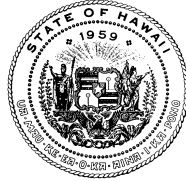


DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



TERRI BYERS  
DIRECTOR

VIRGINIA PRESSLER, M.D.  
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

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

**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1878, HD1, SD1  
Relating to Aging**

SENATOR JILL N. TOKUDA, CHAIR  
SENATOR DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, VICE-CHAIR  
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Testimony of Terri Byers  
Director, Executive Office on Aging  
Attached Agency to the Department of Health

Hearing Date: MARCH 30, 2016  
9:00AM

Room Number: CONF. ROOM 211

1 **EOA's Position:** The Executive Office on Aging (EOA), an attached agency to the Department  
2 of Health, supports this measure provided that its enactment does not reduce or replace priorities  
3 within the Administration's supplemental budget request.

4 **Fiscal Implications:** This measure appropriates funds for FY17 for the following:

- 5 1. The Kupuna Care Program and the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC);
- 6 2. Fall Prevention and Early Detection services coordinator position;
- 7 3. Long Term Care Ombudsman Program;
- 8 4. Healthy Aging Partnership;
- 9 5. Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia (ADRD) services coordinator; and
- 10 6. ADRD Public Awareness Campaign.

11 **Purpose and Justification:** EOA notes that two of the appropriations in this bill are priorities of  
12 the Ige Administration. These priorities include (1) \$1,700,000 for the continued development of

1 the ADRCs statewide, and (2) a \$4,145,695 million increase in EOA's base budget for Kupuna  
2 Care.

3       Regarding the funding for the Fall Prevention and Early Detection services coordinator  
4 position, the Long Term Care Ombudsman Program, the Healthy Aging Partnership, the  
5 Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia (ADRD) services coordinator, and the ADRD Public  
6 Awareness Campaign, these items are not part of the Governor's budget request. Should there  
7 be a surplus of funds available for these measures, we would be supportive as we agree with the  
8 concept of this initiative as it is consistent with EOA's goals and objectives. If the Legislature  
9 deems these programs necessary, EOA respectfully requests that the Legislature provide the  
10 appropriate resources, rather than supplant existing resources, for this proposal.

11       Thank you for the opportunity to provide written comments.



March 30, 2016

Senate Ways and Means Committee  
Sen. Jill N. Tokuda, Chair  
Sen. Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

Re: **HB 1878 HD1 SD1 – RELATING TO AGING**

Chair Tokuda, Vice-Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

I am Barbara Kim Stanton, State Director of AARP Hawaii. AARP is a membership organization for people age 50 and over with nearly 150,000 members in Hawaii alone. AARP serves as a trusted source on issues critical to people over the age of 50 and their families, and advocates on issues that matter to Hawaii's families – including support for family caregivers, access to affordable health care for all generations, and providing the tools needed to save for retirement.

**AARP strongly supports HB1878 HD1**, which appropriates funds for critical aging programs and services in Hawaii, including Kupuna Care, Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC), fall prevention and early detection services, Healthy Aging Partnership, and Alzheimer's disease and related dementia coordinator and public awareness. We also support the finding to include funding to establish three additional long-term care ombudsmen positions, one each for the County of Maui, the County of Hawaii and the County of Oahu.

**Kupuna Care** provides vital home and community services to enable our seniors to age-in-place. We support the full funding of \$5.1 m supplemental request and that it be part of the base budget to ensure future stability and a quicker release of funds to reduce delays in services. The \$5.1 m reflects an inflation adjustment of 10% which is necessary as the amount has not been adjusted for several years.

**The Aging and Disability Resource Center** serves as a statewide single point of entry to connect to long term support programs and benefits. The full \$1.71 m is needed to help complete the statewide buildout.

**The Healthy Aging Partnership** was unfortunately cut in 2015 for this proven program. The \$485,880 requested will help to restore this valuable program which includes a chronic disease management program and a physical fitness program for the at-risk elderly.

**Falls Prevention and Early Detection:** We support the \$32,000 for falls prevention and early detection services for the elderly as efforts to prevent falls will enhance the quality of life for our seniors.

**Alzheimer's Program Support.** Caregivers for family members who have Alzheimer's disease tend to experience an especially high level of stress due to their continuous and complex needs. The funds for the Alzheimer's disease and related dementia services coordinator of \$70,000 is needed to execute the Executive Office on Aging's Alzheimer's Plan. The \$200,000 for the public awareness campaign will help individuals receive early diagnosis of the disease.

**The Long-Term Care Ombudsmen program** advocates for some of our most vulnerable seniors—those in licensed nursing homes, assisted living facilities, adult residential care homes, expanded adult residential care homes, and community care foster family homes. Currently there is only one staff person to advocate for this population statewide, which has now doubled in population from 8,606 in 2006 to 12,340. This one position cannot even protect the interests of the senior residents on Oahu much less cover the neighbor islands. These three positions are vital to protect these seniors from possible abuse and to keep them safe. As such, AARP supports the funding of \$300,000 for FY 2016-2017 for these three long-term care ombudsmen specialist positions.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



## ALOHA CHAPTER

1130 N. Nimitz Highway Suite A-265, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814  
Phone: 808.591.2771 Fax: 808.591.9071 www.alz.org/hawaii

March 28, 2016

Honorable Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair  
Committee on Ways and Means  
Senate Committee  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

**RE: HB1878 HD 1 SD1, Relating to Aging**

On behalf of the Alzheimer's Association, Aloha Chapter, I am pleased to extend our full support for House Bill 1878 HD1 SD1, which provides funding for a Alzheimer's disease and related dementia services Coordinator position, a Public Awareness Campaign on Alzheimer's disease, the Kupuna Care Program, the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) and the Healthy Aging Partnership. We are in support of the bill in its entirety, especially in regards to the funding of a Alzheimer's disease and related dementia services coordinator and the Alzheimer's disease Public Awareness Campaign.

Despite the growing number of individuals affected by the disease (26,000 individuals with the disease or the 64,000 caregivers of someone with the disease) in the state of Hawaii, there is still a substantial lack of awareness of the disease. Despite the belief of many, Alzheimer's disease is not a normal part of aging. Memory deficits may occur as you grow older but memory loss that disrupts daily life is not a typical part of aging. It is usually contributed to some form of dementia. However, the lack of awareness on such, often results in minimal to no reporting of memory issues to one's physician. The lack of reporting these issues often lead to a failure to obtain an early and appropriate diagnosis.

Early detection and diagnosis are essential to providing the best medical care and outcomes for those at any stage of the disease. Even without a way to cure or slow the progression of dementia, an early formal diagnosis offers the best opportunities for intervention and better outcomes.

Thus, a public awareness campaign on the warning signs and the importance of early detection is so critical as it will ensure that individuals will obtain an early and appropriate diagnosis. Furthermore, we believe that the amount requested of \$200,000 for the campaign is appropriate to conduct an effective campaign that will utilize various media sources to provide awareness of the disease and of resources available within the state of Hawaii.

While it is important for individuals to get the early diagnosis, it is also equally important that there be appropriate resources in the community to assist a family once a diagnosis has been made. Although the Alzheimer's Association provides numerous services to family caregivers, there are still many services that are needed beyond what we provide. Some of those gaps and resolutions for such have been identified in the *Hawaii Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias State Plan* which was released in 2014 by the Department of Health. Implementation of the plan and the activities to fill those gaps in services require coordination and this highlights the importance of funding the Dementia Services Coordinator position as this position will conduct such activities.

Although we currently have many worthy and important issues to address in the state, we can not continue to neglect the needs of families affected by Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia. The current number of individuals affected will only continue to rise as the baby boomers continue to age. The increase in individuals affected will continue to take a toll on the family and on our community as we are left to pay hefty costs for the care of individuals with dementia. Providing funding for both the Public Awareness Campaign and the Dementia Services Coordinator will allow for our community to lessen the negative impact that this disease poses if left unaddressed.

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on this legislation and applaud your leadership in bringing it forward.

With best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "C Payne". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Christine Payne  
Executive Director  
Alzheimer's Association, Aloha Chapter

March 29, 2016

Honorable Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair

Committee on Ways and Means

Senate Committee

Hawaii State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

Honolulu, HI 96813

**RE: HB1878 HD 1 SD1, Relating to Aging**

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Thank you,

Ashley Studerus





## CATHOLIC CHARITIES HAWAII

TO: Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair  
Senator Donovan N. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair  
Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Jerry Rauckhorst, President and Chief Executive Officer

DATE: Wednesday, March 30, 2016 (9:00 a.m., Room 211)

RE: **HB 1878, HD1, SD1, Relating to Aging**

Catholic Charities Hawai'i (CCH) is a tax exempt, non-profit agency that has been providing supportive home and community based services to elders since 1973 and currently serves over 4,000 older persons each year.

**CCH supports HB 1878, HD1, SD1**, which will provide funding for many vital aging resources, including Kupuna Care, Aging & Disability Resource Centers (ADRC's), fall prevention and early detection services, Healthy Aging Partnership, and Alzheimer's disease & related dementia coordinator and public awareness.

In particular, CCH would like to offer **Comments** on the following:

### **KUPUNA CARE SERVICES**

Catholic Charities Hawai'i is a current provider of Kupuna Care transportation and homemaker services for frail elders. Through Kupuna Care, CCH Transportation and Homemaker Services also provide relief for caregivers, especially working caregivers who would otherwise have to take time off from work to provide transportation or homemaker assistance (light housecleaning, running errands, etc.) for their elderly relatives.

Kupuna Care services addresses the overall community goal of helping seniors remain independent in the community and prevent more costly institutional care – as well as supporting caregivers. Kupuna Care services provide a safety net for all kupuna and their caregivers who cannot afford to pay for in-home and community based services and are unable to receive these services through other means.

Effective July 1, 2015, a significant change took place on Oahu to align with the State requirements for Aging & Disability Resource Centers (ADRC's). Previously, Kupuna Care provider agencies were able to assess elders for services and begin the delivery of services following that assessment. The current procedure requires the Honolulu ADRC, operated by the C&C Elderly Affairs Division, to serve as a "single entry point" to conduct all assessments in order for elders to be authorized for Kupuna Care services. This is a formidable task for the Oahu ADRC, which currently lacks the capacity to provide timely and comprehensive assessments.



**The timely and effective delivery of Kupuna Care services is directly related to the ability of the ADRC's to operate as a single entry point for elders and their caregivers who are seeking help to support community-based living.**

**Catholic Charities Hawai`i respectfully requests that additional funding of \$5.1M be provided to increase the base funding for Kupuna Care services.**

### **AGING & DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER (ADRC)**

Aging & Disability Resource Centers (ADRC's) are being developed to serve as single entry points for individuals who need information about long term support services. As indicated in the above section regarding Kupuna Care services, the role of the ADRC's is critical - they also serve as the single entry point to become assessed and authorized to receive Kupuna Care services. As a provider of Kupuna Care services in the C&C of Honolulu, Catholic Charities Hawaii supports funding for the Honolulu ADRC, so that they may build their capacity to become more effective to meet the needs of kupuna and their caregivers.

**With additional funding, the Honolulu ADRC should be able to improve its capacity to meet the needs of kupuna and caregivers in a prompt and comprehensive fashion. The State Executive Office on Aging (EOA) should then be able to measure consistent effectiveness of the ADRC's in each county, including the assessment and authorization of Kupuna Care Services.**

**Catholic Charities Hawai`i respectfully requests that additional funding of \$1.71M for Aging & Disability Resource Centers.**

### **CLOSING SUMMARY**

The current cost of nursing home care for ONE individual in Hawaii is \$124,830 per year.<sup>i</sup> For much *less cost* and much *more quality of life*, the services for which funding is requested in HB 1878, HD1, SD1 will serve THOUSANDS of elders and their caregivers.

Catholic Charities Hawai`i asks for your support of HB 1878, HD1, SD1. For more information or questions, please contact Diane Terada, Division Administrator, at 527-4702.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony.

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<sup>i</sup> Genworth 2015 Cost of Care Survey Hawaii:  
[https://www.genworth.com/dam/Americas/US/PDFs/Consumer/corporate/cost-of-care/118928HI\\_040115\\_gnw.pdf](https://www.genworth.com/dam/Americas/US/PDFs/Consumer/corporate/cost-of-care/118928HI_040115_gnw.pdf)

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March 30, 2016

To: Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair  
Senator Donovan Delacruz, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

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From: Howard S. Garval, President & Chief Executive Officer

Date: Wednesday, March 30, 2016 (9:00 a.m., Room 211, State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street, Honolulu, HI)

**RE: In Support of HB 1878, HD1, SD1, Relating to Aging**

Child & Family Service (CFS) has a long history of providing services to kupuna including senior case management, caregiver support, services to at-risk seniors, and health maintenance services all designed to help seniors age in place and support their caregivers. We operate several evidence-based models in our senior programs.

I am writing in **support of HB 1878, HD1, SD1** that provides funding for many important services for our rapidly growing aging community here in Hawaii. These services include: Kupuna Care, Aging & Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs), fall prevention and early detection services, the Healthy Aging Partnership, and Alzheimer's Disease and related dementia coordinator and public awareness.

CFS especially asks for your support for Kupuna Care Services that are all designed to keep seniors in the community which is what seniors want and is the most cost-effective option whenever the senior can be safe and supported without higher levels of institutional care. By ensuring that adequate types and amounts of services are available for seniors to enable them to "age in place", this also supports caregivers. CFS, through its senior case management program which is funded in part with Kupuna Care funds, often helps kupuna and their loved ones navigate the system of elderly services which can be overwhelming for both seniors and caregivers. Because of our experience in case management we understand the need for all of the services that are funded under Kupuna Care.

**CFS supports the proposed additional funding of \$5.1M to be added to the base funding for Kupuna Care Services.**

**CFS also asks for your support for the proposed \$1.71M for Aging & Disability Resource Centers (ADRC's).**

ADRC's are serving as a one-stop-shop concept for seniors and the disabled. For seniors, the ADRC's serve as the sole entry point for seniors to become eligible for Kupuna Care services.

We can serve a higher number of seniors and their caregivers in their own homes and communities to sustain the senior's quality of life for as long as possible at lower cost compared to the annual cost for one senior in a nursing home which is \$124,830.

CFS is asking for your support of HB 1878, HD1, SD1 that will provide badly needed funding to support services to our kupuna and their caregivers.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.

ACCREDITATIONS

Council on Accreditation  
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AFFILIATIONS

Alliance for Strong Families and  
Communities  
Kauai United Way  
Maui United Way  
Hawaii Island United Way



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**March 30, 2016 at 9:00 AM**  
**Conference Room 211**

**Senate Committee on Ways and Means**

To: Chair Jill N. Tokuda  
Vice Chair Donovan M. Dela Cruz

From: George Greene  
President and CEO  
Healthcare Association of Hawaii

Re: **Testimony in Support**  
**HB 1878 HD 1 SD 1, Relating to Aging**

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii (HAH), established in 1939, serves as the leading voice of healthcare on behalf of 180 member organizations who represent almost every aspect of the health care continuum in Hawaii. Members include acute care hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, home health agencies, hospices, assisted living facilities and durable medical equipment suppliers. In addition to providing access to appropriate, affordable, high quality care to all of Hawaii's residents, our members contribute significantly to Hawaii's economy by employing over 20,000 people statewide.

We would like to thank the committee for the opportunity to **support** HB 1878 HD 1 SD 1, which, among other things, appropriates funds for the Kupuna Care program and the Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs). The ADRCs have proven to be a valuable resource in streamlining access to long-term supports and services for our seniors and their caregivers. Providing this program with an additional \$1.7 million in funding would enable it to expand its reach further into the community, particularly on Oahu.

We are appreciative of efforts to maintain and strengthen needed community resources, and would request that your committee favorably report this legislation. Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

Aloha Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz and committee members!

I am a senior citizen and a resident of House District 19 and Senate District 9.

I'm testifying in strong support of HB1878 HD1 SD1 on behalf of the Policy Board for Elderly Affairs (PABEA), an advisory board to the Executive Office on Aging. PABEA also advocates for senior needs. This testimony reflects the views of PABEA and not necessarily those of the Executive Office on Aging.

HB1878 HD1 SD1 is a series of measures to benefit seniors. Kupuna Care serves a gap group who do not qualify for Medicaid nor are they able to afford the home health care and related services to enable them to age in place and avoid the high cost of nursing home care. As the aging population increases, it is incumbent upon all of us to care for our frail elderly and enable them to remain in their own homes as long as possible.

Strong support is also sought for funds for the Aging and Disability Resource Center. This one-stop shop serves those who are looking for resources to keep their aging loved ones at home.

Healthy Aging partnerships include evidence-based programs (Better Choices, Better Health and Enhance Fitness), which have demonstrated the importance to seniors of an active life style and an appropriate diet.

Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias are the sixth leading cause of death. There is a lot of erroneous information and misinformation out there about ADRD, which is neither preventable nor curable. Hawaii must fund a coordinator position and support education and awareness of this all-too-common condition.

Falls among seniors is serious and costs hundreds of millions of dollars every year in Hawaii. Many seniors who suffer a fall are never able to resume activities which they had previously enjoyed. This bill requests funds to begin to address fall prevention and early detection services.

Last, but certainly not least, an omnibus bill for seniors must include funding for the Office of the Long Term Care Ombudsman. Currently, the staff of one is responsible for the supervision of more than 12, 000 beds on five islands. This is obviously not doable. Please consider funding three positions to enable each major island to have a coordinator and ensure that our most frail, and consequently our most vulnerable, seniors are being protected.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Barbara J. Service

TO: Honorable Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair  
Honorable Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair  
Members of Committee on Ways and Means

DATE: Wednesday, March 30, 2016

TIME: 9: 00 am

PLACE: State Capitol, Conference Room 211

SUBJECT: Testimony in support of HB 1878, HD 1, SD 1 – Relating to Aging  
Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and Committee Members on Ways and Means,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit a written testimony in support of HB 1878, HD 1, SD 1- Relating to Aging.

As Administrator of Project Dana, a volunteer caregivers program serving Hawaii's older adults, I am in **STRONG SUPPORT** of HB 1878, HD 1, SD 1.

Funding for the Kupuna Care Program, Aging and Disability Center are **CRUCIAL AND NECESSARY**. In addition, funding for the long term care ombudsman program, fall prevention and early detection services for the elderly, Health Aging Partnership, an Alzheimer's disease and related dementia services coordinator position, and an Alzheimer's disease and related dementia public awareness program are also necessary for seniors to age in place in their homes in Hawaii's community.

Please support HB 1878, HD 1, SD 1.

Thank you very much.

