

Twenty-Seventh Legislature  
Regular Session of 2013

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Committee on Health

Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair

Rep. Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair

Committee on Human Services

Rep. Mele Carroll, Chair

Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

State Capitol, Conference Room 329  
Tuesday, February 5, 2013; 11:00 a.m.

**STATEMENT OF THE ILWU LOCAL 142 ON H.B. 2  
RELATING TO LONG TERM CARE**

The ILWU Local 142 strongly supports H.B. 2, which appropriates funds for the Executive Office on Aging to conduct an education and awareness campaign on long-term care.

Long-term care includes a range of services to meet the medical and non-medical needs of people with chronic illness or disability who cannot care for themselves, usually for the remainder of their lives. Most of the individuals needing long-term care are elderly and in progressively declining health. They need help with activities of daily living, such as walking, bathing, dressing, toileting, transferring, managing their medication, getting their meals, etc. Much of the care for these individuals is provided by family caregivers who often sacrifice their own needs to care for those of others.

Unless they have had personal experience with it, most people do not understand the huge impact caregiving can have on someone's life or the enormous cost to provide such care, particularly in an institution. As a result, most people do not plan and are not prepared for the long-term care needs of their loved ones or themselves.

H.B. 2 is intended to develop an extensive education and awareness campaign to help the general public understand long-term care and its costs and, ultimately, to advocate for a feasible, responsible program to help meet these prohibitive costs. The alternative is more family caregivers sacrificing their own health and retirement income, more care recipients institutionalized and qualifying for Medicaid assistance, and more burden on taxpayers.

An education and awareness campaign is sorely needed. The ILWU urges passage of H.B. 2.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our views and concerns.

**Hawaii Alliance for Retired Americans (HARA)**  
**An Affiliate of Alliance for Retired Americans**  
**c/o AFSCME**  
**888 Mililani Street, Suite 101**  
**Honolulu, HI 96813**

February 4, 2013

**Statement of the Hawaii Alliance For Retired Americans**  
**on H.B. 2, Relating to Long-Term Care**

The Hawaii Alliance for Retired Americans (HARA) supports H.B. 2, which appropriates funds for the Executive Office on Aging to conduct an education and awareness campaign on long-term care.

HARA is an organization of senior organizations that represent some 20,000 retirees in Hawaii. HARA's affiliates include retirees of HGEA, HSTA, ILWU, UPW, AFT, Kokua Council, and the Hawaii Caregiver Coalition. Also affiliated with HARA is the Kupuna Education Center.

Hawaii's aging population is growing. With more elderly in Hawaii, the need for costly long-term care increases. However, long-term care costs are prohibitive. A month in a nursing home now costs about \$10,000, a price tag that very few can pay without support either from the government or private insurance. Yet most Hawaii residents are unaware of the costs and unprepared for them.

An education and awareness campaign will help Hawaii's people understand the full impact of aging and long-term care, which will, hopefully, persuade them and lawmakers that government must become more involved in helping all of us meet those costs.

HARA urges passage of H.B. 2. Thank you for considering our testimony.

**morikawa2 - Shaun**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 05, 2013 9:37 AM  
**To:** HLTtestimony  
**Cc:** deborah.arendale@mauicounty.gov  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB2 on Feb 5, 2013 11:00AM\*

**HB2**

Submitted on: 2/5/2013

Testimony for HLT/HUS on Feb 5, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Deborah Arendale	Maui County Office on Aging	Support	No

Comments:

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