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Testimony of the Maui County Department of Water Supply

Supporting S.B. 2782

Senate Ways and Means Committee

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

The Maui County Department of Water Supply supports S.B. 2782 to provide funding to the Department of Land and Natural Resources' statewide watershed management initiative "Rain Follows the Forest." Funding this initiative will direct revenues toward comprehensive and sustained protection of Hawai'i's forest watersheds, a critical natural resource needed to secure our finite supply of fresh water.

The Maui County Department of Water Supply's mission is to provide clean water efficiently to approximately 35,600 services (approximately 129,000 people) on Maui and Molokai. Supplying fresh potable water is critical to meeting the demand of diverse sectors throughout the County including agriculture, commercial, residential, economic development which includes hotels and resorts. Maintaining the supply of efficient quantities is a challenge based on numerous threats to water supply including population increase, climatic conditions such as declining rainfall and the loss of habitats and upland forests linked to water recharge, fog water supply and source availability. In the past 40 years, Maui's population has increased on average by 45%. Increased populations (i.e. residential, non-residential, visitor) will have an impact on resources such as land, water and the natural environment resulting in a negative impact upon our quality of life. The draft Maui Island Plan projects Maui's population to increase by 42% by 2030. In addition to the trend of increased population, one of the greatest threats to Maui's native forest is the destruction caused by non-native, invasive animals and plants. According to the report "Watershed Threats" produced by the East Maui Watershed Partnership, nearly two-thirds of Maui's original forests have already been lost. Many other landscape transformations such as agricultural practices of clearing native vegetation and the introduction of invasive species through horticulture and agricultural industries in the past have all severely reduced the capacity of the forest ecosystem to recharge Maui's aquifers.

"By Water All Things Find Life"

In concert with the objectives of the “Rain Follows the Forest” our Department has provided financial support to seven Watershed Partnerships on Maui and Molokai since 1995. We have provided \$7.07 million dollars of funding to Watershed Partnerships comprised of approximately 54 partners. The partners represent ranchers, federal, state, county and local government, water utilities, large landholders, fire task forces, non-profits, non-government associations, public land trusts, the King Kamehameha schools and many representatives from the private business sector.

The Watershed Partnerships collectively address a variety of threats to the watershed including activities such as: ungulate control through fencing and targeted hunting practices; eradication of invasive weeds and plants; reforestation and vegetation of upland areas and other habitats critical to the recharge and protection of water supply; and suppression and management of wild land fires resulting in the loss of forests. These efforts have successfully resulted in essential tangible outcomes and deliverables and include: fence installation, maintenance and monitoring resulting in a reduction in the feral animal populations; eradication of invasive weeds and plants (nearly 35,000 acres); hunting programs to increase access for hunters and reduce feral animal populations; restoration of forests with native species of plants and trees; documentation, protection and research of rare species; establishment of volunteer programs in all watersheds; interpretive hikes and field studies for the community; GIS resource monitoring and mapping; installations of trails, camps and helicopter landing zones; educational presentations and displays at public events and schools; and landscape level watershed protection through the protection and out planting of native plant species; and Countywide community garden projects.

In addition to these positive outcomes, funding the watersheds has resulted in innovative research and development of technology and best management practices that address greater cost efficiency of watershed management and protection of our water supply. Best management practices include the ability to conduct thermal surveys to monitor feral animal control; detailed high resolution aerial GIS resource mapping to illustrate the effectiveness of invasive plant and ungulate control and revegetation/reforestation efforts; resource monitoring to analyze trends with regard to cost efficiency of various management methods; and the development of pest pollution prevention protocols, to name a few examples.

Sustaining these successful achievements will be challenging. State financial support through the funding of the statewide watershed management initiative “Rain Follows the Forest” is a critical factor necessary to maintaining these efforts. Through a *dedicated* funding source of state dollars, greater leverage can be achieved by matching funds to supplement existing support. In Maui, it is estimated that for each dollar of State funding, the watershed partnerships are able to match it with three dollars from County and community based contributions, private and non-profit entities. Additionally, with a dedicated source of funding from the State, greater match opportunities can be provided with new organizations and additional sources of private funding. *Is it worth it?* Consider the economic value of the forests and water recharge as sited from a University of Hawaii study which states:

- \$4.6 to 8.5 billion for the recharge to our aquifers alone. That's according to a study of the Ko'olau forest on 'Oahu, prepared by the University of Hawai'i Economic Research Organization in 1999.
- When aesthetic values, water quality, climate control, biodiversity, and other forest services were calculated, the total value is estimated at \$7.4 to 14 billion. (Excerpted from "Last Stand - The Vanishing Hawaiian Forest" prepared by The Nature Conservancy, Hawaii.)

The Department of Land and Natural Resource's initiative to provide a dedicated state funding source to ensure that the mauka watersheds are fully functioning so fresh water resources can be enjoyed by the residents and visitors of Hawai'i is important for the provision of a sustainable water supply. Long terms sustainable funding would bolster the capacity of the Partnerships to not only sustain their ongoing efforts, but to also implement activities they have not been able to address due to the limited availability of resources. Outreach, education and volunteer programs could be expanded to accomplish more and garner more support for the issues that face our water supply. More invasive weed control and biological control efforts could be implemented for the highest priority native rainforest species that threaten vital watershed functions for Maui's population. Fire suppression and prevention management practices to prevent loss of forest acreage needs additional long term financial support. Dedicated and sustained State funding will provide long term, sustainable leverage to implement a holistic approach toward an on-going Island wide collaborative effort.

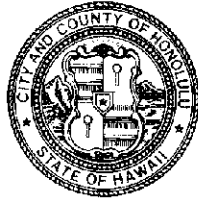
Respectfully Submitted,



David Taylor, P.E.
Director of Water Supply

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Comments of the Department of Community Services

MEASURE:

S.B. 2779, S.D. 1, Relating to the Aging and Disability Resource Centers.

COMMITTEE(S):

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

HEARING DATE: Tuesday, February 28, 2012

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 211

COMMITTEE REQUESTS 1 COPIES

TESTIFIER(S): Samuel E.H. Moku, Director
(Written testimony only. For more information, please call
Elizabeth Bethea, Elderly Affairs Division, at 768-7708.)

Chair Ige and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Community Services strongly supports section 3 of this bill, which appropriates funds for Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC).

The Elderly Affairs Division (EAD) of the Department of Community Services 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. As part of the 2006 reauthorization of the Older Americans Act, the Area Agencies on Aging were mandated to serve not only persons age 60 and above, but also persons of any age with any kind of disability, and caregivers. Accordingly, EAD already serves as the ADRC for the county of Honolulu.

As the existing Honolulu ADRC, EAD serves as a single point of entry where persons of all ages, incomes, and disabilities may access information in a person-centered manner on the full range of long-term support and service options. ADRCs are an extension of the state's public policy of supporting aging in place in one's home and community for as long as possible. ADRCs carry out this policy by providing Home and Community Based Services that enable kupuna and persons with disabilities to delay or avoid institutionalization, while having options and choices based on their personal values and needs.

In recent years, EAD has experienced a tremendous increase in calls from vulnerable kupuna; caregivers; persons with multiple disabilities; grandparents raising grandchildren;

concerned neighbors, friends and family members on the mainland; and professionals from settings such as hospital, hospice, public health, developmental and physical disability services, homeless services, mental health services, and private medical offices; asking for referrals, links to services, assistance in finding appropriate housing, help with applications for all types of public assistance, and a multitude of other services enabling an older or disabled person to live with dignity and safety in a home or community-based setting of the person's choice. Due to the size and complexity of the state long-term care system, these callers are often confused, overwhelmed, and anxious about getting the help they need for themselves, a client, or a loved one.

ADRCs minimize confusion, enhance individual choice, and foster informed decision-making. They also improve the ability of state and county governments to manage resources and to monitor program quality through centralized data collection and evaluation. As the population of persons over 60 and persons with disabilities explodes due to the aging of the Baby Boomer generation, it makes sound financial sense to invest in ADRCs.

We respectfully urge passage of the appropriation in section 3 of this bill.



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Senate Committee on Ways and Means

SB2779 SD1 RELATING TO THE AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTERS

Comments of Deborah Arendale
Executive on Aging, Maui County Office on Aging

Tuesday, February 28, 2012
9:00 a.m.

Senate President, Shan S. Tsutsui, submitted a “Viewpoint” article that appeared in the Maui News on Monday, February 27, 2012. In this piece, Senate President Tsutsui stated: “Sound investments that spell big savings for the state are one of the numerous ways in which the Senate seeks to fulfill its vision of breathing new life into our economy, transforming the way we operate, and building a better and more sustainable Hawaii.”

SB2779 SD1 meets these criteria in the following ways:

SB2779 SD1 allows the County AAAs the opportunity to *transform the current system delivery* system so that we can better accommodate the needs of the rapidly increasing population of kupuna in Hawaii that offers *increased ease to individuals, families, and caregivers and long-term cost-savings to the State*. Not only will services be delivered in a more *cost-effective manner*, but the new system allows EOA and the AAAs to take advantage of opportunities to *generate new revenue streams* previously untapped. The AAAs and the State Executive Office on Aging have diligently collaborated over the course of almost two years to create a solid Five-Year Systems Change Plan that offers a clear, concise plan of system transformation.

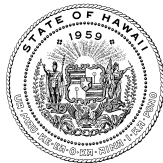
To promote and protect the well-being of the Older Americans in Maui County.

Not only will SB2779 SD1 *create new jobs*, it will *save future resources* by establishing a system of service delivery that is more *effective and efficient* and which *standardizes the targeting of resources* across the state. The most economically needy seniors will be provided direct service while those with personal resources will be assisted in better managing resources through **Options Counseling** (a service previously not offered by the Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) in our state). By serving the most economically needy while at the same time assisting those able to fund their own services, *the use of State resources will be optimized*.

SB2779 SD1 provides a portion of funding necessary for this systems transformation. This bill represents another *opportunity* for the state to *invest a small amount* of money in creating a system that will *reap large benefits*, both in *increased revenue and in cost savings*, for *years to come*. Utilizing the current system will block the EOA and AAAs from tapping into new resources. More importantly, we will lack the critical operational infrastructure necessary to effectively and efficiently meet the needs of our growing kupuna population.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments regarding this measure.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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Committee on Ways and Means

SB2779, SD1, RELATING TO THE AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTERS.

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

Tuesday, February 28, 2012; Conference Room 211

9:00 a.m.

1 **EOA's Position:** The Executive Office on Aging (EOA) strongly supports this measure.

2 SB2779, SD1 is part of Governor Abercrombie's Administrative Bill Package and supports the
3 New Day agenda of "empowering aging at home and in communities."

4 **Purpose and Justification:**

- 5 • *Ensure ADRCs are fully functioning.* All of the Aging and Disability Resource Center
6 (ADRC) expansion funds requested will be used to ensure that Hawaii's ADRCs are fully
7 functioning and statewide by 2015, in accordance with our State Plan on Aging. The
8 statewide ADRC sites are operated through Hawaii's four Area Agencies on Aging
9 (AAAs), namely the Kauai Agency on Elderly Affairs (KAEA), Maui County Office on
10 Aging (MCOA), Hawaii County Office of Aging (HCOA), and the City and County of
11 Honolulu, Elderly Affairs Division (EAD).
- 12 • *Develop infrastructure and streamline access.* \$298,585 of the \$1.4 million appropriation
13 request will go toward expenses to develop infrastructure to streamline access to services
14 and supports by ensuring that all intake and assessment protocols are enhanced,

1 standardized, dementia-capable, participant-centered, and automated into the ADRC's
 2 management information system and information technology. This will require purchasing
 3 software licenses, developing information technology tools and protocols, and project
 4 management.

- 5 • *Personnel, office space, equipment, supplies.* The remainder of the funds requested, or
 6 \$1,101,415, will go towards personnel costs at the ADRC sites so that they can provide the
 7 coordinated, consistent, and higher quality level of service required of a fully functioning
 8 ADRC. Additionally, these funds will be used to lease space, equipment, furniture, and
 9 supplies for the increased personnel. EOA and AAAs identified the costs that are
 10 associated with transforming business operations within each AAA so that they can meet
 11 the definition of the full-functional ADRC. Because each county has structured its current
 12 operations in very different ways, the degree of change necessary to meet these
 13 requirements, and the cost associated with these changes, varies substantially.
- 14 • *Breakdown of request for funds by county:*

County	Amount	Notes
Maui ADRC	\$492,404	Maui County will be the first in the state to implement full functioning changes, beginning in April 2012. Positions to be funded include Aging/Disability Specialists at levels I to V (SR16-24).
Kauai ADRC	\$88,683	Kauai is the second county that will become fully functioning by 2013. Kauai will need to add few staff in order to achieve full functioning status.
Hawaii ADRC	\$240,328	Hawaii County has chosen to complete full implementation in 2015 and will be the third county as planned. Hawaii County will use the funds to continue to employ the ADRC Coordinator, the ADRC Resource Specialist, and a part-time planner. Hawaii County would also like to rent space for an ADRC facility in Hamakua and will need to rent equipment for the space.
Honolulu ADRC	\$280,000	The City and County of Honolulu has projected it will take until 2015 to implement ADRC full functioning changes. The City and County of Honolulu sees an immediate need to develop, as part of the full functioning ADRC goals, an ADRC Satellite Office at

		Castle Medical Center with (a) two office spaces in-hospital and one office space in Kaneohe Community Clinic (off-campus), (b) a primary focus on implementing Hospital Discharge Planning and Benefits Enrollment activities and developing and embedding the Benefits Enrollment Center within this community.
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- *The AAAs currently contribute county funds toward the ADRCs as follows:*

County Funds Currently Supporting ADRC Sites				
County	Maui	Kauai	Hawaii*	Honolulu
In-Kind Personnel	\$ 980,460	\$ 347,816	\$ 660,254	\$ 464,692
Operating Budget	\$ 151,680	\$ 65,470		\$ 46,993
Annual Lease for ADRC building			\$ 218,531	
Paving of parking area			\$ 265,544	
Renovations			\$ 89,100	
Air conditioning maintenance			\$ 8,542	
Janitorial Service			\$ 31,363	
Utilities - 12 months			\$ 36,000	

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*Only Hawaii County established a new building specifically for ADRC.

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We note that Hawaii and Honolulu counties are not scheduled to be full-functioning until

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March, 2015 and July, 2015, respectively, and therefore, the request for appropriations will

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help to accelerate their implementation of a full-functioning ADRC to 2014.

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- *Sustainability – Reallocating state funds.* In terms of ADRC sustainability, the ADRCs

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will reallocate current state funding resources by bringing case management in-house to

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the county offices on aging (moneys previously spent on contracting for case management

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will now support county positions that carry out the ADRC functions of intake,

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assessment, and case management) as follows:

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County	State Case Management Funds to be Reallocated
Maui	\$71,000
Hawaii	\$319,028
C&C of Honolulu	\$691,000

- 1 • *Sustainability - Federal funds.* We will pursue a wide variety of funding options that the
2 Administration on Aging (AoA) identified as potentials for sustaining ADRC activity. In
3 FY 13, EOA and the AAAs will receive additional federal funds as follows:

Source of Federal Funding	Amount
Medicaid Administrative Federal Financial Participation*	The administrative match rate is 50% for time spent conducting Medicaid activities for outreach and enrollment through the ADRCs.
Veteran-Directed Home and Community Based Services Program*	Approximately \$500/veteran served. Payment rates will be established between each Veterans Administration Medical Center and ADRC, with guidance from Veteran Administration Central Office.
Older Americans Act (Title IIIB, IIIC, IIIE)*	\$1,107,058 is the AAA's allocated funding pursuant to the 4 Year Area Plans on Aging that is being utilized for the following ADRC core functions: (a) information, referral, and awareness, (b) options counseling and assistance, and (c) evaluation and quality improvement.
Money Follows the Person	\$400,000 (\$348,290 to be expended by EOA; \$51,710 to be expended by DHS). This funding will be used to develop capacity of the ADRC to function as Hawaii's MDS Section Q local contact agency statewide and provide options counseling to facility residents. Second, funding will support the identification and implementation of a single assessment tool for all persons requiring home and community-based services statewide. Finally, adoption of a single assessment tool will enable the state to develop quality measures to ensure high quality care for all aged and disabled populations, including following those who have transitioned from institutionalized settings.
Community Based Care Transitions Program	\$300,000 for Maui County Office on Aging for administration and operations (\$100,000) and direct service delivery (\$200,000).

4 *Recurring funds through agreements between EOA/ADRC and the federal government.

5 **An initial investment in the ADRC will enable us to be “fully functional” as defined**
6 **by the Administration on Aging. In being fully functional, we will be able to then leverage**
7 **additional federal dollars and respond to the Affordable Care Act. EOA strongly supports**
8 **this measure and asks for your favorable consideration. Thank you for the opportunity to**
9 **testify.**