



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

HONOLULU

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR

Testimony HB 2517  
Relating to Aging and Disability Resource Centers

Governor Neil Abercrombie

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

Rep. John Mizuno, Chair

Rep. Jo Jordan, Vice Chair

And

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Rep. Ryan Yamane, Chair

Rep. Dee Morkiawa, Vice Chair

February 2, 2012  
10:00 am, Room 329

Chair Mizuno, Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Jordan, Vice Chair Morikawa, and committee members, thank you for hearing HB 2517 Relating to the Aging and Disability Resource Centers. HB 2517 is one of my priorities this session and I respectfully request your support of this important measure.

My New Day Plan for our kupuna ensures that our retirees and elders live productive and dignified lives at home and in the community. A key component to accomplishing this is to establish an Aging and Disability Resource Center through each county Area Agency on Aging. An ADRC is a coordinated system of information and access to resources in the community for persons seeking long-term support.

These resource centers will be the single point of entry into system and minimize confusion, enhance individual choice, foster informed decision making and enable state and county governments to manage resources and monitor program quality through centralized data collection and evaluation.

Dr. Wes Lum, the Executive Director of the Executive Office on Aging, is my administration's coordinator of services for our kupuna and will be able to speak on the details of this bill.

Thank you again for consideration of this measure.



## DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

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February 2, 2012

### TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEES ON HUMAN SERVICES AND HEALTH

#### House Bill 2517 – Relating to Aging and Disability Resource Centers

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) supports the intent of House Bill 2517 that creates aging and disability resource centers in each county to streamline access to long-term supports and services for older adults, persons with disabilities, and family caregivers.

DCAB initially served as a clearinghouse of information related to disability, but over the course of time our mission changed with the numerous federal laws being implemented relating to disability issues, especially the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The information and referral service related to disability resources originally provided by our office was transferred to the Aging and Disability Resource Center last year. A disability specialist currently provides those services at the Executive Office on Aging, thus expanding information and referral services beyond the elderly to include people with disabilities.

Expanding services at the Aging and Disability Resource Centers is an important step closer to creating a “one-stop shop” for aging and disability related resources. DCAB suggests adding to page 6, line 5 to read as follows: “(11) Community resources and services for individuals with disabilities.”

While we support the intent of this measure, we defer to the Executive Office on Aging and the Department of Health regarding the funding needed to administer the program.

We ask that this bill be passed out of Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Respectfully submitted,

BARBARA FISCHLOWITZ-LEONG  
Chairperson

FRANCINE WAI  
Executive Director

TO : COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep Jo Jordan, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep Ryan I. Yamane, Chair  
Rep. Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

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

HEARING: 10: 00 am Thursday, February 2, 2012  
Conference Room 329, Hawaii State Capitol

SUBJECT: HB 2517 Relating to the Aging and Disability Resource Centers

POSITION: The Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs, **supports** HB 2517 which creates Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC's) in each country to streamline access to long-term supports and services for older adults, persons with disabilities, and family caregivers. Makes appropriation.

RATIONALE:

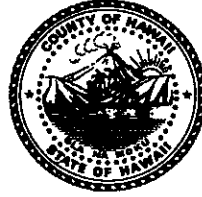
The Policy Board for Elder Affairs has a statutory obligation to advocate on behalf of the senior citizens of Hawaii. While we advise the Executive Office on Aging, we do not speak on behalf of the Executive Office of Aging.

The Executive Office on Aging has been working with the County offices on aging in implementing a five-year plan to develop fully functioning ADRC's which will serve as single entry centers for accessing services for the disabled and frail elderly. These centers will reduce redundancy, increase coordination in services, and greatly improve the public's ability to access needed services.

The Federal government has provided grants and our state government and some of counties in Hawaii have also provided financial and other support for developing these Centers. The current appropriation will greatly assist in continued implementation of the five-year plan to develop these Centers.

Thank you for allowing me to testify on this bill.

William P. Kenoi  
Mayor



Alan R. Parker  
Executive on Aging

## County of Hawai'i

### OFFICE OF AGING

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Phone (808) 961-8600 • Fax (808) 961-8603 • Email: hcoa@hawaiiantel.net  
West Hawai'i Civic Center, 74-5044 Ane Keohokālole Highway, Kailua-Kona 96740  
Phone (808) 323-4390 • Fax (808) 323-4398

February 1, 2012

TESTIMONY TO: **House Committee on Human Services**

**Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair**  
**Rep. Jo Jordan, Vice Chair**

SUBJECT: **HB 2517**

**"RELATING TO THE AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTERS"**

**February 02, 2012**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
**Conference Room 329**

Honorable Chairs and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on HB 2517. I am Alan Parker, Director of the Hawaii County Office of Aging. HB 2517 is critical for the continuation of our demonstration project to enable full development and implementation of the programmatic aspects of Hawaii County's Aging and Disability Resource Center Project.

