

HCR 76

Measure Title: REQUESTING THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON AGING TO CONTINUE ITS RESEARCH OF THE TIMEBANKING CONCEPT FOR HAWAII'S RESPITE SYSTEM.

Report Title: Executive Office on Aging; Timebanking

Description:

Companion: HR60

Package: None

Current Referral: HMS/WAM

Introducer(s): TAKAYAMA

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Committee on Human Services

Committee on Ways and Means

**HCR76 Requesting the Executive Office on Aging to Continue its Research of the
Timebanking Concept for Hawaii's Respite System**

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

Friday, April 19, 2013; Conference Room 211

1:30 p.m.

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

2 **Purpose and Justification:** Identified in the 2009 report, "Respite Care in the State of Hawaii,"
3 the current respite system is fragmented and flooded with several barriers, such as prohibitive
4 costs associated with service delivery and virtually no transportation to or from respite sites,
5 limiting service use among Hawaii's caregivers. Knowing that these barriers are limiting the use
6 of respite services in Hawaii, EOA is exploring alternative forms of currency to support respite
7 service delivery, namely, the concept of timebanking.

8 Discussed in greater detail in this measure, timebanking offers a unique opportunity for
9 Hawaii to leverage our community's natural assets to help meet the needs of our community as a
10 whole. To support the continued investigation into the feasibility of a timebanking system to
11 strengthen and increase Hawaii's respite capacity, EOA was recently awarded two AmeriCorps
12 VISTA members. VISTA members will be assisting us in conducting a theoretical analysis and

1 feasibility study, and this document will guide EOA as we consider a timebank demonstration
2 project to increase our State's respite capacity. To further strengthen our efforts, we have
3 identified several key national stakeholders, many of whom have implemented similar models in
4 their communities, and these key stakeholders will provide further guidance to EOA as we plan
5 this demonstration project.

6 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.