

Twenty-Seventh Legislature  
Regular Session of 2013



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Committee on Finance  
Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair  
Rep. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair  
Rep. Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair  
State Capitol, Conference Room 308  
Thursday, February 21, 2013; 11:00 a.m.

**STATEMENT OF THE ILWU LOCAL 142 ON H.B. 120, HD2  
RELATING TO HEALTH**

The ILWU Local 142 **supports the intent** of H.B. 120, HD2, which allows the Department of Health and the Department of Human Services to post on their respective websites information of all inspections in which major patient care violations were discovered at certain care facilities and the order specifying the violation is final.

While we support the general intent of providing the public with information with which family members and others can assess placement options for those needing services in adult day health centers, care homes, foster care homes, and other long-term care facilities, we are concerned that the original bill was amended to “allow” rather than “require” the posting of violations on the websites. Who decides what will be posted?

The original bill was further amended to allow posting only of “major patient care violations” when the complaints are finalized. On its surface, this seems to be a reasonable compromise. It may be unfair to post every single violation, especially if the problem is minor and has been satisfactorily remedied. However, “finalizing” a complaint may take months or longer and, in the meantime, the public needs information to make informed decisions about placement of their loved ones.

**We support the original H.B. 120 and respectfully request that HD2 be amended to reflect the bill’s original intent.** Posting of inspection reports and violations should not be discretionary—they should be required. To mitigate what may be perceived as unfairness to operators, we suggest that the violations reported on the websites should include how they were remedied and when. We also suggest that a timeframe be established after which the violation would no longer be posted on the website. Leaving a black mark on a facility for something that has long ago been resolved would be unfair to the facility.

**We hope the committee will consider these suggestions and gut and replace HD2 with the original H.B. 120 and further amend the original bill to include a requirement that the website postings include how and when violations were remedied and a timeframe to remove postings..**

Thank you for considering our testimony and our suggestions.

**LATE**

**Lilia Fajotina**

**ARCA President**

(Alliance of Residential Care Administrators)

P.O. Box 758

Pearl City, HI 96782

**DATE: Thursday, February 21, 2013**

**TIME: 11:A.M.**

**ROOM: 308 (Conference Room)**

**Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair**

**Rep. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair**

**Rep. Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair**

**And Members of Committee on Finance**

My name is Lilia Fajotina, President of the Alliance of Residential Care Administrators (ARCA), and I am testifying in strong opposition to House Bill 120.

ARCA is a statewide non-profit organization, whose members primarily serve the long-term care needs of Hawaii's kupuna.

It is the largest Adult Residential Care Home (ARCH)

organization in Hawaii—representing 300 long-term care homes serving a capacity of almost 1500 residents.

We oppose HB 120 HD 1 for the following reasons:

**The public already has access to the citations of care homes by simply requesting them from the desired care home.**

Additionally, the Primary Care Giver (PCG) can also answer any questions the family may have and at the same time explain the citation and what they've done to correct the problem.

For additional information on the care home, care home operators refer the families to the Department of Health-Office of Health Care Assurance Licensing Department, so they can ask about the care home's present status. But according to several consumers, the Department is hesitant to tell them about the issues. Is that the fault of the care homes? No.

**Second, there is not enough discussion as to what would be posted online.** The Department's surveyors issue citations or deficiencies that are so vague and frivolous that they can mislead consumers in their selection of a care home if these types of citations are put online. For example, a care home was cited because the primary care giver or registered dietitian forgot to write the word "lean" on the menu or before the word "luncheon meat," even though the resident was given lean meat. The home would then be cited for giving the resident extra fat, and the citation would read as such, "Menu #1 does not meet the nutritional needs of the resident." Is that an accurate description of the innocent mistake of the care giver? No.

**Third, these frivolous citations have nothing to do with the quality of care, nor the health, safety, and welfare of residents.** We take care of our residents as if they were our own family members.

**Fourth, care homes and foster homes save the State upwards of \$200 million a year. Care homes, alone, save the State \$80-90 million a year.** As more and more of our baby boomers

retire, care homes will become increasingly necessary in the face of Hawaii's ever-increasing elderly population. This bill, in its current form, can put many care homes out of business.

**Fifth, posting our violations on the website I believe is violating my privacy and it may be against my civil rights.** Not everyone would open up his or her home to strangers and lose their privacy to save the State millions of dollars. Although we run our businesses out of our homes, it is still our homes and we want our privacy to be respected.

**Lastly, should this measure pass this committee in spite my opposition, I strongly urge the committee to consider an amendment to allow for the posting of citations online that include only “gross violations, probation, or financial exploitation.” Therefore, the most severe of citations are posted online and not those of frivolous nature.**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in opposition to HB120HDI.

Lilia Fajotina  
**(ARCA PRESIDENT)**

**LATE**

February 21, 2013

To: The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
Honorable Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair  
Honorable Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair  
and Members of the Finance Committee;

My name is Myriam Tabaniag, a Registered Nurse and First Vice President of the Alliance of Residential Care Administrators (ARCA).

I oppose HB120 HD2 for the following reasons and concerns:

1. I believe that posting deficiencies on the website will not solve the “placement “problem completely. For in-fact, it may lead the consumers to more confusion and dilemma.

For example: If the top 20% “best care homes/foster homes” in the State are or maybe at full capacity at that time when a consumer is looking for placement for a loved one, so where will this consumer go? The lesser qualified facility? Would he/she settle for that? And eventually, facilities with vacancies all the time will eventually close their doors. (**Anti-business bill.**)

Two years ago, we had a problem of some of our elderly being transferred to other states because we did not have enough beds. The elderly population will grow exponentially in the coming years to come. Studies conducted by the Executive Office on Aging and the four county area agencies on aging have indicated that the elderly in Hawaii have a significant need for assistance in the various areas and this need is outpacing the ability to provide assistance.

2. Reporting of deficiencies or infractions by the State are not specific and detailed. Very vague reporting that will only confuse the consumers. We do not have any idea how the deficiencies will be posted on the website, so there should be more discussions to be made between the State and the stakeholders.

3. In a bad economy where we are in now, the appropriations that the Department of Health is asking (\$46,000++ ) now to start posting major violations on the Web and its yearly maintenance can be better used in other areas like education and schools, children's welfare and homelessness, etc. We should prioritize where our State monies are going.
4. I would also like to suggest that every older adult should be educated now about care homes and foster homes. They should visit some homes in their areas or their surrounding areas and does not wait until later or when an emergency arises. It would be for every older adult's best interest to be proactive to know the maybe's in the future. Some of the stated appropriation can be allocated for senior citizens groups' education and visits to the different homes.
5. Major concern: The Department of Health, Office of Healthcare Assurance Licensing Division is actively in the process of taking over the huge, overwhelming responsibility of licensing the over 1500+foster homes and writing their new rules and regulations which will start in July, 2014. This very same department will be responsible for the Web posting. At the present time, the care homes and foster homes follow different Chapters and Administrative rules. Will the posting be fair?

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in opposition to HB120 HD1

Myriam R. Tabaniag

Currently President Obama's Affordable Care Act (ACA) provides provisions regarding Nursing Home Transparency and Elder Justice provisions, as well as the regulation implementing the Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Act of 2005 (PSQIA). PSQIA establishes a voluntary reporting system to enhance the data available to assess and resolve patient safety and health care quality issues. Patient Safety Rule (42 C.F.R. Part 3) that provides safeguards to caregivers and individuals under HIPPA. Care home facilitator's rights are also covered under these laws and enable privacy for the elderly and caregivers.

Hawaii must not lag behind, but be proactive in establishing online inspections of elder care best practices no later than December 2015. Care home operators, law makers, and families must work together expeditiously to provide, education, training, and transparency for the important quality of life that Kupuna are entitled to.

**LATE**



Cariaga RACCP Foster Family Home

**Fax Transmittal**

Date: 02/20/2013

No. of Pages: 5

To: Comittee on Finance Recipient's Fax: 1-800-535-3859  
State Capitol

From: Maria E. Cariaga

Fax No.: (808) 959-1421 6760

EMAIL - CariagaMara@yahoo.com

Subject: HB 120

Comment: Testimony from AFHA of Big Island

RECEIVED  
2013 FEB 21 A 4: 39  
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS  
HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES



2

**LATE**

Maria Corazon E. Cariaga  
President- Adult Foster Home Association  
Big Island

To: Committee on Finance

Date: February 21, 2013

Time: 11 A.M

Place: Conference room, 308 State Capital

In behalf of the Adult Foster Home Association of Big Island. We strongly oppose the HB 120 relating to Health Care. If deficiencies will be posted on the website, then this will cause numerous care homes to go out of business. Where will the clients pulled out of these care homes be placed? We are helping the state from spending more money because we are paid less compared to the big nursing home facilities. Attached are the signatures of the people who oppose the HB 120. Thank You

RECEIVED  
2013 FEB 21 A 4: 39  
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS  
HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES

## AFHA Big Island

Name	Address	Phone
46. Sai Heffron	95 W. Naunao St Hilo	934-0527, 756-4730C
47. <del>John</del> Filena	812 IOLANI ST. HILO.	924-9011
48. Filipina Andres	11 Pono St. Hilo HI	96720 756-6417
49. JOE SOLICIN	1702 KEONE ST., HILO, HI.	959-3353
50. Edna Fri	HCR 2 Box 6503 Keaau HI	982-5583
51. ANITA VENTURA	P.O. Box 2022 Keaau HI 96749	966-9483
52. Lonna Malvan	P.O. Box 114 Keaau, HI 96749	966-9759
53. Dolly Julian	P.O. Box 266 Pahoa, HI.	965-9182
54. MARGARET DANIELEWSKI	P.O. BOX 10813 Hilo, HI	982-7909
55. Rueda Ramos	PO BOX 447 Keaau	715-7785
56. Mercy Tiangsing	H C 1 BOX 4097 Keaau	982-8511
57. GRACE JADULANG	1674 ONEAWA WAY, HILO, HI 96720	959-2236
58. RACHEL CASTRO	882 KUPULAN RD. HILO, HI 96720	959-3373
59. VIRGINIA DELA CRUZ	61 HOOKANO ST. HILO, HI 96720	959-9726
60. # Edna Salom	16 Haakeo Rd Hilo, HI 96720	961-4914

# AFLA Big Island

( )

Name	Address	Phone
76. <u>Edna Rice</u>	<u>HCR 2 Box 6503 Keaau HI</u>	<u>982-5780</u>
77. <u>TERESITA CACPAL</u>	<u>P.O. Box 680 Keaau, HI</u>	<u>966-9888</u>
78. <u>Estela Ellazar</u>	<u>P.O. Box 830 Keaau HI 96744</u>	<u>966-9264</u>
79. <u>MARTORIE FORONDA</u>	<u>P.O. BOX 2171 Keaau, HI</u>	<u>982 9980</u>
80. <u>Margaret Danielewski</u>	<u>P.O. Box 10813 Hilo, HI</u>	<u>982-7909</u>
81. <u>EREDULIN JULIAN</u>	<u>P.O. BOX 906 Pahala, HI.</u>	<u>905-9182</u>
82. <u>Lynne Malvar</u>	<u>P.O. Box 114 Keaau, HI 96744-0114</u>	<u>966-9159</u>
83. <u>Rueda Ramos</u>	<u>POB 447 Keaau 96749</u>	<u>3157785</u>
84. <u>Mercedita Triangsim</u>	<u>HCI - BOX 4097 Keaau HI</u>	<u>982-8511</u>
85. <u>GRACE JADULANS</u>	<u>1624 ONEAWA WAY, Hilo, HI 96720</u>	<u>959-2236</u>
86. <u>RACHEL CASTRO</u>	<u>882 KUPULAN RD. Hilo, HI 96720</u>	<u>959-3373</u>
87. <u>VIRGINIA DE LA CRUZ</u>	<u>601 HOOKARD ST. Hilo, HI 96720</u>	<u>959 9726</u>
88. <u>Marisa Gottolo</u>	<u>1506 Makani St. Hilo, HI 96720</u>	<u>981-2461</u>
89. <u>Marissa Jimenez</u>	<u>P.O. Box 1090 Kurtistown HI 96760</u>	<u>982-5212</u>
90. <u>Hilaria Panglos</u>	<u>P.O. Box 739 Pahala HI 96777</u>	<u>928-8261</u>

Name	Address	Phone
61. Helen Saylor	88 Pelelana St. Hilo	935-7425
62. Hilaria Pangloss	P.O. Box 752 Pahala HI 96777	(308) 928-8261
63. Kalmi Anaga	1468 Mele Lane St Hilo, HI 96720	935-7680
64. Maritza Jenuvia	P.O. Box 1080 Kurtistown HI 96760	982-5212
65. Marisol Galtite	1506 Mailani St. Hilo, HI 96720	981-2461
66. Divina Eder	147 W. Kingi Pl. Hilo, HI 96720	981-0799
67. _____	_____	_____
68. _____	_____	_____
69. _____	_____	_____
70. _____	_____	_____
71. _____	_____	_____
72. _____	_____	_____
73. _____	_____	_____
74. _____	_____	_____
75. _____	_____	_____

