

HB 2053

HD1

Measure Title:	RELATING TO AGING.
Report Title:	Kupuna Caucus; Fall Prevention and Early Detection Coordinator; Appropriation (\$)
Description:	Establishes a Fall Prevention and Early Detection Coordinator position within the Department of Health's Emergency Medical Services and Injury Prevention System Branch. Appropriates funds. Effective July 1, 2050. (HB2053 HD1)
Companion:	<u>SB2531</u>
Package:	Kupuna Caucus
Current Referral:	HMS/HTH, WAM
Introducer(s):	TAKAYAMA, AQUINO, BELATTI, CACHOLA, CREAGAN, CULLEN, FUKUMOTO, HASHEM, ICHIYAMA, JOHANSON, KOBAYASHI, LOWEN, MCKELVEY, MIZUNO, NISHIMOTO, OHNO, OSHIRO, SAY, THIELEN, TOKIOKA, WARD, WOODSON, YAMASHITA, Jordan



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P.O. Box 3378
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:
File:

Senate Committee on Human Services

Senate Committee on Health

HB 2053 HD1, RELATING TO AGING

Testimony of Linda M. Rosen, MD, MPH
Director of Health

Tuesday, March 11, 2014, 1:00 pm

1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health supports HB2053 HD1, provided that its passage
2 does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in our Executive Budget, and offers comments.

3 **Fiscal Implications:** Appropriates funding for use by DOH.

4 **Purpose and Justification:** This measure is significant as falls and fall related injuries among older
5 adults impose an enormous burden on individuals, society, and Hawaii's health care system. Among
6 adults 65 years of age and older, falls are by far the leading cause of injury-related deaths (45% of the
7 total), hospitalizations (83%), and EMS attended injuries among older adults (82%). Direct medical
8 charges for fall and fall-related injuries among older adults amount to nearly \$95 million annually, an
9 amount that could be doubled if you were to include the costs of rehabilitation and long term care. Falls
10 impact the quality of life and independence of older adults. Over half of those hospitalized from a fall
11 are discharged to a nursing facility or rehabilitation center and many never regain full independence.

12 However, falls are not an inevitable part of aging and can be prevented. The Department is
13 committed to addressing this critical public health issue and has already taken some steps to address fall
14 injuries among older adults in Hawaii. These efforts include coordinating the implementation and

1 evaluation of the “Hawai`i Falls Prevention State Plan, 2013-2018” to prevent falls and reduce the
2 severity of fall-related injuries in collaboration with the Hawai`i Fall Prevention Consortium.

3 Considering the magnitude of falls among older adults and the anticipated increase in this age
4 group in the next 20 years to over 18% of Hawaii’s population, the current level of dedicated resources
5 for fall prevention are insufficient. The fall prevention and early detection position proposed in this bill
6 will enable the Department of Health to support a coordinated state-wide approach that is needed to
7 prevent and reduce the impact of falls among older adults. The Department is prepared to carry out the
8 duties as described in the bill in collaboration with community partners.

9 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII

LINDA ROSEN, MD, MPH
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH



WESLEY LUM, PH.D., MPH
DIRECTOR

Telephone
(808) 586-0100

Fax
(808) 586-0185

STATE OF HAWAII
EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON AGING
NO. 1 CAPITOL DISTRICT
250 SOUTH HOTEL STREET, SUITE 406
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-2831

Joint Committee on Human Services and Health

HB 2053, HD1, RELATING TO AGING

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

Tuesday, March 11, 2014; Conference Room 016

1:00 p.m.

EOA's Position: The Executive Office on Aging (EOA) supports the intent of this measure, provided that its enactment does not reduce or replace priorities within the Administration's supplemental budget request.

Purpose and Justification: This measure appropriates funds to the Department of Health's (DOH) Emergency Medical Services and Injury Prevention System Branch to establish and fill a Fall Prevention and Early Detection Coordinator position. The source of funding for this position is the Trauma System Special Fund.

The position will work closely with EOA, the Falls Prevention Consortium, and other key stakeholders to implement a comprehensive statewide program to reduce falls and their consequences. While the DOH has recognized the seriousness of the problem of falls in older adults for some time, and has implemented strategies to date, much more needs to be done. Establishing this position will assure a continued focus on prevention of falls in our community and ultimately result in longer, healthier lives for our aging population. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



HPCCA

HAWAII PRIMARY CARE ASSOCIATION

Senate Committee on Human Services

The Hon. Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair

The Hon. Josh Green, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Health

The Hon. Josh Green, Chair

The Hon. Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

Testimony in Support of House Bill 2053, HD 1

Relating to Aging

Submitted by Robert Hirokawa, Chief Executive Officer

March 11, 2014, 1:00pm, Room 016

The Hawaii Primary Care Association (HPCCA), which represents the federally qualified community health centers in Hawaii, supports House Bill 2053, establishing a fall prevention and early detection coordinator.

Elderly residents comprise the fastest growing segment of the population here in Hawaii. Among them, falls are the leading cause of fatal injuries and injury related hospitalizations in the state. Cumulatively, these falls account for a yearly average of eighty-two deaths and eighteen hundred hospitalizations, representing a total of over \$65,000,000 per year. This is a growing concern for both the health and financial stability of Hawaii, and needs to be addressed as such.

For these reasons, the HPCCA supports this measure. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

The Twenty-Seventh Legislature
Regular Session of 2014

THE SENATE

Committee on Human Services

Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair

Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair

Committee on Health

Senator Josh Green Chair

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

State Capitol, Conference Room 016

Tuesday, March 11, 2014; 1:00 p.m.

**STATEMENT OF THE ILWU LOCAL 142 ON H.B. 2053, HD1
RELATING TO AGING**

The ILWU Local 142 supports H.B. 2053, HD1, which establishes a fall prevention and early detection coordinator position within the Department of Health's Emergency Medical Services and Injury Prevention System Branch and appropriates funds.

Falls among seniors is costly. When a senior falls, medical costs are much higher than when a younger person falls. Yet falls are often preventable with information about what causes falls and what behaviors to modify. Funding a fall prevention and early detection coordinator is a prudent and sound investment to potentially save hundreds of thousands of dollars in medical bills and untold physical suffering.

The ILWU urges the passage of H.B. 2053, HD1 with a suitable appropriation. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.

HB2053

Submitted on: 3/8/2014

Testimony for HMS/HTH on Mar 11, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
BRUCE McCullough	HARA andPABEA	Support	No

Comments: The Hawaii Alliance for Retired Americans and The Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs are in strong support of this measure. Falling is the number 1 accident for our Seniors. A falls Coordinator is needed in our State.

HB 2053, HD 1, HSCR616-14, Relating to Aging (Falls Prevention)
HB 1713, Relating to Aging (Kupuna Care; ADRCs; Longterm Care Campaign)

Related cross-over bills:

HB No. 2056, HD1, Relating to Aging (Dementia Services and Elder Justice Coordinators)

Testimony in Support, Zonta Club Of Hilo

Joint Hearing before the Senate Committees on Human Services and Health
Tuesday, March 11, 2014, 1:00pm HB 2053, HD1, 1:15 pm HB1713
State Capitol Conference Room 016

Senators Chun-Oakland and Green, Chairs, and Committee Members:

My name is Charlene Iboshi and I am writing on behalf of the Zonta Club of Hilo. The Zonta Club is an international organization of business and professional women whose mission is to advance the status of women and girls. We voted recently to support the Majority Package and Kupuna Caucus funding bills related to aging services and prevention coordinators for Falls, Dementia and Elder Justice. As an organization, we realize that aging issues disproportionately impact women for two main reasons; 1) greater social, medical and economic costs associated with longer life-expectancies; and 2) women still bear most of the responsibilities of elder caregiving. Many of our members are "Baby Boomers" or in the "Great Generation," so we understand the challenges of being an "elder."

Since my retirement last year as the Hawaii County Prosecutor, I have involved myself in organizations that support a healthy and safe community. To reduce economic and social costs facing the elders, disabled and their care-givers, a plan with collaborative, comprehensive implementation of "best practices" is key. This includes a government and community "support net."

We fully support Bill HB 1713, HSCR742-14, Relating to Aging, which reflects the needed funding to address the growing social and economic challenges facing the elders. The omnibus funding items recommended by the Kapuna Caucus and PABEA were fully vetted and a product of well-researched and responsible recommendations. The Governor's proposed budget and the Joint House and Senate Majority proposals, included funding for: 1) Kupuna Care; 2) Aging and Disability Resource Centers (four counties); 3) Long-term Care Funding Awareness Campaign. This bill will be heard at 1:15 pm before the Senate Human Services Committee.

HB 1713 is the first priority bill, Relating to Elders (and disabled), addresses the growing challenges of long-term care awareness, financing and preparation; user-friendly Aging Disability Resource Centers providing "one stop" assistance; kupuna care services for low income, but not medicaid-eligible, elders to keep these elders in the community and out of nursing care facilities. The second priority is a falls prevention coordinator in HB 2053. The final priority is the HB2056, HD1, prevention of elder abuse and fraud and dementia and alzheimer support coordinators. The funding proposals would reduce the

overall societal and economic costs by using prevention measures and avoiding costly institutional care.

The Legislature should adopt the Kupuna Caucus and PABEA recommendations to support the economic and social vitality of our growing elder populations. This support is especially helpful to women, who do the caregiving primarily and become the cared for elder as they become frail and unable to take care of themselves because of their longer life expectancies.

The funding will be helpful for Hawaii County, which has the challenge of being the largest county with strained infra-structure. Our super-rurality makes any delivery of services for elders and disabled more challenging. Collaboration is our strength, but we continue to have the unfortunate status of being the county with the most "challenging" economic and social negative social indicators, including inadequate public transportation and insufficient primary health care services. Please provide adequate funding for prevention of falls, elder fraud, strengthening of community, self-help strategies with "one stop" access through the ADRCs, and maintaining current cost-effective elder services, such as Kupuna Care, for aging without institutional care.

Thank you for your expected support and the opportunity to testify.

Charlene Iboshi, Zonta Club of Hilo

HB2053

Submitted on: 3/8/2014

Testimony for HMS/HTH on Mar 11, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Kingdon	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This bill is crucial to promote the well-being of Hawaii's people. Falls constitute a leading cause of morbidity and mortality, particularly among older adults. Effective prevention of fall injuries requires a truly multi-modal approach, which is only feasible with centralized coordination. This proposed Coordinator position will facilitate these important statewide efforts. As someone involved in both emergency services and injury prevention, I have nearly daily experiences that reinforce the importance of fall prevention. Thank you for your consideration.

HB2053

Submitted on: 3/8/2014

Testimony for HMS/HTH on Mar 11, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ellen Awai	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support HB2053 HD1. Fall Prevention education is necessary not just for the elderly or people that are clumsy, but its important for everyone. After experiencing my own fall and breaking my elbow over two years ago, I will never be able to accomplish things I could do before my accident. Recently I attended a workshop, which was very informative. I learned that anyone who takes medications, may be a hoarder, or has rugs on their floor, needs to be educated, which is mostly everyone in Hawaii. I strongly support this bill to create services, programs and a coordinator to reduce costs in emergency rooms, hospitals, rehabilitation and skilled nursing facilities. Thank you!