Rose Nakamura  
Project Dana



## THE QUEEN'S HEALTH SYSTEMS

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To: The Honorable Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair  
The Honorable Senator Donovan M. Dele Cruz, Vice Chair  
Members, Committee on Ways and Means

From: Paula Yoshioka, Senior Vice President, The Queen's Health Systems

Date: March 28, 2016

Hrg: Senate Committee on Ways and Means Hearing; Wednesday, March 30, 2016 at 9:00 AM in Room 211

Re: **Support for HB 1878, HD1, SD1 Relating to Aging**

---

My name is Paula Yoshioka, and I am a Senior Vice President at The Queen's Health Systems (QHS). I would like to express my **strong support** for HB 1878, HD1, SD1 which would fund integral community-based programs that coordinate services for individuals who require post-acute care services.

We appreciate the opportunity to testify in support for legislation that helps our seniors age in place. In particular, we are pleased that HB 1878, HD1, SD1 provides for the Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs) and the Kupuna Care Program. One of the major goals of the *Affordable Care Act (ACA)* was to encourage a better balance in the continuum of care, especially between community-based long term care services and institutional care. ADRCs play a critical role in this continuum, by allowing seniors to avoid costly hospitalizations and to recover in the home, which is more cost-effective and comfortable for families.

ADRCs play a key role in helping promote coordination between hospitals and the elderly support programs offered within the community. The additional \$1.7 million in funding for ADRCs, would strengthen the ability of the program to reach more of our seniors.

We would ask for your strong support in funding post-acute care services for our seniors, especially through the ADRCs. Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

*The mission of The Queen's Health Systems is to fulfill the intent of Queen Emma and King Kamehameha IV to provide in perpetuity quality health care services to improve the well-being of Native Hawaiians and all of the people of Hawaii 'i.*





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State of Hawaii  
Hawaii State Senate

Committee on Ways and Means  
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Chair  
The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

Wednesday, March 30, 2016, 9:00am  
Room 211

HB 1878, HD 1, SD 1 Relating to Aging

Good morning, Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz and members of the Committee on Ways and Means.

Lanakila Pacific strongly supports HB 1878, HD1, SD1 Relating to Aging, as it provides critically needed services for our most vulnerable elderly neighbors. Although our preference is that ongoing support be provided in the base budget, this measure provides essential supplemental funding for the Kupuna Care services which are designed to prevent more costly institutional care.

**The Kupuna Care program funding is necessary** because the need for services far exceeds current resources due to over a decade of flat funding combined with the growing elderly population. The base budget for Kupuna Care services of \$4.85 million has not been increased since 2002, while Hawaii's senior population has increased by 30% and the cost of living in Hawaii continues to rise. Supplemental funding is requested every year; however, it should be and has been requested as part of the budget of the Executive branch.

**In addition to funding, the shrinking resources combined with the growing need require more transparency in how funds are allocated and program efficacy evaluated. We encourage the Executive Office on Aging to develop the Administrative Rules for the Kupuna Care program.**

**The Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) program.** We are in support of funding for the ADRC which is the resource directory for the growing needs of Hawaii's senior population and individuals with disabilities.

HB 1878, HD 1, SD 1  
March 30, 2016  
Page 2 of 2

However, in allocating ADRC resources to the counties, the Executive Office on Aging should take into consideration not only the needs of each county, but also resources each county brings to the ADRCs.

As a Kupuna Care service provider, Lanakila Meals on Wheels serves more than 2,000 Hawaii seniors every day or more than 250,000 meals each year. Our average meal recipient is a woman of Asian or Pacific Island descent, 83 years old with an income of less than \$1,000 per month. Our staff and volunteers deliver much more than a nutritious meal, as they may be the only person that our Kupuna will spend time with each day.

Providing Kupuna Care Services, which enables seniors to stay in their homes and avoid costly institutionalization, can be the difference between less than \$200 for a month of home delivered meals vs. \$9,000 for a month in a semi-private room in a nursing facility.

While more long-term support is needed to meet the growing needs with one of the fastest growing senior populations and the longest life expectancies in the nation, this measure is a vital part of the solution as it will provide critically needed and more cost-effective services for our most isolated and vulnerable elderly neighbors. Aging network providers cannot meet the current and growing demand for services when faced by years of flat or reduced State and Federal funding.

We urge you to support Hawaii's kupuna by supporting ongoing funding for Kupuna Care and ADRC as it provides essential services for the most vulnerable senior citizens in Hawaii.

Respectfully submitted,

Marian E. Tsuji  
President & CEO

Lori Lau  
Director of Lanakila Meals on Wheels

# alzheimer's association®

## ALOHA CHAPTER

1055 Kino'ole Street, Hilo, HI 96720

Phone: 808.981.2111 Fax: 808.591.9071 [www.alz.org/hawaii](http://www.alz.org/hawaii)

March 28, 2016

Honorable Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair  
Committee on Ways and Means  
Senate Committee  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

**RE: HB1878 HD 1 SD1, Relating to Aging**

On behalf of the Alzheimer's Association, Aloha Chapter, I am pleased to extend our full support for House Bill 1878 HD1 SD1, which provides funding for a Alzheimer's disease and related dementia services Coordinator position, a Public Awareness Campaign on Alzheimer's disease, the Kupuna Care Program, the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) and the Healthy Aging Partnership. We are in support of the bill in its entirety, especially in regards to the funding of a Alzheimer's disease and related dementia services coordinator and the Alzheimer's disease Public Awareness Campaign.