**LATE**

House Finance Committee on Health & Human Services  
H.B. No. 120, H.D. 2 Relating to Health

Dear Committee Chairs, Vice-chairs and Committee Members,

Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair

Rep. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair

Rep. Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair

Ty J.K. Cullen, Richard H.K. Onishi, Mark J. Hashem, Gregg Takayama, Kaniela Ing, James Kunane Tokioka, Jo Jordan, Justin H. Woodson, Bertrand Kobayashi, Kyle T. Yamashita, Nicole E. Lowen, Beth Fukumoto, Dee Morikawa, Gene Ward

Testimony of Kahala Dotson, MS practicum student, LTCOP.

I am testifying in strong support of HB 120. I first want to acknowledge that all care givers are to be commended for the good works they do for the elderly in our state. Their tireless efforts provide our families and Kupuna with quality care. Currently all licensed care facilities in the state are inspected, however only skilled nursing facilities are required to provide inspection results, and or complaints online through [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) and clicking on "Nursing Home Compare." The site provides an "Overall 5-Star rating for nursing homes based on three parts or domains: 1) Health Inspections; 2) Quality Measures (QMs); and 3) staffing." These ratings are updated frequently and provide a comprehensive analysis of current violations and their definitions. This allows families to make an educated decision on the available facilities listed online. Many families live out of state, on outer islands, and require timely resources to make multiple decisions on a loved one's care. Without the online resource Kupuna and their families are left burdened by the state's current antiquated and time consuming processes. Requiring the Department of Health and the Department of Human services to post information concerning major patient care violations is imperative to quality care and transparency. It makes sense to provide an online resource of all care facilities and not just skilled nursing facilities. Hawaii needs to lead our growing Kupuna population in emphasizing quality of care data for all concerned.

**LATE**

To: Committee Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto & Johanson, and Members of  
The Committee  
Re: HB 120 HD 2 Testimony Requesting Amendments FIN 2/20/13  
Rm. 308 11:00 A.M.

Please maintain the language of the bill in Section 3 regarding the definition  
of Community Care Foster Family Homes (CCFFHs) and substitute caregivers.

Very truly yours,

*Thomas Campbell LFN/PCG*

**LATE**

To: Committee Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto & Johanson, and Members of  
The Committee

Re: HB 120 HD 2 Testimony Requesting Amendments FIN 2/20/13  
Rm. 308 11:00 A.M.

Please maintain the language of the bill in Section 3 regarding the definition  
of Community Care Foster Family Homes (CCFFHs) and substitute caregivers.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ronald Campbell", is written over a horizontal line.

**LATE**

To: Committee Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto & Johanson, and Members of  
The Committee  
Re: HB 120 HD 2 Testimony Requesting Amendments FIN 2/20/13  
Rm. 308 11:00 A.M.

Please maintain the language of the bill in Section 3 regarding the definition  
of Community Care Foster Family Homes (CCFFHs) and substitute caregivers.

Very truly yours,



---

ESTELA GANI 959-0404  
ADULT FOSTER CARE HOME  
BIG ISLAND CHAPTER



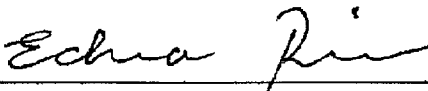
**LATE**

To: Committee Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto & Johanson, and Members of  
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Re: HB 120 HD 2 Testimony Requesting Amendments FIN 2/20/13  
Rm. 308 11:00 A.M.

Please maintain the language of the bill in Section 3 regarding the definition  
of Community Care Foster Family Homes (CCFFHs) and substitute caregivers.

Very truly yours,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Edna Rice


**LATE**

To: Committee Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto & Johanson, and Members of  
The Committee

Re: HB 120 HD 2 Testimony Requesting Amendments FIN 2/20/13  
Rm. 308 11:00 A.M.

Please maintain the language of the bill in Section 3 regarding the definition  
of Community Care Foster Family Homes (CCFFHs) and substitute caregivers.

Very truly yours,

  
Marilyn Aurelio  
Adult Foster Care Home  
Big Island Chapter

**LATE**

To: Committee Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto & Johanson, and  
Members of the Committee

RE: HB 120 HD2 Testimony Requesting Amendments FIN 2/20/13  
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Please maintain the language of the bill in Section 3 regarding the  
definition of Community Care Foster Family Homes (CCFFHs) and  
substitute caregivers.

Very truly yours,

  
DANIEL L. MARCOS, President AFHA –Big Island Chapter

**LATE**

To: Committee Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto & Johanson, and Members of  
The Committee  
Re: HB 120 HD 2 Testimony Requesting Amendments FIN 2/20/13  
Rm. 308 11:00 A.M.

Please maintain the language of the bill in Section 3 regarding the definition  
of Community Care Foster Family Homes (CCFFHs) and substitute caregivers.

Very truly yours,

*Anita Ventura*

ANITA VENTURA

VENTURA FOSTER FAMILY HOME

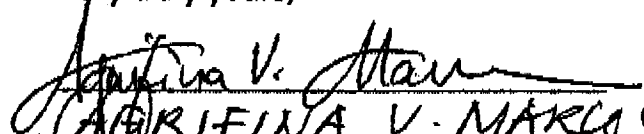
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To: Committee Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto & Johanson, and Members of  
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Re: HB 120 HD 2 Testimony Requesting Amendments FIN 2/20/13  
Rm. 308 11:00 A.M.

Please maintain the language of the bill in Section 3 regarding the definition  
of Community Care Foster Family Homes (CCFFHs) and substitute caregivers.

Very truly yours,

  
KARIFINA V. MARCOS  
Marcos Foster Family Home Operator

**LATE**

**HB120**

Submitted on: 2/20/2013

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
LIBERTY ALBANO	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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**LATE**

**HB120**

Submitted on: 2/20/2013

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Marina Manuel	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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**HB120**

Submitted on: 2/20/2013

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Eden Mabini	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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**LATE**

**HB120**

Submitted on: 2/20/2013

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Julius Fajotina	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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**HB120**

Submitted on: 2/20/2013

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Norma Jacinto	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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**HB120**

Submitted on: 2/20/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tessie Fernando	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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**HB120**

Submitted on: 2/20/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lina Esta	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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**HB120**

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Yolanda Collo	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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**HB120**

Submitted on: 2/20/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Milagros Beltran	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Myrna Fronda	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Imelda Steffens	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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**HB120**

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ofelia Simpliciano	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Evellyn Cacal	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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**LATE**

**HB120**

Submitted on: 2/20/2013

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Delia Cabingabang	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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To:  
[COMMITTEE ON FINANCE](#)  
Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair  
Rep. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair  
Rep. Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair

**LATE**

From: Wendy Silverthorne

My name is Wendy Silverthorne and I am a former Kailua resident of many years. My parents have been residents of Kailua for fifty years and live in House District 50. I am writing in **support of H.B 120.**

Two years ago, my mother was hospitalized at Castle Medical Center in Kailua. I flew out to be a support to my parents. My mother was so ill, that after a week we were told that she needed to stay in a Skilled Nursing Facility. I was sent out the door of the hospital at 4:00 in the afternoon to find a place for my mother to stay as she was being discharged the next morning.

In June of 2012, my mother's health started to decline rapidly. The Fire Department had to come to the house many times to either pick her up off the ground when she had fallen and/or take her to Castle Medical Center for evaluation. It was no longer safe for her to be at home.

My father was told that he should find a licensed foster home or care home for my mother. He visited half a dozen of these homes, I became increasingly concerned about some of the things that he was being told. One home offered to go to Court and have my mother declared a family member so that they could take her in as a private pay patient to get around Medicaid ratio requirements.

And, yet another home told my father, that if my mother fell out of bed during the night, they would give her a pillow and "make her as comfortable as possible on the floor until another employee came in to assist in the next morning", but they would not call the fire department to get her up off the floor.

I thought the most sensible thing to do would be to check with State Department of health to see if there were founded complaints against the homes that we were considering placing my mother in. I was shocked to find out that the procedure is to submit a request in writing and then after the request is received, the Department of Health is allowed ten days to provide the information. In most states, this information can be obtained online.

When a family has a loved one that needs to be placed, you rarely have the luxury of time to make a decision. Often, when being discharged from a hospital, you have about 24 hours to make that decision.

Please pass **H.B. 120** to protect the vulnerable elderly and disabled citizens of Hawaii. It is the right thing to do.

Sincerely, Wendy Silverthorne  
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