

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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## Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

### HCR76/HR60 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

Wednesday, April 10, 2013; Conference Room 325

2:10 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  
13 feasibility study, and this document will guide EOA as we consider a timebank demonstration

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

5 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



# Community Alliance for Mental Health

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To: The Hawai'i State House of Representatives Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

Re: HCR 76 / HR 60

To: The Honorable Representative McKelvey and the members of the committee.

Aloha,

The Community Alliance for Mental Health along with United Self Help strongly supports HCR 76 / HR 60. We think that this idea is brilliant! We have been searching for a way to increase the availability of respite care in regards to the mental health system.

The idea of time-banking as it is proposed here for the purpose of elder care cannot only be used in its stated fashion it could easily be incorporated into the mental health field. With the oncoming tsunami of Alzheimer's headed our way the fields of mental health and elder care will become more and more integrated. We hope that the Executive Office on Aging can proceed with this project and we wish them all the best.

Mahalo,  
Scott Wall  
Vice-President

To: Members of the Committee on Health

From: Lisa G. Pearring, BSN University of Hawaii at Hilo  
1055 Ahuna Road  
Hilo, HI 96720  
808-769-9171

Hearing: April 10, 2013 2:10 PM

Subject: HCR 76/HR60 Requesting the Executive Office on Aging to Continue its Research of the Timebanking Concept for Hawaii's Respite System

Dear Committee Members,

Mahalo for allowing me to provide testimony on HCR 76/HR60, which would continue research of the timebanking concept for Hawaii's respite system.

The ability to increase our respite capacity is essential as the average age of Hawaii residents will only increase in the next 30 years. Respite care services are currently limited and with increasing costs of transportation and medical services, alternative forms of financing is needed. Timebanking feasibility needs to be ascertained and may provide an option for funding of respite care. Please continue to research and provide projects that will increase the ability of our community to provide services for respite care.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

I strongly support HCR76/HR 60

To: Members of the Committee of Executive Office on Aging

From: Jimi-Jean U. Kalaniopio, BSN University of Hawaii at Hilo  
PO Box 2477  
Kamuela, HI 96743  
808-885-7654

Hearing: April 10, 2013 2:10 PM

Subject: HCR 76/HR 60 Requesting the Executive Office on Aging to continue its research of the timebanking concept for Hawaii's Respite - SUPPORT

Dear Chair and Committee Members,

Mahalo for allowing me to provide testimony on HCR 76 in companion with HR 60, which would further research by the Executive Office on Aging regarding the timebanking concept as a source of Hawaii's respite care.

As stated in HCR 76, local and national surveys have identified respite assistance as one of the most frequently requested services for families who are caregivers of their loved ones. However, many families are unable to pay for these services due to high costs associated with the delivery of respite care. With the state's economy in a current low, now is a better time than ever to seek alternative forms of currency such as "timebanking" to pay for respite care assistance.

I am in strong support of utilizing community members to perform tasks and skills that they are capable of doing and receiving "time dollars" in exchange for their service. This will not only allow members to contribute to society utilizing their own personal talents, but will provide necessary respite care to families and their loved ones.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony. I strongly support resolution HCR 76 in companion with HR 60.

Submitted via email 04/08/2013