I was a caregiver for my father for twelve years in the 1980's and 1990's. He suffered from dementia but I had no idea what his condition was. I didn't know the signs and symptoms. I struggled with helping him.

I presently work fulltime at Life Care Center of Hilo, a nursing facility, as the Director of Social Services. I also work part time for the Aloha Chapter Alzheimer's Association on the Island of Hawaii. I see on a daily basis community members struggling with the symptoms of dementia and needing information in this area.

Despite the growing number of individuals affected by the disease (26,000 individuals with the disease or the 64,000 caregivers of someone with the disease) in the state of Hawaii, there is still a substantial lack of awareness of the disease. Despite the belief of many, Alzheimer's disease is not a normal part of aging. Memory deficits may occur as you grow older but memory loss that disrupts daily life is not a typical part of aging. It is usually contributed to some form of dementia. However, the lack of awareness on such, often results in minimal to no reporting of memory issues to one's physician. The lack of reporting these issues often lead to a failure to obtain an early and appropriate diagnosis.

Early detection and diagnosis are essential to providing the best medical care and outcomes for those at any stage of the disease. Even without a way to cure or slow the progression of dementia, an early formal diagnosis offers the best opportunities for intervention and better outcomes.

Thus, a public awareness campaign on the warning signs and the importance of early detection is so critical as it will ensure that individuals will obtain an early and appropriate diagnosis. Furthermore, we believe that the amount requested of \$200,000 for the campaign is appropriate to conduct an effective campaign that will utilize various media sources to provide awareness of the disease and of resources available within the state of Hawaii.

While it is important for individuals to get the early diagnosis, it is also equally important that there be appropriate resources in the community to assist a family once a diagnosis has been made. Although the Alzheimer's Association provides numerous services to family caregivers, there are still many services that are needed beyond what we provide. Some of those gaps and resolutions for such have been identified in the *Hawaii Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias State Plan* which was released in 2014 by the Department of Health. Implementation of the plan and the activities to fill those gaps in services require coordination and this highlights the importance of funding the Dementia Services Coordinator position as this position will conduct such activities.

Although we currently have many worthy and important issues to address in the state, we can not continue to neglect the needs of families affected by Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia. The current number of individuals affected will only continue to rise as the baby boomers continue to age. The increase in individuals affected will continue to take a toll on the family and on our community as we are left to pay hefty costs for the care of individuals with dementia. Providing funding for both the Public Awareness Campaign and the Dementia Services Coordinator will allow for our community to lessen the negative impact that this disease poses if left unaddressed.

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on this legislation and applaud your leadership in bringing it forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Chris Ridley". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and contact information.

Chris Ridley, LCSW  
Alzheimer's Association, Aloha Chapter, 443-7360  
Life Care Center of Hilo, 959-9151

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1878 on Mar 30, 2016 09:00AM  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 29, 2016 1:36:34 PM

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**HB1878**

Submitted on: 3/29/2016

Testimony for WAM on Mar 30, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Diane Kawasaki	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to share that I am in strong support of HB 1878, HD1 SD1 to appropriate funding to assist Kupuna and their families preserve home and community based care. As the aging population continues to increase in Hawaii, it is imperative that members of our community are prepared to properly manage the care for our seniors. In addition to continuing to provide resources for Kupuna through Kupuna Care, I strongly urge the implementation of a public awareness campaign for Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias (ADRD) and an ADRD coordinator to address the unique needs of persons with ADRD and their families as stated in the 2013 Hawaii Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias State Plan which was released by the Department of Health. There is an estimated 26,000 individuals with the disease and 64,000 caregivers of someone with the disease in the state of Hawaii. As the numbers continue to multiply, it's imperative for our state to be prepared to support our community. I appreciate the opportunity to comment on this legislation and I am very grateful for your leadership in bringing it forward.

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To: Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

**RE: HB1878 Relating to Aging**

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 1878, HD1, SD1. I am pleased to testify in full support for HB1878, HD1, SD1, which provides funding for an Alzheimer's disease and related dementia services Coordinator position, a Public Awareness Campaign on Alzheimer's disease, the Kupuna Care Program, the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) and the Healthy Aging Partnership.

I am intimately familiar with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias, having lost both my grandmother to vascular dementia, and later my husband's grandmother to Alzheimer's.

Alzheimer's disease is a growing epidemic and is now the nation's sixth leading cause of death. Here in Hawaii, more than 26,000 individuals live with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia, and nearly 1 in 3 die from Alzheimer's. In addition to such, there are over 66,000 individuals within the state of Hawaii who are caregiving for these individuals.

