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Committee on Ways and Means

SB105, SD1, RELATING TO HEALTH

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

Tuesday, February 26, 2013; Conference Room 211

10:00 a.m.

1 **EOA's Position:** The Executive Office on Aging (EOA) supports the intent of this measure and
2 notes that the Governor's Biennium Budget appropriates funds for a Falls Prevention Coordinator.

3 **Fiscal Implications:** An unspecified amount is appropriated to the Department of Health's
4 Emergency Medical Services and Injury Prevention System Branch to establish and maintain a
5 statewide fall prevention and early detection program.

6 **Purpose and Justification:** The Governor's Biennium Budget contains, within HTH730,
7 \$39,277 for FY14 and \$78,555 for FY15 for a Health Educator IV position to focus on fall
8 prevention for older adults. The position would be housed within the Injury Prevention and
9 Control Section of the Department of Health (DOH). The source of funding for this position is the
10 Trauma System Special Fund.

11 The position will work closely with EOA, the Falls Prevention Consortium, and other key
12 stakeholders to implement a comprehensive statewide program to reduce falls and their
13 consequences. While the DOH has recognized the seriousness of the problem of falls in older
14 adults for some time, and has implemented some strategies to date, much more needs to be done.

- 1 Establishing this position will assure a continued focus on prevention of falls in our community
- 2 and ultimately result in longer healthier lives for our aging population. Thank you for the
- 3 opportunity to testify.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: csmorimoto@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB105 on Feb 26, 2013 10:05AM
Date: Monday, February 25, 2013 8:32:01 AM

SB105

Submitted on: 2/25/2013

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2013 10:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Curt S. Morimoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support this bill. This program is vital in data collection and prevention measures in preventing costly, time-dependant injuries in our communities. Thank you!!

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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