



LATE

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE COUNCIL
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
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February 6, 2012

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
The Honorable Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Human Services
and

The Honorable Josh Green, M.D., Chair
The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair
Twenty-Sixth Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senators Chun Oakland and Ihara, Green and Nishihara, and Members of the Committees:

SUBJECT: SB 2306 – RELATING TO LONG-TERM CARE

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD) **SUPPORTS THE INTENT of SB 2306**. The purpose of the bill is to establish a Long-Term Care Task Force, establish the position of Deputy Healthcare Transformation Coordinator for long-term care within the Office of the Governor, and appropriate funds to support the position.

The Council has the following suggested amendments for consideration:

1. Include a representative from the Department of Health (DOH). With regards to the composition of the Task Force, the Council respectfully asks that a representative from DOH be added to the Task Force. DOH provides services and programs to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and individuals with mental illness. If DOH would be considered one of the departments as the single executive department, then they should be included in the Task Force's activities to identify state programs and services related to long-term care and determine the feasibility of consolidating existing state functions and funds relating these programs and services to a single executive department.
2. Amend the timelines on Page 4, line 19 from the "2013 regular session" to the 2014 regular session, and line 22 from "June 30, 2013" to June 30, 2014. The current timeline to establish the Task Force, implement the activities of the Task Force, and establish and hire the Deputy Healthcare Transformation Coordinator seems unrealistic for the above to be completed by the 2013 regular session. When the bill is passed, it would

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take effect on July 1, 2012. It may take several months for the funds to be released, the Task Force established, the Deputy Healthcare Transformation Coordinator hired, and the identified tasks to be completed.

The Council appreciates the Legislature's consideration of the above suggested amendments. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony **supporting the intent of SB 2306.**

Sincerely,


Liz Ann Salvador
Chair


Waynette K. Y. Cabral, MSW
Executive Administrator