



To: Committee on Ways and Means, Senator David Ige, Chair

Date: February 26, 2014, State Capitol Conference Room 211, 9:00 AM

RE: SB 2346 SD1 – Relating to Aging

Aloha Chair Ige and Committee Members:

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to submit written testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of SB 2346 SD1 Relating to Aging. My name is Claire Santos and I am a registered nurse and healthcare advocate living in the Punchbowl area. The passage of this bill is vital because:

All Hawaii residents should be made aware of available options in order to plan for their later years, which includes consideration of long-term care and caregiving. The goal is for residents to live independently at home for as long as it is reasonable and safe to do so, rather than moving into costly nursing or group homes. With over 277,000 people over the age of 60 in our community, a viable long-term care education and awareness campaign is essential.

Hawaii has a “gap group” of aging residents who can’t afford to pay for services, yet they also don’t qualify for Medicaid and don’t know where to turn for assistance. The Kupuna Care Program provides a safety net that is a cost-effective way to prevent the majority of seniors from falling into poverty.

The Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC) is a vital one-stop source of information and guidance for caregivers and family members to obtain the information they need about the very complex process of navigating the long-term care system.

As a former home care representative for the Medicare population, I was involved in the discharge planning process as well as the home health care assessment and planning. I have also cared for family members at home. I believe that it is in the best interest of every aging person to have available the appropriate resources for long-term health and life planning and management, and that the information is presented in the appropriate cultural, language and literacy levels for the person and her or his caregiver.

I urge you to support caregivers by voting YES on SB 2346 SD1.

Sincerely,

Claire P. Santos, MS, RN



Chair Ige and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of SB 2346 SD1 Relating to Aging. My name is Dr. David Howle and I am an educator living in Wahiawa. The passage of this bill is vital since Hawaii residents planning for long-term care and caregiving need awareness and education regarding possibilities of long-term care being given in homes. This planning would help residents live independently longer at home, rather than move to costly nursing or group homes. Establishing more ADRCs would help caregivers and family members understand long-term care and caregiving options. This would help reduce the frustration in navigating Hawaii's complicated long-term care system.

Additionally, the Kupuna Care program provides a safety net for the "gap group" that has thousands of aging Hawaii residents who can't afford to pay for services but do not qualify for Medicaid. There are 277,000 people over age 60, and this program is a cost-effective way to prevent the majority of seniors from falling into poverty.

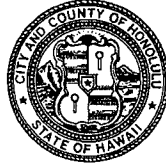
Both my parents and my wife's parents have died, so we do not face the immediate issue of long-term care provision. But we know of many people in our church who need this kind of care and who often are not sure where to turn for help.

I urge you to support caregivers by voting yes on SB 2346 SD1.

Dr. David Howle  
Wahiawa, Hawaii

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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TESTIMONY OF PAMELA A. WITTY-OAKLAND, DIRECTOR  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES  
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
Wednesday, February 26, 2014, 9:00 a.m., Conference Room 211



**SENATE Bill 2346 SD1, "RELATING TO AGING"**

**Position: In Support**

TO: The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair  
and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means

The Elderly Affairs Division (EAD) is Honolulu's designated Area Agency on Aging and operates in accordance with the Older Americans Act of 1965 to coordinate, advocate, and improve services to assist older persons in leading independent, meaningful, and dignified lives in their own homes and communities for as long as possible.

This bill includes funding for important programs that support the needs of the increasing population of elderly residents in Hawaii. The funding included in this bill is essential to maintain the health and welfare of our most vulnerable seniors and their caregivers. We strongly support funding for the following programs in SB 2346 SD1:

Kupuna Care. The Kupuna Care program includes essential services that support the needs of the increasing population of frail elderly residents in Hawaii. These services provide assistance to frail older adults who cannot live at home without adequate help from family or formal services. They include services such as attendant care, case management, chore, home-delivered meals, homemaker, personal care, and transportation.

Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC). The ADRC is contained in the federal Older Americans Act (OAA) as amended in 2006. Its vision is "to have Aging and Disability Resource Centers in every community...where people of all incomes and ages can turn for information on the full range of long-term support options and a single point of entry for access to public long-term support programs and benefits." The OAA provided very limited federal funds to develop, implement, or sustain this venture. The \$1.9 million being requested represents the first stage of state funding needed to create this resource for Hawaii's people in all counties.

The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair  
and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means  
February 26, 2014  
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Healthy Aging Partnership Program. Through the Healthy Aging Partnership, EAD implements Stanford University's Chronic Disease Self-Management Program, an evidence-based program that provides education, training, and support groups to persons with chronic conditions to assist them in managing their own care. The Enhance Fitness is an exercise program and focuses on maintaining strength, flexibility, and balance to maintain health and function of older adults. The results of both programs have been overwhelmingly positive. In addition, other evidence-based self-management programs have been introduced for arthritis and diabetes. We would urge the committee to consider funding these programs in light of the rising healthcare costs associated with the rapidly growing elder population in Hawaii.

We urge the Committee on Ways and Means to support funding of these vital programs. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [pc70@cornell.edu](mailto:pc70@cornell.edu)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2346 on Feb 26, 2014 09:00AM  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 25, 2014 11:17:16 AM

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**SB2346**

Submitted on: 2/25/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2014 09:00AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Patrick and Nancy Callahan	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We urge the senator to support the bill again this year because: - A long-term care education and awareness campaign is needed to alert Hawaii residents to plan for long-term care and caregiving. This planning will help residents live independently longer at home, rather than move to costly nursing or group homes. - The Kupuna Care program provides a safety net for the "gap group" that has thousands of aging Hawaii residents who can't afford to pay for services but do not qualify for Medicaid. There are 277,000 people over age 60, and this program is a cost-effective way to prevent the majority of seniors from falling into poverty. - ADRCs help caregivers and family members as it's like a "one stop shop" for information about long-term care and caregiving options. It will help reduce the frustration in navigating Hawaii's complicated long-term care system.

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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**HPCA**

HAWAII PRIMARY CARE ASSOCIATION



**Senate Committee on Ways and Means**

The Hon. David Y. Ige, Chair

The Hon. Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

**Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 2346, SD1**

**Relating to Aging**

**Submitted by Robert Hirokawa, Chief Executive Officer**

**February 26, 2014, 9:00 am, Room 211**

The Hawaii Primary Care Association (HPCA), which represents the federally qualified community health centers in Hawaii, supports Senate Bill 2346, providing support to healthy aging programs and services.

Elderly residents comprise the fastest growing segment of the population here in Hawaii. Between 1980 and 2010, the number of adults in Hawaii over the age of 60 grew by 139.8%, over 34% faster than general population growth. By 2035, it is projected that almost 30% of the population will be comprised of individuals sixty years of age and older.

As such, there is an ever increasing need for long term care services. Basic education and awareness about these issues, including the maximization of single living and long term care financing, must be made available for this emerging population. Doing so will serve to both foster a healthier aging population, but also a more fiscally responsible community as a whole.

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



TO: Senator David Ige, Chair of Ways and Means Committee  
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair  
Members of the Ways and Means Committee

DATE: Wednesday, February 26, 2014

PLACE: State Capitol Conference Room 211

TIME: 9:00 am

SUBJECT: Testimony in support of SB 2346 SD1, Long Term Care Education and Awareness,  
Kupuna Care and ADRC-Relating to Aging

Chair Ige and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit a written testimony in VERY STRONG SUPPORT of SB 2346 SD1 – Relating to Aging.

As Administrator of Project Dana, a volunteer caregiver’s program, I can attest to the numerous urgent needs of Hawaii’s elderly population and more services are needed to maintain seniors to age in place.

All parts and sections of SB 2346 SD 1 are strongly supported.

The need to support the Kupuna Care (KC) program with \$4,200,000 in addition to the base budget of the Executive Office on Aging and funding for the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) would allow seniors to live in their homes. It is less expensive for seniors to age in place as most older adults cannot afford to live in institutions. A safety net of at home and community based services is needed to allow people to have access to Kupuna Care.

A one stop center of the Aging and Disability Resource Center would definitely help consumers and family caregivers by providing a central informational base to access long term care options and eligibility

Additionally, funding for the healthy aging partnership program and funding for the need for a long term care education and awareness campaign will better prepare Hawaii residents in planning for future long term care needs.

Please support SB 2346 SD1 - Relating to Aging.

Thank you very much

Rose Nakamura,

Project Dana



PROTECTING HAWAII'S OHANA, CHILDREN, UNDER SERVED, ELDERLY AND DISABLED

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TO: Senator David Y. Ige, Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair  
Members, Committee on Ways & Means

FROM: Scott Morishige, Executive Director, PHOCUSED

HEARING: Senate Committee on Ways & Means  
**Wednesday, February 26, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. in Conf. Rm. 211**

**Testimony in Support of SB2346 SD1, RELATING TO AGING**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony **in support** of SB2346 SD1, which would appropriate funds for a long-term care education and awareness campaign, the Kupuna Care program and the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC). PHOCUSED is a statewide coalition of health, housing, and human services organizations committed to strengthening policies and programs that benefit the marginalized and underserved in Hawaii.

Hawaii's population of older adults – our kupuna aged 60 and older – has grown rapidly, and is expected to continue increasing significantly over the next 20 years. With the first group of baby boomers entering this age-phase, the dynamic of our kupuna population is changing. Today's older adults are healthier and more active; they are engaged in social and community activities, and with the proper supports they can maintain this independence and higher quality of living.

The range of services and programs funded for this bill will provide crucial education, wellness, case management, nutrition, fitness, transportation, healthy living, pain management and other supports that support our kupuna to live with the highest levels of independence possible.

Once again, PHOCUSED strongly supports this bill, and we appreciate the opportunity to testify on this important issue. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact PHOCUSED at 521-7462 or by e-mail at [admin@phocused-hawaii.org](mailto:admin@phocused-hawaii.org).