

**NEIL ABERCROMBIE**  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII

**LINDA ROSEN, MD, MPH**  
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH



**WESLEY LUM, PH.D., MPH**  
DIRECTOR

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

**Joint Committee on Health and Human Services**

**HCR78, HD1, REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONVENE A FAMILY CAREGIVERS WORKING GROUP TO EXAMINE AND ASSESS THE ROLE OF CAREGIVING FOR PATIENTS RELEASED FROM HOSPITALS AND THE OVERALL CIRCUMSTANCES OF PATIENTS RELEASED FROM HOSPITALS AS WELL AS THE RESOURCES IN THE COMMUNITY NEEDED AND AVAILABLE TO ASSIST THEM.**

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

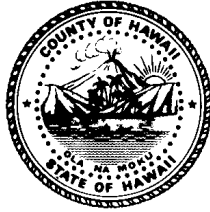
**Tuesday, April 15, 2014; Conference Room 229**

**9:00 a.m.**

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

**Purpose and Justification:** The role of family caregivers is expanding. While family caregivers have traditionally assisted with bathing, dressing, eating, and household tasks such as shopping and managing finances, it is now common for families to perform medical and nursing tasks that historically were only provided in hospitals and nursing homes or by home care professionals. This measure will allow the State to better support family caregivers who are the backbone of our long-term supports and service system. Therefore, EOA supports this measure. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**William P. Kenoi**  
*Mayor*



**Walter K.M. Lau**  
*Managing Director*

**Randall M. Kurohara**  
*Deputy Managing Director*

## County of Hawai'i Office of the Mayor

25 Aupuni Street, Suite 2603 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720 • (808) 961-8211 • Fax (808) 961-6553  
KONA: 74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Hwy., Bldg. C • Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740  
(808) 323-4444 • Fax (808) 323-4440

April 15, 2014

The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Health  
The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Human Services  
Hawai'i State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street, Room 229  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

RE: HCR 78, HD 1 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONVENE A FAMILY CAREGIVERS WORKING GROUP TO EXAMINE AND ASSESS THE ROLE OF CAREGIVING FOR PATIENTS RELEASED FROM HOSPITALS AND THE OVERALL CIRCUMSTANCES OF PATIENTS RELEASED FROM HOSPITALS AS WELL AS THE RESOURCES IN THE COMMUNITY NEEDED AND AVAILABLE TO ASSIST THEM.

Aloha, Chair Green, Chair Chun Oakland and Committee Members:

Mahalo for this opportunity to express our strong support for HCR 78, which convenes a caregiver's work group to examine and assess the role of caregivers for patients released from hospitals.

The backbone of our long-term, home and community-based care system is the family caregiver that provides loving care for our kupuna. Currently, family caregivers receive little training on how to deliver complicated care, are not treated as partners in their loved one's care, and not encouraged to maintain their own health. Supporting caregivers will allow our kupuna with long-term care needs to safely remain in the loving comfort of their own homes for longer periods of time, maintaining the health and quality of life for both the caregiver and care recipient.

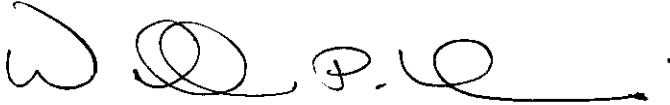
A majority of us will be caregivers at some point in our lives as we care for loved ones. This important role is often isolating and stressful, and families need information and support as they take on the task of caring for a loved one. We need to better

The Honorable Josh Green  
The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland  
Page 2  
April 15, 2014

understand the role of caregivers and hospitals in ensuring that people released from hospitals receive high quality care and live with the most independence possible.

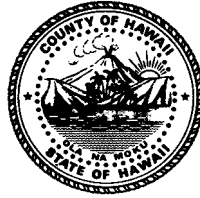
Mahalo for your consideration.

Aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. P. Kenoi', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

William P. Kenoi  
MAYOR

William P. Kenoi  
Mayor



Alan R. Parker  
Executive on Aging

## County of Hawai'i

### OFFICE OF AGING

Aging and Disability Resource Center, 1055 Kino'ole Street, Suite 101, Hilo, Hawai'i 96720-3872  
Phone (808) 961-8600 • Fax (808) 961-8603 • Email: hcoa@hawaiiintel.net  
West Hawai'i Civic Center, 74-5044 Ane Keohokālole Highway, Kailua-Kona 96740  
Phone (808) 323-4390 • Fax (808) 323-4398

April 14, 2014

TESTIMONY TO: **Committees on Health and Human Services**

**Senator Josh Green, Chair**  
**Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair**

**Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair**  
**Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair**

SUBJECT: **HCR78, HD1**

**"RELATING TO CAREGIVING"**

**April 15, 2014**  
**9:00 p.m.**  
**Conference Room 229**

Honorable Chairs and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on HCR78, proposal HD1, requesting the DOH to convene a caregiver working group to examine and assess the role of caregiving for patients released from hospitals and the overall circumstances of patients released from hospitals as well as the resources in the community needed and available to assist them.

Too often, the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) in Hilo receives calls from desperate caregivers caught off guard by early release from hospitals, often times with care requirements beyond the average person's capabilities.

Our ADRC is not geared to respond to emergency or last minute desperation calls from caregivers. It is imperative that this issue be given due attention.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony.



February 6, 2012  
SB. No. 2779  
Page 2

Alan R. Parker  
Executive on Aging  
Hawaii County Office of Aging  
1055 Kinoole Street, Suite 101  
Hilo, HI 96720-3872  
[arparker@hcoahawaii.org](mailto:arparker@hcoahawaii.org)



## **H.C.R. 78, HD1**

**Requesting the Department of Health to Convene a Caregivers Working Group to Examine and Assess the Role of Caregiving from Patients Released From Hospitals and the Overall Circumstances of Patients Released from Hospitals as well as the Resources in the Community Needed and Available to Assist Them.**

**Senate Committee on Health**

**Senate Committee on Human Services**

**April 15, 2014; 9:00 a.m.**

The Queen's Health System provides comment on this measure and we look forward to working with interested stakeholders to examine the role, circumstances, and resources available to Caregivers in Hawaii.

The Queens Health System, which includes The Queens Medical Center, soon-to-open The Queens Medical Center West Oahu, Molokai General Hospital, and North Hawaii Community Hospital, asks for 2 members on this task force to represent its multiple facilities.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.



55 Merchant Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813-4333

**HAWAI'I PACIFIC HEALTH**  
Kapi'olani • Pali Momi • Straub • Wilcox

808-535-7401  
www.hawaiipacifichealth.org

**Tuesday, April 15, 2014; 9:00 am**  
**Conference Room 229**

**The Senate Committee on Health**

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair  
Senator Rosalyn Baker, Vice Chair

**The Senate Committee on Human Services**

To: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair  
Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair

From: Virginia Pressler, MD, MBA  
Hawai'i Pacific Health

**Re: HCR 78, HD1: Requesting the Department of Health to Convene a Family Caregivers Working Group to Examine and Assess the Role of Caregiving for Patients Released from Hospitals and the Overall Circumstances of Patients Released from Hospitals as well as the Resources in the Community Needed and Available to Assist Them**

**Testimony in Support**

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My name is Virginia Pressler, MD, MBA. I am the Executive Vice President and Chief Strategic Officer for Hawai'i Pacific Health. Hawai'i Pacific Health is a not-for-profit health care system, and the state's largest health care provider and non-government employer. It is committed to providing the highest quality medical care and service to the people of Hawai'i and the Pacific Region through its four hospitals, more than 50 outpatient clinics and service sites, and over 1,600 affiliated physicians. Hawai'i Pacific Health's hospitals are Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children, Pali Momi Medical Center, Straub Clinic & Hospital and Wilcox Memorial Hospital.

I write in support of HCR 78, HD1 relating to the convening of a caregiving working group. We recognize the important role caregivers fulfill, and for this reason, our hospitals take necessary steps to include the patient, patients' family members, and caregivers in discharge planning. In light of the evolving responsibilities caregivers have come to assume, forming a working group to examine and assess patients' needs relative to caregivers is timely.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.



Affiliates of Hawai'i Pacific Health



American Cancer Society  
Cancer Action Network  
2370 Nu`uanu Avenue  
Honolulu, Hawai`i 96817  
808.432.9149  
[www.acscan.org](http://www.acscan.org)

Senate Committee on Health  
Senator Josh Green, Chair  
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Human Services  
Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair  
Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair

Hearing: April 15, 2014; 9:00 a.m.

**HCR 78, HD1 – REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONVENE A CAREGIVERS WORKING GROUP TO EXAMINE AND ASSESS THE ROLE OF CAREGIVING FOR PATIENTS RELEASED FROM HOSPITALS AND THE OVERALL CIRCUMSTANCES OF PATIENTS RELEASED FROM HOSPITALS AS WELL AS THE RESOURCES IN THE COMMUNITY NEEDED AND AVAILABLE TO ASSIST THEM.**

Cory Chun, Government Relations Director – Hawaii Pacific  
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HCR 78 HD1, which convenes a workgroup to collaborate on the substance of caregiver support from SB 2264.

The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) is the nation's leading cancer advocacy organization. ACS CAN works with federal, state, and local government bodies to support evidence-based policy and legislative solutions designed to eliminate cancer as a major health problem.

Caregivers are usually the unpaid loved ones who give the person with cancer physical and emotional care. Caregivers may be spouses, partners, family members, or close friends. Most often, they are not trained for the caregiver job. Many times, they may be the lifeline of the person with cancer.

We appreciate your willingness to continue the discussion of caregiver support and welcome the opportunity to participate in the working group as we have caregivers of cancer patients who may benefit from any recommendations the group may have. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



TO: SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Senator Josh Green, Chair

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES  
Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Chair

FROM: Eldon L. Wegner, Ph.D., Chair, Advocacy Committee  
Hawaii Family Caregiver Coalition

HEARING: 9:00 am Tuesday April 15, 2014  
Conference Room 229, Hawaii State Capitol

SUBJECT: HCR 78 HD 1

POSITION: The Hawaii Family Caregiver Coalition **supports the intent** of HCR 78 HD 1 **but wishes to suggest the measure be amended** to address the issues raised in SB2264 (the Care Act). We believe there needs to be dialogue by all interested parties into the proposals to require hospitals to give patients the opportunity designate a caregiver, enter the caregiver's name in the medical record, notify the caregiver prior to the patients transfer or discharge, consult with the caregiver about the discharge plan, and instruct the caregiver in after-care tasks.

**RATIONALE:**

The Hawaii Family Caregiver Coalition represents more 25 organizations who serve family caregivers. Our role is to education and advocate for measures which will support family caregiving in Hawaii and will increase the quality of care and the quality of life for caregivers and the family members they care for.

**Shortcomings of current wording: The role of hospital discharge planning must be addressed.** Hospitals have largely dismantled discharge planning in an effort at cost savings at a time of fiscal challenges. Consequently, patients are discharged sooner and sicker, resulting in high readmission rates. Hawaii's hospitals experience an unacceptable rate of penalties for these readmissions.

- A 2012 survey by the AARP Public Policy institute and the United Hospital Fund determined that almost half (46%) of family caregivers performed medical/nursing tasks ranging from managing multiple medications, helping with assistive mobility devices, preparing food for special diets, providing wound care, using monitors, and operating specialized medical equipment. Three out of four (78%) family caregivers who provided medical/nursing tasks were managing medications, including intravenous fluids and injections. Almost half were administering 5 to 9 prescription medications a day.
- As the movement towards moving care from hospitals to the home continues, aided by new assistive technologies, family caregivers will experience an increasing responsibility for ever-more components of the care. Most family members have no experience in performing medical task. Thus it will be ever more apparent that they need to be included in the planning of post-hospital care and offered training in the tasks they are expected to perform.

- Medical care is becoming more holistic, fostering more coordination among multi-disciplinary teams and empowering consumers to have more control over decisions which affect them and over their care. Including family caregivers in the planning of discharge arrangements, giving them a voice in such arrangements, and providing them with adequate training to provide the quality of care needed during the vulnerable post-hospital stage, is sensible and sensitive to the caregiver, and likely to result in superior outcomes.

This resolution should be bringing persons from the affected parties together to work towards practical and collaborative proposals to address how these recommendations can be realized. Thank you for allowing me to testify.

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [Tlenzer@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:Tlenzer@hawaii.rr.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HCR78 on Apr 15, 2014 09:00AM  
**Date:** Sunday, April 13, 2014 2:30:52 PM

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## **HCR78**

Submitted on: 4/13/2014

Testimony for HTH/HMS on Apr 15, 2014 09:00AM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Anthony Lenzer, Ph.D	Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs	Support	No

Comments: Chairs Green and Chun Oakland and Committee Members: PABEA strongly supports HCR 78, proposed HD 1. We believe that there is an urgent need for hospitals and other institutions to recognize the critical role which unpaid family members play in caring for elder relatives following discharge from hospitals, rehab facilities or other institutions. Such family members are often called upon to perform vital medical/nursing tasks for which they have little or no training. Failure to perform such tasks properly may lead to complications requiring rehospitalization of the older person. Such an outcome is traumatic for the patient and the family, and costly for the institution providing the care. As to the composition of the working group, we respectfully urge that two or more caregivers be specifically identified and included in the membership. Their experience should be valuable to the group's deliberations. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on the Resolution.

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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# **HARA** Voice of Hawaii's Seniors

*Hawaii Alliance for Retired Americans, An Affiliate of the Alliance for Retired Americans  
1953 South Beretania Street, Suite 5C, Honolulu, Hawaii 96826*

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Submitted by email to: [HTHtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:HTHtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov)

## **Senate Committees on Health and Human Services April 15, 2014, 9 a.m. Conference Room 229**

Testimony of Al Hamai in support of HCR78, HD1, Relating to Caregiving

Chair Josh Green, Chair, Vice Chair Rosalyn H. Baker and Health Committee Members and

Chair Suzanne Chun Oakland, Vice Chair Josh Green, and Human Services Committee Members

HARA supports HCR78, proposed HD1, requesting the DOH to convene a caregiver working group to examine and assess the role of caregiving for patients released from hospitals and the overall circumstances of patients released from hospitals as well as the resources in the community needed and available to assist them.

HARA earlier supported S.B. 2264, SD2, HD1 because it was intended to support the family caregivers by ensuring that hospitals recognize their essential role in the care of the hospital's discharged patients. This proposal appears to be medically sound and right thing to do to be supportive to patients and their caregivers for the critical period immediately after discharge. Unfortunately, SB2264, as amended was not adopted by the legislature.

We hope that the proposed working group will devote sufficient time to study this issue and then recommend significant proposals that will appropriately recognize the value of the family caregivers and their need to be consulted in the discharge plan of their patients and as necessary, provide such training to the caregivers to care for their discharged patients.

We urge your Committees to adopt HCR78. Mahalo and Aloha.

*HARA is a strong voice for Hawaii's retirees and seniors; a diverse community-based organization with national roots; a grassroots organizer, educator, and communicator; and a trusted source of information for decision-makers.*

***HARA Affiliates: HGEA Retirees, HSTA-Retired, ILWU Retirees, UPW Retirees, AFT Retirees, Kokua Council, Hawaii Family Caregivers Coalition, Kupuna Education Center.***





**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [lkakatsu@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:lkakatsu@hawaii.rr.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HCR78 on Apr 15, 2014 09:00AM  
**Date:** Friday, April 11, 2014 6:53:05 PM

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## **HCR78**

Submitted on: 4/11/2014

Testimony for HTH/HMS on Apr 15, 2014 09:00AM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lynn Murakami-Akatsuka	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support HCR 78, HD1 to convene a caregivers working group to examine and assess the role of caregiving for patients released from hospitals and the overall circumstances of patients released from hospitals as well as the resources in the community needed and available to assist them. I recently had a total hip replacement surgery in December 2013. I received PT and OT services at Castle Medical Center and continued my rehabilitation at the Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific. This is based on my experience on the discharge planning that was done at the Rehabilitation Hospital. I was very grateful and impressed with their offer of caregiver training for my husband as part of the discharge planning. They offered a 3 hour training going over my bathing, toileting, transporting needs, use of adaptive equipment, and hip precautions that my husband and I needed to be reminded of so that I would not injure my hip implant or need to be re-admitted to the hospital. It gave my husband confidence in taking care of me at home and transporting me to my appointments. I was relieved that he would be able to understand my limitations of daily living until I could be independent. If there is any model that should be looked at, it is undoubtedly the Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of HCR 78, HD 1.

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To: Committee on Health, Senator Josh Green, Chair and Committee on Human Services,  
Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair

Date: April 15, 2014, State Capitol Conference Room 229, 9:00 a.m.

**Re: HCR 78 HD1 – Family Caregiver Working Group**

Chair Green, Chair Chun Oakland and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in SUPPORT of HCR 78, HD1. My name is T .J. Davies Jr. I am retired and disabled and live in the Kakaako area.

. The passage of this bill is vital as:

- This resolution should be amended to specifically direct the caregivers working group to examine hospital practices relating to caregiver designation, notification, and training.
- This resolution addresses the role of caregivers and hospitals in ensuring that people can live with independence and remain in their home after their release from hospitals
- Caregivers need support when caring for loved ones released from hospitals or it can become isolating and stressful.
- It's smart and common sense to provide caregivers with support so that they can properly care for loved one when they return home from the hospital.

I urge you to support caregivers by voting yes on HCR 78 HD1 with amendments as discussed above.

T. J. DAVIES JR., Volunteer  
AARP Chapter 60 Waikiki & Kookia Council for Senior Citizens  
Kakaako (District 23 / Senate District 12)



**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [gertiehara@gmail.com](mailto:gertiehara@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HCR78 on Apr 15, 2014 09:00AM\*  
**Date:** Saturday, April 12, 2014 1:48:04 PM

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**HCR78**

Submitted on: 4/12/2014

Testimony for HTH/HMS on Apr 15, 2014 09:00AM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gertrude Hara	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [maucrowe@gmail.com](mailto:maucrowe@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HCR78 on Apr 15, 2014 09:00AM  
**Date:** Sunday, April 13, 2014 9:41:24 AM

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**HCR78**

Submitted on: 4/13/2014

Testimony for HTH/HMS on Apr 15, 2014 09:00AM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
james crowe	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Please pass HCR 78. It makes so much sense to have family caregivers information about rudimentary care procedures. It shows respect for Kupuna, as most care receivers are. It alleviates unnecessary suffering and adds to quality of life. I am a senior caregiver for my senior care receiver wife. I am honored to have this responsibility. I do so much want to do it right, with a little help.

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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To: Committee on Health, Senator Josh Green, Chair and Committee on Human Services, Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair

Date: April 15, 2014, State Capitol Conference Room 229, 9:00 a.m.