The County of Hawaii has invested heavily in the development of a physical site and has been depending on federal grants that are due to expire at the end of this year to develop the programmatic aspects (nuts and bolts - how things will work and integrate into our existing service network) to improve access to needed information and services.

The Hilo ADRC is co-located by nine major service providers and programs serving the elderly and people with disabilities. The \$240,000 for Hawaii County contained in HB 2517 covers personnel costs for four critical positions that are demonstrating our ACCESS model developed to improve our intake, assessment, and care coordination functions of the pilot project that is still being demonstrated and evaluated.



February 2, 2010  
HB. No. 2517  
Page 2

The Aging and Disability Resource Center concept is indeed a noble and needed service empowering individuals to make informed choices and streamline access to long term support which includes in-home care, community based programs and institutional services such as nursing homes and other programs that are designed to help the elderly and individuals with disabilities including the younger adult population. These outcomes, however, can only be achieved through highly skilled and knowledgeable intake staff capable of conducting professional assessments to ensure appropriate and effective counsel and referral. Funding is needed to enable full implementation and evaluation of the entire intake, assessment, care coordination, follow up and evaluation processes of our demonstration project.

Thank you for providing me the opportunity to testify.

Alan R. Parker  
Executive on Aging  
Hawaii County Office of Aging  
1055 Kinoole Street, Suite 101  
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arparker@hcoahawaii.org



To: Committee on Human Services  
Representative John M. Mizuno, Chair

Committee on Health  
Representative Ryan I. Yamane, Chair

Date: February 2, 2012, Conference Room 329, 10:00 a.m.

Re: **HB2517 – RELATING TO THE AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTERS**

Chair Mizuno, Chair Yamane, 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** HB2517 which creates Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC) in each county to streamline access to long-term supports and services for older adults, persons with disabilities and caregivers; and appropriates funds for its establishment.

However, the ADRCs need to be properly resourced and funded to make ADRCs an effective single point of entry for individuals seeking information on their long-term care (LTC) options. The ADRC is a navigational tool that connects individuals to appropriate long-term care options. Critical to the success of an ADRC is ensuring the availability of services (e.g., Kupuna Care) when individuals are directed to them.

Hawaii's ADRC program is in various stages of development in each county, needs to be expanded statewide, and needs improvement. AARP's recently published State Long-Term Services and Support Scorecard ranks Hawaii 41<sup>st</sup> in ability to access LTC through an ADRC or other single entry point.

This bill appropriates funds out of general revenues for fiscal year 2013-2014 for ADRCs. The Executive Office on Aging (EOA) and the Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) should be consulted as to the appropriate amount of funds.

ADRCs will address consumer frustration when trying to determine how to obtain long-term supports and services, if appropriately resourced, funded, and services are available. Otherwise, this frustration will be magnified with the increasing demand for service due to a rapidly aging population:

- Approximately one out of every five (20%) Hawaii residents are over 60 years old.
- Hawaii's population over age 65 is increasing rapidly and projected to increase by 71% between 2010 and 2030.

AARP

HB2517 – Relating to the ADRCs

February 2, 2012

Page 2

- Approximately 247,000 family caregivers are the backbone of Hawaii's long-term care system and currently provide nearly \$2 billion a year of unpaid caregiving 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.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Testimony for HUS/HLT 2/2/2012 10:00:00 AM HB2517

Conference room: 329  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Lynn Murakami-Akatsuka  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [lkakatsu@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:lkakatsu@hawaii.rr.com)  
Submitted on: 1/31/2012

Comments:

I strongly support HB 2517. I have visited the Big Island's Aging and Disability Resource Center and was very impressed with the types of services available with a knowledgeable staff in place to help seniors, individuals with disabilities and their family caregivers in navigating for home care services and other related needs. We definitely need similar centers in each county to serve as a one stop center for their respective communities. When a crises occurs with their family member, it is similar in concept as calling "911"; and having the help to navigate through the system of care.

Again, I strongly support HB 2517. Thank you for the opportunity to give my testimony.