Early detection and diagnosis are essential to providing the best medical care and outcomes for those at any stage of the disease. Even without a way to cure or slow the progression of dementia, an early formal diagnosis offers the best opportunities for intervention and better outcomes. Thus, a public awareness campaign on the warning signs and the importance of early detection is so critical as it will ensure that individuals will obtain an early and appropriate diagnosis. Furthermore, we believe that the amount requested of \$200,000 for the campaign is appropriate to conduct an effective campaign that will utilize various media sources to provide awareness of the disease and of resources available within the state of Hawaii.

While it is important for individuals to get the early diagnosis, it is also equally important that there be appropriate resources in the community to assist a family once a diagnosis has been made. Although the Alzheimer's Association provides numerous services to family caregivers, there are still many services that are needed beyond what they provide. There are many entities, governmental and private, who provide an array of services, however, it is not cohesive and the general public is often not aware of what is available. Coordination of such services will allow for the successful care and support for families affected by the disease. Thus, having a Dementia Services Coordinator, whose role is to coordinate services is necessary to ensure that families receive the help that is needed.

Despite the array of services available, there are still numerous gaps in services. Some of those gaps and resolutions for such have already been identified in the Hawaii Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias State Plan. Implementation of the plan and the activities to fill those gaps in services require coordination and this again highlights the importance of funding the Dementia Services Coordinator position as this position will conduct such activities.

Although we currently have many worthy and important issues to address in the state, we can not continue to neglect the needs of families affected by Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia. The current number of individuals affected will only continue to rise as the baby boomers continue to age. The increase in individuals affected will continue to take a toll on the family and on our community as we are left to pay hefty costs for the care of individuals with dementia. Providing funding for both the Public Awareness Campaign and the Dementia Services Coordinator will allow for our community to lessen the negative impact that this disease poses if left unaddressed.

Thank you for your time and attention to this critical matter.

Aloha,

Ivy Castellanos

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**Cc:** [palmtree7@earthlink.net](mailto:palmtree7@earthlink.net)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1878 on Mar 30, 2016 09:00AM  
**Date:** Monday, March 28, 2016 8:01:53 PM

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**HB1878**

Submitted on: 3/28/2016

Testimony for WAM on Mar 30, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
janice palma-glenie	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, our rich state must find ways to decently, respectfully and lovingly take care of our kupuna. mahalo for supporting this bill. sincerely, janice palma-glennie kailua-kona

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**Cc:** [lbc@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:lbc@hawaiiantel.net)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1878 on Mar 30, 2016 09:00AM  
**Date:** Monday, March 28, 2016 4:31:57 PM

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**HB1878**

Submitted on: 3/28/2016

Testimony for WAM on Mar 30, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lois Crozer	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Alzheimers disease is increasing. Early diagnosis is vital in order to provide the best outcome. It is also important that the family have sufficient resources in order to care for loved ones. This disease is very difficult to deal with because it affects the brain, and there are behavioral issues that are very complex. The patient and the family tending to the patient need assistance. You would understand if you were close to anyone suffering from this disease.

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To: Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

RE: HB1878 Relating to Aging

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 1878, HD1, SD1. I am pleased to testify in full support for HB1878, HD1, SD1, which provides funding for an Alzheimer's disease and related dementia services Coordinator position, a Public Awareness Campaign on Alzheimer's disease, the Kupuna Care Program, the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) and the Healthy Aging Partnership.

Although my father lives very far away I can fully appreciate the necessity and value of proper caregiving for those affected with Alzheimer's disease. My family is very fortunate that we have been able to find a fulltime care facility for him and he is comfortable and happy in his new home. It is my wish that all kupuna should be able to receive the same level of care and comfort.

Alzheimer's disease is a growing epidemic and is now the nation's sixth leading cause of death and unfortunately, 1 in 3 kupuna die from the disease. Here in Hawaii, more than 26,000 individuals live with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia. In addition to such, there are over 64,000 individuals within the state of Hawaii who are caregiving for these individuals.

Early detection and diagnosis are essential to providing the best medical care and outcomes for those at any stage of the disease. Even without a way to cure or slow the progression of dementia, an early formal diagnosis offers the best opportunities for intervention and better outcomes. Thus, a public

awareness campaign on the warning signs and the importance of early detection is so critical as it will ensure that individuals will obtain an early and appropriate diagnosis. Furthermore, we believe that the amount requested of \$200,000 for the campaign is appropriate to conduct an effective campaign that will utilize various media sources to provide awareness of the disease and of resources available within the state of Hawaii.

While it is important for individuals to get the early diagnosis, it is also equally important that there be appropriate resources in the community to assist a family once a diagnosis has been made. Although the Alzheimer's Association provides numerous services to family caregivers, there are still many services that are needed beyond what they provide. There are many entities, governmental and private, who provide an array of services, however, it is not cohesive and the general public is often not aware of what is available. Coordination of such services will allow for the successful care and support for families affected by the disease. Thus, having a Dementia Services Coordinator, whose role is to coordinate services is necessary to ensure that families receive the help that is needed.

Despite the array of services available, there are still numerous gaps in services. Some of those gaps and resolutions for such have already been identified in the Hawaii Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias State Plan. Implementation of the plan and the activities to fill those gaps in services require coordination and this again highlights the importance of funding the Dementia Services Coordinator position as this position will conduct such activities.

Although we currently have many worthy and important issues to address in the state, we can not continue to neglect the needs of families affected by Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia. The current number of individuals affected will only continue to rise as the baby boomers continue to age.

The increase in individuals affected will continue to take a toll on the family and on our community as we are left to pay hefty costs for the care of individuals with dementia. Providing funding for both the Public Awareness Campaign and the Dementia Services Coordinator will allow for our community to lessen the negative impact that this disease poses if left unaddressed.

Thank you,

Lynda Barry

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Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1878 on Mar 30, 2016 09:00AM  
Date: Tuesday, March 29, 2016 8:27:38 AM

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## **HB1878**

Submitted on: 3/29/2016

Testimony for WAM on Mar 30, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
lynsey capone-smith	Individual	Support	No

Comments: RE: HB1878 Relating to Aging Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 1878, HD1, SD1. I am pleased to testify in full support for HB1878, HD1, SD1, which provides funding for an Alzheimer's disease and related dementia services Coordinator position, a Public Awareness Campaign on Alzheimer's disease, the Kupuna Care Program, the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) and the Healthy Aging Partnership. Alzheimer's disease is a growing epidemic and is now the nation's sixth leading cause of death and unfortunately, 1 in 3 kupuna die from the disease. Here in Hawaii, more than 26,000 individuals live with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia. In addition to such, there are over 64,000 individuals within the state of Hawaii who are caregiving for these individuals. Early detection and diagnosis are essential to providing the best medical care and outcomes for those at any stage of the disease. Even without a way to cure or slow the progression of dementia, an early formal diagnosis offers the best opportunities for intervention and better outcomes. Thus, a public awareness campaign on the warning signs and the importance of early detection is so critical as it will ensure that individuals will obtain an early and appropriate diagnosis. Furthermore, we believe that the amount requested of \$200,000 for the campaign is appropriate to conduct an effective campaign that will utilize various media sources to provide awareness of the disease and of resources available within the state of Hawaii. While it is important for individuals to get the early diagnosis, it is also equally important that there be appropriate resources in the community to assist a family once a diagnosis has been made. Although the Alzheimer's Association provides numerous services to family caregivers, there are still many services that are needed beyond what they provide. There are many entities, governmental and private, who provide an array of services, however, it is not cohesive and the general public is often not aware of what is available. Coordination of such services will allow for the successful care and support for families affected by the disease. Thus, having a Dementia Services Coordinator, whose role is to coordinate services is necessary to ensure that families receive the help that is needed. Despite the array of services available, there are still numerous gaps in services. Some of those gaps and resolutions for such have already been identified in the Hawaii Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias State Plan. Implementation of the plan and the activities to fill those gaps in services require coordination and this again highlights the importance of funding the Dementia

Services Coordinator position as this position will conduct such activities. Although we currently have many worthy and important issues to address in the state, we can not continue to neglect the needs of families affected by Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia. The current number of individuals affected will only continue to rise as the baby boomers continue to age. The increase in individuals affected will continue to take a toll on the family and on our community as we are left to pay hefty costs for the care of individuals with dementia. Providing funding for both the Public Awareness Campaign and the Dementia Services Coordinator will allow for our community to lessen the negative impact that this disease poses if left unaddressed. Thank you, Lynsey Capone-Smith

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To: Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

**RE: HB1878 Relating to Aging**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 1878, HD1, SD1. I am pleased to testify in full support for HB1878, HD1, SD1, which provides funding for an Alzheimer's disease and related dementia services Coordinator position, a Public Awareness Campaign on Alzheimer's disease, the Kupuna Care Program, the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) and the Healthy Aging Partnership.

Both of my parents, who were 91 and 96 when they passed, had dementia. It was a very heart breaking and stressful process to go through with them as their caregiver and advocate.

I am an RN and work with frail elders and their families in the community as a Public Health Nurse. I find that many people are unprepared and unaware re all that is involved with caring for a loved one with dementia. This is why I feel that it is important that there be funding for an Alzheimer's disease and Related Dementias Public Awareness Campaign, as well as a Dementia Services Coordinator.

Thank you,

Mary Gadam

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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1878 on Mar 30, 2016 09:00AM  
**Date:** Monday, March 28, 2016 12:00:47 PM

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**HB1878**

Submitted on: 3/28/2016

Testimony for WAM on Mar 30, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Victoria Anderson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support this bill!

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