Re: HCR 78 HD1 – Family Caregiver Working Group

Chair Green, Chair Chun Oakland and Committee Members

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in SUPPORT of HCR 78, HD1. My is Sylvia Ching and I was a former caregiving to my late mother, father, sister and brother. I live in the Punchbowl area. The passage of this bill is vital as

- Patients are being discharged early from hospitals and their caregivers are not being given adequate notice of the discharge to prepare for their care.
- Post hospital care often requires complicated tasks such as administering IV's, dressing wounds, and managing multiple medications. Caregivers are not being given adequate instructions on performing such complex tasks by hospitals.

Because of the lack of proper care instructions to caregivers, patients are readmitted into hospitals causing further deterioration of their condition, further pain and suffering and costing more money for the patient. Taxpayers also lose if the readmission is paid for by Medicare and Medicaid.

This resolution should be amended to specifically direct the caregivers working group to examine carefully hospital procedures relating to caregiver designation, notification, and training.

I urge you to support patients and caregivers by voting Yes on HCR 78 HD1 with amendments as discussed above.

Sylvia Ching

Punchbowl Area

To: Committee on Health, *Senator Josh Green*, Chair and Committee on Human Services  
*Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland*, Chair

Date: April 15, 2014, State Capitol Conference Room 229, 9:00 a.m.

Re: HCR 78, HD1 Relating to Family Caregiver Working Group

Dear Chair Green, Chair Chun Oakland and Committee Members

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in SUPPORT OF HCR78, HD1. My name is Gail Gainer-Rustin and I am a retired registered nurse who moved to Honolulu last August. I cared for my mother in Michigan before she passed. The amount of work involved with care can be overwhelming for a non- professional caregiver. The recommendations for the passage of this bill is vital because:

- This resolution should specifically direct the caregivers working group to examine hospital practices relating to caregiver designation, notification, and training.
- This resolution addresses the role of caregivers and hospitals in ensuring that people can live with independence and remain in their home after their release from hospitals.
- Caregivers need support when caring for loved ones released from hospitals or it can become isolating, stressful and overwhelming.
- It makes sense to provide caregivers with support so that they can properly care for loved one when they return home from the hospital.

Even though I am a nurse it was tough to manage the daily tasks of caring for someone without support. I did not live in Michigan and had no one to call on for help when I was their caring for my mother.

I urge you to support caregivers by voting yes on HCR 78, HD1 with amendments as discussed above.

Thank you.

Gail Gainer-Rustin

Honolulu, Hi 96817



To: Committee on Health  
Senator Josh Green, Chair

Committee on Human Services  
Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair

Date: April 15, 2014, Conference Room 229, 9:00 a.m.

Re: HCR 78, HD 1 – Requesting the Department of Health to Convene a Family Caregivers Working Group to Examine and Assess the Role of Caregiving for Patients Released from Hospitals and the Overall Circumstances of Patients Released from Hospitals as Well as the Resources in the Community Needed and Available to Assist Them

TESTIMONY IN Support

Chair Green, Chair Chun Oakland, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Stuart Ho, and I appear here on behalf of AARP Hawaii, and its 150,000 members in Hawaii.

Specifically, I appear in support for HCR 78, HD 1. AARP has been strongly advocating this legislative session for support to caregivers. AARP believes that family caregivers must be involved in every step of the health care process. That's why we introduced the CARE Act, SB 2264, that would have helped family caregivers when their loved ones go into the hospital – and as they return home.

While our preference is the enactment of SB 2264 as originally introduced, HCR 78, HD 1, is a step in the right direction, as it examines and assesses the need to help caregivers and loved ones that are discharged from the hospital and return home.

AARP is requesting that HCR 78, HD1 be amended to:

1. More clearly define the caregivers working group's tasks to include the issues in Senate Bill 2264, 2014 Regular Session, relating to caregiver designation, notification, and involvement in discharge planning.
2. Direct the working group to provide legislative and regulatory recommendations on how to involve caregivers in the patient discharge process.

The above amendments would be to HCR 78, HD 1, page 2, lines 14-23 as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, the Senate concurring, that the

Department of Health, is requested to convene a family caregivers working group to examine and assess issues contained in Senate Bill 2264, 2014 Regular Session, including but not limited to the role of caregivers, the ~~status~~ state of current practice of caregiver designation, notification, involvement in discharge planning, and training, the question of what role hospitals should play in the training of caregivers and the role others might or should play in the training of caregivers to assure the best outcomes for all patients released from hospitals; and legislative and regulatory recommendations on how best to involve caregivers in patient discharge and prepare caregivers for after-care tasks; and

Additionally, HCR 78, HD1 should be amended to reflect AARP's official name as AARP, and not the American Association of Retired Persons. This amended name would be on HCR 78, HD1, page 1, line 21; and page 3, lines 23-24.

Thank you for the opportunity to address you.

Aloha Chairs Green, Baker, Chun Oakland and committee members,

My name is Barbara Service and I reside in Senate District 9, Senate District 19. I am a retired social worker, an AARP volunteer and active in Kokua Council.

I am disappointed that SB2264 is not going forward and want to make sure that the following amendments are included in HCR78 SD1. It is very important that hospitals include caregivers, many of whom are unpaid, in discharge planning and appropriate care for their loved ones, once they are discharged. Caregivers are not always told, in advance, of the discharge plan and have not been trained in how to perform necessary medical tasks which enable their loved ones to remain in their own homes.

Many hospitals already provide the above services. To make sure that all hospitals do, please amend HCR78 SD1 to include the above critical elements.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Barbara J. Service

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair – Health  
Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair - Human Service

Date: Tuesday, April 15, 2014

Time: 9:00 am

Place: State Capitol, Conference Room 229

Subject: Testimony for House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 78, HD 1

As Administrator of Project Dana, I am in strong support of House Concurrent Resolution 78, HD 1.

Family Caregivers are under great emotional stress and burden when their loved ones are discharged from hospitals and return home. Much support to lay caregivers is essential to provide quality caregiving. Adequate discharge plans, instructions and training to designated lay caregivers after hospital care are much needed to provide long-term support at home. HCR 78, HD1 should be amended to direct the caregiver working group so that a caregiver is designated in the loved ones medical record, caregivers are notified to a patient's discharge, and adequate and needed instructions are given to caregivers upon discharge of their loved ones.

Thousands of dollars could be saved as well as unnecessary re-entry to hospitals by passage of House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 78, HD1.

Please support House Resolution Concurrent 78, HD1.

Thank you very much.

Rose Nakamura

Project Dana



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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HCR78 on Apr 15, 2014 09:00AM  
**Date:** Monday, April 14, 2014 1:46:25 PM  
**Attachments:** [Testimony.HCR78HD1](#)

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## **HCR78**

Submitted on: 4/14/2014

Testimony for HTH/HMS on Apr 15, 2014 09:00AM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Christine Olah	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

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## TESTIMONY HCR 78 HD1

To: Committee on Health, Senator Josh Green, Chair and Committee on Human Services, Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair

Date: April 15, 2014, State Capitol Conference Room 229, 9:00 a.m.

Re: HCR 78 HD1 – Family Caregiver Working Group

Chair Green, Chair Chun Oakland and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in SUPPORT of HCR 78, HD1. My name is Ramon Sumibcay, a registered nurse and an AARP advocacy volunteer. I strongly support the resolution with amendment. The resolution must direct the caregivers working group that hospital practices relating to caregiver designation, notification and training be reviewed and examined. Hospitals must acknowledge that caregivers play vital role in the healthcare delivery system that when patients are given proper post-hospitalization care, it will potentially prevent re-admission to the hospital which is costly.

I urge you to support caregivers by voting yes on HCR 78 HD1 with amendments as discussed above.

Sincerely,

Ramon Sumibcay

Makakilo Resident.