenses. I am not in need of Kupuna Care myself, however provide \$\$ to my 95yo mother. My mother as well as elders of Hawaii must have the continuance of services of Kupuna Care with all services involved. **Please Support HB 160 HD1.**

Mahalo,

Elaine C. Goldberg

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
ent: Monday, February 28, 2011 12:59 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: phillipsa008@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Testimony for HB160 on 3/1/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 3/1/2011 4:00:00 PM HB160

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kathleen Phillips
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: phillipsa008@hawaiiantel.net
Submitted on: 2/28/2011

Comments:

I highly endorse this Kupuna Care Bill. Without Kupuna Care in my life when my mom was aging, I would not have been able to work nor give her the type of care she deserved. Senior needs do not decrease as they get older...it triples. We must give our Seniors and companions the dignity that they deserve. Please vote yes to the Kupuna Care bill. If all else fails, raise the Excise Tax - everyone will then share in this. Thank you.
Kathleen V. Phillips 808-572-7226

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
ent: Monday, February 28, 2011 4:04 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: vtaylor@cfs-hawaii.org
Subject: Testimony for HB160 on 3/1/2011 4:00:00 PM
Attachments: HB160_Kupuna Care.pdf

Testimony for FIN 3/1/2011 4:00:00 PM HB160

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Howard Garval (sent by Valorie Taylor)
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: vtaylor@cfs-hawaii.org
Submitted on: 2/28/2011

Comments: