



To: Committee on Ways and Means
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair

Date: February 28, 2012, Conference Room 211, 9:00 a.m.

Re: **SB2320 SD1 – RELATING TO AGING**

Chair Ige 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** SB2320 SD1. This bill builds a statewide system of support for Hawaii's older adults and their family caregivers by appropriating funds for the Kupuna Care program, healthy aging partnership program, senior centers, and elder registration services. AARP 's especially supports the funding for the Kupuna Care program, and offers the following comments on the Kupuna Care program.

This bill appropriates an additional \$4.2 million out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii for fiscal year 2012-2013 for the continued maintenance and growth of the Kupuna Care program. This additional appropriation is needed as the current \$4.85 million base budget appropriation has remained unchanged since 2002, even though demand for services has increased as a result of our rapidly aging population.

In 2011, the Kupuna Care program served 4,836 persons statewide, at a cost of \$103 per month, per person. The additional \$4.2 million appropriation is projected to serve up to an additional 3,398 persons depending on the level of impairment.

Seniors and caregivers need assurances that they will continue receiving occasional, yet critical respite services that enables them to live in their homes as long as possible.

The passage of this bill is vital to support the increasing demand for service from our 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.
- 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.

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February 28, 2012
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We urge you to support seniors by passing SB2320 SD1 as it funds safety net programs that support our most vulnerable population – the elderly, caregivers, and seniors.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: Brenda.Kosky@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2320 on 2/28/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Monday, February 27, 2012 8:05:31 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/28/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2320

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Brenda Kosky
Organization: Individual
E-mail: Brenda.Kosky@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/27/2012

Comments:

We are all aging, good to invest in creating good care, before we get there.

COMMENTS TO COMMITTEE CLERK

February 28, 2012

9:00 a.m.

Room #211

Comments Supporting S.B. #2320, SD1: "Relating to Aging"

Comments of

Deborah L. Wills

Aging Program Planner II

Hawai'i County Office of Aging

These are comments in support of S.B. #2320, SD1, Relating to Aging which provides funding support for the Kupuna Care and Healthy Aging Partnership Programs. This bill builds and strengthens a statewide system of support for Hawaii's older adults and their family caregivers. The need is clear and compelling. There are about 238,000 Hawaii residents aged 60 years and over who constitute 18.7% of the state's total population. The explosive growth of older adults alerts us that a strong infrastructure must be in place to serve their growing needs especially as the baby boomers join this age group.

The Kupuna Care Program is a home and community-based long term care program that has been demonstrated to:

- a. Reduce cost of long term care by avoiding institutional care for as long as possible.
- b. Respect the older individual's desire to age in place.
- c. Serve older individuals who are not Medicaid eligible.
- d. Enable sustainability by allowing for voluntary donations.
- e. Fill an important gap in family caregiver support.
- f. Stimulate the economy by providing much needed assistance as well as the creation of jobs to struggling home and community-based service providers.
- g. Preserve the "Safety Net" that keeps those at risk for "spending down" to become eligible for Medicaid.

The Healthy Aging Partnership Program has been demonstrated to:

- a. Be effective in helping older individuals adopt healthy behaviors.
- b. Improve overall health of older individuals.
- c. Reduce hospitalizations and emergency room visits.
- d. Reduce health care costs especially for Medicare and Medicaid clients.

The Hawai'i County Office of Aging supports legislation that will appropriate funds for the Kupuna Care Program and the Healthy Aging Partnership.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment in support of the SB 2320, SD1.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: jkealoha@ilwulocal142.org
Subject: Testimony for SB2320 on 2/28/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Monday, February 27, 2012 10:00:07 AM
Attachments: [2012SB2320.rtf](#)

Testimony for WAM 2/28/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2320

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Joanne Kealoha
Organization: ILWU Local 142
E-mail: jkealoha@ilwulocal142.org
Submitted on: 2/27/2012

Comments:

The Twenty-Sixth Legislature
Regular Session of 2012

THE SENATE

Committee on Ways and Means
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair
State Capitol, Conference Room 211
Tuesday, February 28, 2012; 9:00 a.m.

**STATEMENT OF THE ILWU LOCAL 142 ON S.B. 2320, SD1
RELATING TO AGING**

The ILWU Local 142 supports S.B. 2320, SD1, which appropriates funds for the Kupuna Care program, Health Aging Partnership program, senior centers, and elder registration services.

The elderly population in Hawaii is increasing, and most of us are ill-prepared for the challenges of living longer. S.B. 2320, SD1 is intended to address many of the needs of growing old in Hawaii. As seniors begin to need more services, Kupuna Care should be available to help them remain in their homes and stay out of costly institutions. The Healthy Aging Partnership helps to keep people healthy as they age. Senior centers provide support for healthy aging by offering opportunities for social interaction, physical activity, and mental stimulation. Registration of elderly persons with Alzheimer's Disease will become increasingly important to protect these vulnerable individuals.

While the ILWU's retirees may not use these specific resources, we support programs such as these and others that many of our retirees do use. These programs also serve as models for programs on the neighbor islands, where most of our retirees reside. The State needs to support an array of services that will help the elderly to live independently in their own homes and enhance their quality of life.

The ILWU urges passage of this comprehensive bill to address the needs of the elderly in Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to offer our support for this important measure.

From: [Wesley Tanigawa](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Date: Monday, February 27, 2012 1:14:32 PM
Attachments: [SB2320_SD1_testimony_02-28-12.doc](#)

Please accept my testimony supporting SB2320

Wesley Tanigawa

Disability Services Advocate

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COMMENTS TO COMMITTEE CLERK

February 28, 2012

9:00 a.m.

Room #215

Comments Supporting S.B. #2320, SD1: "Relating to Aging"

Comments of

Wesley Tanigawa

Disability Services Advocate

Arc of Hilo

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The Arc of Hilo supports legislation that will appropriate funds for the Kupuna Care Program and the Healthy Aging Partnership.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment in support of the SB 2320, SD1.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: info@schha.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2320 on 2/28/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Monday, February 27, 2012 11:24:21 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/28/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2320

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Annie Au Hoon, President
Organization:
E-mail: info@schha.com
Submitted on: 2/27/2012

Comments: