

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

Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 016
Tuesday, January 28, 2014; 1:15 p.m.

**STATEMENT OF THE ILWU LOCAL 142 ON S.B. 2531
RELATING TO AGING**

The ILWU Local 142 supports S.B. 2531, which establishes a fall prevention and early detection coordinator within the Department of Health's Emergency Medical Services and Injury Prevention System Branch and appropriates \$78,555 from the Trauma System Fund for FY 2014-15.

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. Appropriation of less than \$80,000 from an existing fund for 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 S.B. 2531. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.



HPCCA

HAWAII PRIMARY CARE ASSOCIATION

LATE

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 on Senate Bill 2531

Relating to Aging

Submitted by Robert Hirokawa, Chief Executive Officer

01/28/2014, 1:15 P.M., Room 016

The Hawaii Primary Care Association (HPCA), which represents the federally qualified community health centers in Hawaii, supports Senate Bill 2531, 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.

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

LATE

SB2531

Submitted on: 1/28/2014

Testimony for HMS/HTH on Jan 28, 2014 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

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

Comments: