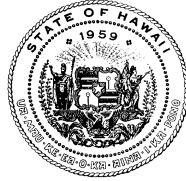


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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
Relating to Aging

SENATOR SUZANNE CHUN-OAKLAND, CHAIR
SENATOR GIL RIVIERE, VICE-CHAIR
COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

SENATOR ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR
SENATOR MICHELLE N. KIDANI, VICE-CHAIR
COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

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

Hearing Date: MARCH 17, 2016
1:35PM

Room Number: CONF. ROOM 016

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 FY16 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. Healthy Aging Partnership;
- 8 4. Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia (ADRD) services coordinator; and
- 9 5. ADRD Public Awareness Campaign.

1 **Purpose and Justification:** EOA notes that two of the appropriations in this bill are priorities of
2 the Ige Administration. These priorities include (1) \$1,700,000 for the continued development of
3 the ADRCs statewide, and (2) a \$4,145,695 million increase in EOA’s base budget for Kupuna
4 Care.

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

13 **Recommendations:** EOA respectfully requests your consideration of the following
14 recommendation:

- 15 1. PART II, Section 3 (page 2). Verbiage request on line 7 to strike out “navigational tool”
16 and replace with a “person centered process” to read, “The legislature further finds that
17 the State’s Aging and Disability Resource Center is a person centered process intended to
18 navigate and streamline access to long term services and supports for older adults,
19 individuals with disabilities, and family caregivers.”

20 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

HB 1878 HD 1

Measure Title: RELATING TO AGING.

Report Title: Kupuna Care; Services and Programs for the Elderly (§)

Description: Appropriates funds for the Kupuna Care Program, Aging and Disability Resource Center, fall prevention and early detection services for the elderly, the Healthy Aging Partnership Program, an Alzheimer's disease and related dementia services coordinator position, and an Alzheimer's disease and related dementia public awareness program. (HB1878 HD1)

Companion: [SB2085](#)

Package: Kupuna Caucus

Current Referral: HMS/CPH, WAM

Introducer(s): TAKAYAMA, CACHOLA, CHOY, CREAGAN, DECOITE, EVANS, HAR, ICHIYAMA, JORDAN, KAWAKAMI, KEOHOKALOLE, LOPRESTI, LOWEN, MIZUNO, MORIKAWA, NISHIMOTO, OHNO, OSHIRO, SAY, THIELEN, TOKIOKA, WOODSON, Yamashita



STATE OF HAWAII
STATE COUNCIL
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
919 ALA MOANA BOULEVARD, ROOM 113
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543
March 17, 2016

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senate Committee on Human Services
and
The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection,
and Health
Twenty-Eighth Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Chun Oakland, Senator Baker, and Members of the Committees:

SUBJECT: HB 1878 HD1 – Relating to Aging

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD) **SUPPORTS THE INTENT OF HB 1878 HD1, specifically PART II of the bill.** The purpose of PART II is to provide funding to support the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC).

The Council was a member of the State ADRC Advisory Board back in April 2006, as a result of the Executive Office on Aging (EOA) receiving a Federal grant to embark on establishing a one-stop single entry point for older adults and persons with disabilities. Since then, the project has established a one-stop center on the Islands of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui, and is in the process of developing the Honolulu site. The Council has a Memorandum of Agreement between the Hawaii County Office of Aging, ADRC, which defines the partner roles and responsibilities related to services provided by ADRC and the Council.

As a systems advocacy agency responsible for statewide planning, coordination, monitoring, evaluation, and advocacy on behalf of individuals with DD and their families, we support a streamlined and user-friendly process for older adults and individuals with disabilities to receive information and be able to navigate the service system to access services and supports. Most of the focus thus far in establishing and implementing the ADRCs has been targeted to the aging population.

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland
The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker
Page 2
March 17, 2016

The Council respectfully suggest the following amendment for your consideration:

Page 2, PART II, SECTION 3, lines 6-10: Amend the sentence to reflect person-centered process rather than a navigational tool. Deleted language is stricken and new language is underscored. "The legislature finds that the State's aging and disability resource center is a ~~navigational tool~~ person-centered process intended to navigate and streamline access to long-term supports and services for older adults, individuals with disabilities, and family caregivers."

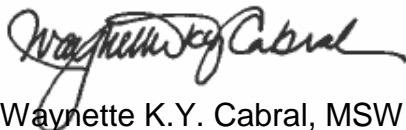
The above amendment would be consistent with language in the companion measure, SB 2085 SD1- Relating to Aging.

The Council, as well as individuals with disabilities, advocates, public and private service providers, and other stakeholders, need to be involved with the planning and implementation of the ADRCs. We believe identifying and engaging in partnerships with all stakeholders will contribute to a seamless approach of accessing long-term services and supports in a manner that respects individual choice and desire, is person-centered, promotes independence and dignity, and provides individual control over the person's life.

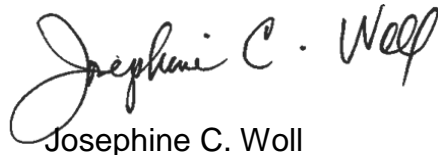
The Council defers to EOA regarding the appropriation amount needed to support the ADRC.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony **supporting the intent of HB 1878 HD1.**

Sincerely,



Waynette K.Y. Cabral, MSW
Executive Administrator



Josephine C. Woll
Chair

Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr.
Mayor



Ludvina K. Takahashi
Executive on Aging

Nadine K. Nakamura
Managing Director

AGENCY ON ELDERLY AFFAIRS
County of Kaua'i, State of Hawai'i

4444 Rice Street, Suite 330, Lihu'e, Hawai'i 96766
TEL (808) 241-4470 FAX (808) 241-5113

TO: Committee on Human Services
Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chairs

Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

FROM: Ludvina K. Takahashi
Executive on Aging

SUBJECT: HB 1878 HD1

HEARING: Thursday, March 17, 2016
1:35 p.m.

POSITION: Support

Appropriates funds for the Kupuna Care Program, Aging and Disability Resource Center, fall prevention and early detection services for the elderly, the Healthy Aging Partnership Program, an Alzheimer's disease and related dementia services coordinator position, and an Alzheimer's disease and related dementia public awareness program.

This bill, in part, support evidence based programs to improve the health of older adults through two evidenced based programs, namely Better Choices Better Health and EnhanceFitness.

Better Choices, Better Health (Ke Ola Pono –Healthy Living) is a nationally-acclaimed Chronic Disease Self-Management Program designed for people with chronic diseases to better manage their symptoms and improve their overall health. Evaluators from the University of Hawaii (2016) have reported the program's participants experienced a 15% decrease in ER visit, a 27% decrease in symptoms, and a 26% increase in the number of minutes spent doing physical activity per week.

Enhance Fitness© is a group exercise program and complements the Better Choices, Better Health workshops. EnhanceFitness© (EF) helps near-frail elders to improve their health status and reduce their health care utilization through structured exercise sessions of stretching, low

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impact aerobics and strength training. UH Evaluators have reported in 2016 that the program's participants experienced 11% fewer falls, 42% increase in the number of days spent in physical activity per week, 17% improved measures of upper body strength 21% of lower body strength, and 6% improved mobility and balance.

I've attached a few comments from participants in the program. Thank you for your support of these important measures to keep our Kupuna healthy and independent.

2-21-16

Dear Johnny

I love going to my Enhancement class 3x a week.

I love that the class starts 1st. thing in the morning 7:30. The class is filled with a great bunch of gals. Who still have a busy daily schedule.

Our Instructor Debbie is terrific. She takes the time to plan and knows what her students are capable of doing. She reminds us to breathe. She also reminds us, if it hurts don't do it.

It's great how she turns our class from regular exercise to a touch of dance. Makes it much more fun.

It has helped me physically and mentally.

I would like to do whatever it takes to keep this program going.

2-12-16

To: Johnny Yago
Enhance Fitness Program

I've been on the program for about 15 months. My goal, as I stated on my application was to lose weight.

"I have lost 10 pounds."

I came into the program with left knee problem; today there's less discomfort, I'd say 98% improvement due to the exercises I receive from the program. Also had hip problems - stiffness & pain. That too, has improved.

I am grateful there's a program like this for the elderly.

I feel healthier & stronger. My doctor is happy!

The pace, i.e., cardio, stretching is so professionally exhibited by the instructors, namely, Christina. She shows she cares & concious of our needs.

Thank you. I look forward to coming to classes because I know it's for my health & hopefully, I live to be a 100.
XXXXXXXXXXXXXX

ENHANCE FITNESS PROGRAM

I am writing to show my support for the enhance fitness program that I have participated in for over five years.

I am 85 years old and many people comment how well I look for my age and I attribute the compliment to my participation in your program.

I have a hard time with my balance and have frequently experienced falls. My balance has greatly improved because of the exercises I do with balance.

The mental exercises help to increase my mental capacity – especially since my mind does not function as fast any more. The exercises help me to be mentally alert and increases sharpness and acuteness.

The exercises help to prevent disease associated with aging and decreases hospitalization.

Your program improves the quality of my life and gives me more pep and vitality.

I strongly recommend the continuation of this program and encourage your agency to persist in finding proper funding for this excellent program.

2/15/2016

I wish to express my gratitude for the Kauai County Senior Enhance Fitness Program.

Here is my story:

I had been exercising in this program for a little over a year when I had to have a hip replacement on my right hip on 2/3/14.

After the surgery, I was sent to physical therapy at KVMH, where I noticed that ^{some of} the exercises were similar to the ones I did at Enhance Fitness. But they were done slower.

At my first check up, about 2 weeks later, the surgeon was so pleased with my progress that he ordered harder PT exercises.

At every ^{check up} thereafter, my hip was X-rayed and the doctor tested the strength and range of motion of my right leg. Each time he was very happy with my progress.

Eventually, I returned to Enhance Fitness & continued my PT exercises at home. At my one year check up the doctor was so pleased, he called me his "star patient." ☺

I firmly believe that I owe my excellent recovery to Enhance Fitness. It prepared and strengthened my whole ^{and balance} body so that I was able to progress quickly through the PT treatment & speed up my recovery. I have no pain & no limp.

(2)

Another benefit of Enhance Fitness is it made me more aware of taking better care of my health. I eat ^{now} healthier & walk several times a week.

I also enjoy the social interaction with the other participants who also inspire me.

The exercise leaders are wonderful - they know their stuff and are always energetic, cheerful, & encouraging. Johnny Yapp is also very pleasant & encouraging when he comes to test our progress (individually), which I think is important.

I continue to attend Enhance Fitness because it has benefitted me immensely! I can go at my own pace and enjoy the exercises. It's a wonderful program. Because of it, I am happily enjoying my life's activities in comfort at this stage of my life. I LOVE it! Thank you, so much. Do not stop this program!

Thabalo Nui,
h

This session was started on January 7, 2016. When I first started, I felt this class was really not for me. Nearly all the attenders were diabetics or spouses of diabetics, and then I did not have a chronic ailment. However, I was encouraged to continue because there were many other areas of different topics that will be beneficial. Yes, I am glad I stayed.

What did I gain?

1. Weekly action plan. Make a commitment and that motivated you to keep that commitment. I am planning to continue this practice after the sessions are over.
2. Nutrition. I did pay some attention to calories and cholesterol and sodium contents. But not too much to carbohydrates and fat contents (not to the different fats anyway). Now I'm reading labels and feeling good about being able to understand what I'm reading.
3. I have done daily walking for many years, but not being a breakfast person, I walked before breakfast. This was discouraged, and it was recommended that breakfast be eaten before walking. I did some re-adjusting, I realize that breakfast before walking does help my energy level.
4. Coping with depression., worry, frustration and general problems was beneficial to me in more ways then I expected. I realized that some of the signs that I was experiencing might be depression. Realizing this, I was able to redirect myself. First step was, have earlier supper which helps me to go to bed earlier, which enables me to wake up earlier. Having an earlier start in the morning seems to help make my day fuller.
5. The art of relaxing. So many of the time, we don't realize we are not listening to our body. We forget to nurture it. After these sessions, I am more alert to it's callings. It's good to sit and do nothing, to close your eyes and take a short nap, find a good book and immerse yourself in it.
- 6: I learned not to be so hard on myself. It was good being with the other buddies. It seems we are all pretty much traveling the same road. Yes, others do have other issues to contend with, just as I do mine.

Thank you, Johnny and Kealoha, for the excellent job you both did.



March 17, 2016

Senate Committee on Human Services
Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair

Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair

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

Chair Chun Oakland, Chair Baker 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 would also like to offer an amendment 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.

alzheimer's association®

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 15, 2016

Honorable Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Committee on Human Services
Senate Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Honorable Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair
Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health
Senate Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: HB1878, HD1 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, 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



CATHOLIC CHARITIES HAWAII

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair
Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

FROM: Jerry Rauckhorst, President and Chief Executive Officer

DATE: Thursday, March 17, 2016 (1:35 p.m., Room 016)

RE: **IN SUPPORT of HB 1878, HD1, 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, 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 comment 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 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.

Catholic Charities Hawai'i respectfully requests that additional funding of \$5.1M be provided to increase the base funding for Kupuna Care services. We recommend that this amount become part of the base funding for Kupuna Care services going forward.



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. The role of the ADRC's is critical, especially as they serve as the sole entry point to become eligible 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, which is working to become more effective to meet the needs of kupuna and their caregivers.

Catholic Charities Hawai`i respectfully requests that additional funding of \$1.71M for Aging & Disability Resource Centers. We recommend that this amount become part of the base funding for ADRC's going forward.

CLOSING SUMMARY

Helping kupuna remain in their own homes, and helping caregivers to care for elderly relatives at home, is **priceless** in term of quality of life. It is also **cost effective** when you compare:

- The current cost of nursing home care for ONE individual in Hawaii at **\$124,830** per year.ⁱ
- The total amount of funding requested in HB 1878) will provide **services for THOUSANDS of kupuna and their caregivers.**
- **The same amount of funding can only provide nursing home care for 61 individuals.**

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

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony.

ⁱ Genworth 2015 Cost of Care Survey Hawaii:
https://www.genworth.com/dam/Americas/US/PDFs/Consumer/corporate/cost-of-care/118928HL_040115_gnw.pdf

TO : SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES
Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Gil Riviero, Vice Chair

SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION
AND HEALTH
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair

FROM: Eldon L. Wegner, Ph.D.,
Hawaii Family Caregiver Coalition (HFCC)

SUBJECT: **HB 1878 HD1 Relating to Aging**
HEARING: 1:35 pm Thursday, March 17, 2016
Conference Room 016, Hawaii State Capitol

POSITION: The Hawaii Family Caregiver Coalition **strongly supports HB 1878 HD 1** , which requests appropriations for the programs of the Executive Office on Aging. These programs offer the critical infrastructure of Long Term Services and Supports which enable frail elders to age in place and which support family caregivers. We also request an amendment to add an appropriation for 3 positions for the Long Term Care Ombudsman's Office to monitor quality of care in residential settings on Maui, Kauai and Hawaii counties.

RATIONALE:

I am offering testimony on behalf of the Hawaii Family Caregiver Coalition (HFCC), which is a coalition of agencies and individuals committed to addressing the needs and improving the ability family caregivers to provide quality care for their frail and disabled loved ones.

HB 1878 HD 1 is the omnibus aging bill proposed by the Kupuna Caucus. The bill requests appropriates for long-established programs which have demonstrated their Successful impact on both frail elders and their caregivers. Unfortunately, the 2015 session reduced or eliminated the requested appropriations, creating a current funding crisis for these programs and making passage of these requests of utmost importance. The Governor has included some of the appropriations in his requested budget, especially for Kupuna Care and for the Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC's). Brief comments by section:

- 1) The bill proposes an appropriation of \$5,100,000 for the Kupuna Care program. The Kupuna Caucus added 10% to the Governor's request since the budget for these services has not adjusted in many years, while inflation and the number of older persons needing these services is increasing.
- 2) The request of \$1.710,000 for ADRC development is also included in the Governor's budget. The funds will be distributed to each of the four counties. These centers provide the one-stop access to families facing the crisis of disabling conditions to receive needs assessment, information and referral to programs and resources. The ADRC's are statewide making strong progress for reaching federal recognition of meeting criteria for full-functioning. Maui was the first to reach this goal and has benefitted from additional Affordable Act funds, Medicare and

Medicaid reimbursements, and eligibility of federal grants. 3) The state plan for Fall Prevention was completed several years ago. The request is to provide for resources for a statewide, multidisciplinary, and coordinated program of fall prevention, which would have an important impact in reducing health care expenditures and disability among the older population

- 4) The Healthy Aging Program is a public-private partnership to provide two programs which positively impact the health and well-being of the older population, a chronic disease management program and a physical fitness program for the at-risk elderly. The programs are based on evidence based research, and ongoing evaluation by the University of Hawaii has documented reduced hospitalizations, and emergency room use and improvements in fitness and indices of health.

Unfortunately, programs only reach a limited number of persons who could benefit and more resources are needed. However, the 2015 session provided no funding for this prize-winning program, with the result that funds ran out and some programs had to be discontinued this past Fall. **The proven value of the Healthy Aging Partnership to the health and well-being of seniors as well as its benefits in reducing health care costs should make this a high priority for the requested appropriation of \$485,880 in the 2016 Legislative Session.**

- 5) Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia Services Coordinator. The bill appropriates \$70,000 to EOA who in partnership with the Alzheimers Association will hire a statewide coordinator to implement the recommendations of the state plan which was completed by the taskforce and Executive Office on Aging in Fall 2014. Alzheimers and other dementias are increasing and pose complex needs for care. We urge the Legislature to pass this request so that we can take the needed steps to assist family caregivers and give the best quality care to these individuals.
- 6) Office of Long-Term Care Ombudsman. We request that HD 1 be amended to request an appropriation for 3 positions to be on Maui, Kauai and Hawaii Islands to monitor the quality of care in residential settings. The Ombudsman on Oahu cannot provide the expected oversight of these hundreds of settings. This request is critical to meeting Federal guidelines for the office for providing just equity for care on the Neighbor Islands.

I urge you to pass this much needed bill. Thank you for allowing me to offer testimony.



March 17, 2016 at 1:35 PM
Conference Room 016

Senate Committee on Human Services
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

To: Chair Suzanne Chun Oakland
Vice Chair Gil Riviere

Chair Rosalyn H. Baker
Vice Chair Michelle N. Kidani

From: George Greene
President and CEO
Healthcare Association of Hawaii

Re: **Testimony in Support**
HB 1878 HD 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 committees for the opportunity to **support** HB 1878 HD 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.



Building Independence for Challenged Lives

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Marian E. Tsuji

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State of Hawaii
Hawaii State Senate

Committee on Human Services
The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
The Honorable Gil Riviere, Vice Chair

Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

Thursday, March 17, 2016, 1:35pm
Room 016

HB 1878, HD 1 Relating to Aging

Good afternoon, Chairs Chun Oakland and Baker, Vice Chairs Riviere and Kidani and members of the Committees on Human Services and Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health.

Lanakila Pacific strongly supports HB 1878, HD1, 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 ~~that hasn't kept pace with inflation, let alone combined with~~ the ~~spike in 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 costs 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.

HB 1878, HD 1
March 17, 2016
Page 2 of 2

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.

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.

SB 2085, SD 1
February 29, 2016
Page 2 of 2

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 kKupuna by supporting ongoing funding for Kupuna Care and ADRC as it provides essential services for the most vulnerable senior citizens in Hawaii.

Respectfully submitted,



**LANAKILA
PACIFIC**

Marian E. Tsuji
President & CEO

Building Independence for Challenged Lives

PRESIDENT & CEO

Marian E. Tsuji

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Lori Lau
Director of Lanakila Meals on Wheels

Testifier's Name: Gary Simon
Member of the Legislative Committee
Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs (PABEA)

Testimony Is Directed To: Senate Committee on Human Services
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection,
and Health

MEASURE: HB1878 HD1
RELATING TO AGING
Appropriates funds for the Kupuna Care Program, Aging and Disability Resource Center, fall prevention and early detection services for the elderly, the Healthy Aging Partnership Program, an Alzheimer's disease and related dementia services coordinator position, and an Alzheimer's disease and related dementia public awareness program.

Date & Time of Hearing: Thursday, March 17, 2016, 1:35 p. m.

Position: **The PABEA Legislative Committee strongly supports HB1878 HD1.**

Dear Chair Chun-Oakland, Vice Chair Riviere, Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Human Services, Chair Baker, Vice Chair Kidani and Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health:

I am Gary Simon, member of the Legislative Committee of the State Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs (PABEA).

I am testifying as an individual who has worked in healthcare for over twenty-eight years, and I am offering testimony on behalf of the PABEA Legislative Committee.

The PABEA Legislative Committee strongly supports HB1878 HD1, which would fund critically needed community-based programs that coordinate services for our Kupuna.

We request that you amend the measure to include the three positions for the LTC Ombudsman Program – one each for Hawaii, Maui, and Kauai – using the language from HB1884.

We appreciate the opportunity to testify in support of legislation that helps our Kupuna to age in place.

We urge you to support HB1878 HD1 and to recommend its passage, and we thank you for seriously considering the Bill.

Very sincerely,
Gary Simon
Member, Legislative Committee, PABEA
Phone 808 547 8140
Email gsimon@stfrancishawaii.org

TO: Honorable Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Honorable Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair
Members of Committee on Human Services

Honorable Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair
Honorable Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and
Health

DATE: Thursday, March 17, 2016
TIME: 1: 35 pm
PLACE: State Capitol, Conference Room 308

SUBJECT: Testimony in support of HB 1878, HD 1 – Relating to Aging

Chairs Oakland and Baker and members on Human Services and Commerce,
Consumer Protection, and Health.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit a written testimony in support of HB 1878,
HD 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.

Funding for the Kupuna Care Program, Aging and Disability Center, fall prevention
and early detection services for the elderly, Healthy Aging Partnership Program, an
Alzheimer's disease and related dementia services coordinator position, and an
Alzheimer's disease and related dementia public awareness program are **CRUCIAL
AND NECESSARY** for older adults to live independently in their homes in Hawaii's
community.

Please support HB 1878, HD 1.

Thank you very much.

Rose Nakamura
Project Dana



THE QUEEN'S HEALTH SYSTEMS

To: The Honorable Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
The Honorable Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair
Members, Committee on Human Services

The Honorable Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
The Honorable Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair
Members, Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

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

Date: March 15, 2016

Hrg: Senate Committee on Human Services and Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health Joint Hearing on Thursday, March 17, 2016 at 1:35 PM in Room 16

Re: **Support for HB 1878, HD1, 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, 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 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 Hawai'i.

Testimony in Support, Zonta Club Of Hilo, for HB 1878, HD 1, Relating to Aging

Hearing before the Human Services and Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health Committees

Tuesday, March 17, 2016; 1:35 pm, State Capitol Conference Room 16

Senators Chun-Oakland and Baker, Chairs, and Committee Members

My name is Charlene Iboshi. **The Zonta Club of Hilo supports HB 1878, HD 1.** Zonta is an international organization of business and professional women whose mission is to advance the status of women and girls.

We **voted recently to support this Kupuna Caucus Bill, HB 1878, HD 1,** relating to aging. As an organization, we realize that aging issues disproportionately impact women for two main reasons; 1) greater social, medical and economic costs associated with longer life-expectancies for women; and 2) women still bear most of the responsibilities of elder caregiving. Many of our members are "Baby Boomers" or of the "Great Generation;" we understand the challenges of being an "elder."

We fully support HB 1878, HD 1, Relating to Aging, which reflects the needed funding to address the growing social and economic challenges facing the elders. We ask that you support the funding levels as requested.

This omnibus funding bill with the specific amounts were recommended by the Kapuna Caucus, PABEA (Policy Advisory Board for Elderly Affairs) and your Committee on Health. These funding requests were fully vetted and a product of well-researched and responsible recommendations. We support the items at the requested funding levels: Part I: Appropriates funds for the kupuna care program, which maintains the current program inspire of the growing elder population in need of the Kupuna Care services; Part II: Appropriates funds for the Aging and Disability Resource Centers throughout the state; Part III: Appropriates funds for fall prevention and early detection services for the elderly, which could prevent the major reason of hospital costs and residential care placements of the elderly; Part IV: Appropriates funds to support the healthy aging partnership programs, which have shown positive results for healthier elders; Part V: Appropriates funds for an Alzheimer's disease and related dementia services coordinator position and public awareness program to complete the initial work done with prior year's funding.

Additionally, additional Long-term Care Ombudsmen are needed on the Neighbor Islands. Three positions in HB 1844 could be incorporated into this funding bill. The elders in long-term care facilities would be better protected.

Since my retirement as the Hawaii County Prosecutor, I have involved myself in organizations, such as the Zonta Club of Hilo, which support a healthy and safe community, especially for women and children. To reduce economic and social

costs facing the elders, disabled and their care-givers, a plan with collaborative, comprehensive implementation of "best practices" are critical. The plan must include a government and community "support net."

The funding proposals in HB 1878, HD 1, would reduce the overall societal and economic costs by using prevention measures and avoiding costly institutional care.

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

The funding will be helpful for Hawaii County, which has the challenge of being the largest county with strained infrastructure. Our super-rurality makes any delivery of services for elders and disabled more challenging. Collaboration is our strength, but we continue to have the unfortunate status of being the county with the most "challenging" economic and social negative social indicators, including inadequate public transportation and insufficient primary health care services. Hawaii County's growing elder and disabled population is outpacing the current resources. Over 21% of the population is over 60.

Please pass this bill to fund self-help strategies. You will provide "one stop" access through the ADRCs, strengthen our community through healthy aging, maintain cost-effective elder services, such as Kupuna Care for aging without institutional care, and create a dementia/alzheimer coordinator, and falls prevention and dementia awareness campaign, which would reduce the economic and social costs.

Thank you for your expected support and opportunity to testify.

Charlene Iboshi, Zonta Club of Hilo

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Cc: Tlenzer@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1878 on Mar 17, 2016 13:35PM
Date: Tuesday, March 15, 2016 11:55:38 AM

HB1878

Submitted on: 3/15/2016

Testimony for HMS/CPH on Mar 17, 2016 13:35PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Anthony Lenzer, Ph.D	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support all of the provisions for funding in HB 1878 HD 1, and request that the Committees add language to create and fund three positions for the LTC Ombudsman's office, one each for Kauai, Maui, and Hawai'i. These positions are critical if this office is to do its mandated job of inspecting facilities, receiving and resolving complaints, and offering provider and public information and education regarding LTC facilities and care.

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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Aloha Chairs Chun Oakland and Baker 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 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 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 EnhanceFitness, which have demonstrated the importance to seniors of an active life style and an appropriate diet.

Treatment of Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias is costly; the diseases are neither preventable nor curable. Hawaii must fund a coordinator position and support education and awareness of this all-too-common condition.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

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

Dear Chairwoman Tokuda and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 1878. I am pleased to testify **in strong support for HB1878**, 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 have personal and professional experience working with individuals with dementia. As a graduate student at the Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work, I have learned the importance of community resources for dementia caregivers. While my family values caring for our kupuna, I can tell you that being a dementia caregiver is often emotionally, physically, and mentally exhausting. This has been my experience with my kupuna and I have seen the toll it takes on others in our community.

As you likely know, the number of older adults in Hawai'i is expected to significantly increase in the coming years. With the aging baby boomers comes the possibility of many more cases of Alzheimer's and related dementia. 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.

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.

According to data from the 2011 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), in Hawaii, 9.2% of those aged 60 and over report that they are experiencing confusion or memory loss. Furthermore, nearly 90% of those individuals have not talked to a health care professional about it – the highest among 22 states reporting the data.

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 cannot 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,
Cyan Curtis

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1878 on Mar 17, 2016 13:35PM*
Date: Monday, March 14, 2016 1:47:39 PM

HB1878

Submitted on: 3/14/2016

Testimony for HMS/CPH on Mar 17, 2016 13:35PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Cc: john.a.h.tomosogmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1878 on Mar 17, 2016 13:35PM
Date: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 11:56:58 AM

HB1878

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for HMS/CPH on Mar 17, 2016 13:35PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John A. H. Tomoso	Policy Advisory Board on Elder Affairs	Comments Only	No

Comments: Aloha kakou, I am in strong support of HB1878HD1, as a Family Caregiver and a member of the statewide Policy Advisory Board on Elder Affairs (PABEA). Appropriating funds for the statewide Kupuna Care Program, The Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs) in each of our Counties, Falls Prevention and Early Detection Services, inclusive of Emergency and First-Responder Services, the Healthy Aging Partnership Program, inclusive of an Alzheimer's Disease and Related dementia Services Coordinator position, and an Alzheimer's disease and related dementia public awareness program, is crucial to the continued nurturance and viability of a comprehensive Aging Network throughout Hawai'i. I believe there is a growing awareness and understanding of this, both at the Capitol and in the communities who are your constituents. Me ka 'oia'i'o, John A. H. Tomoso, MSW, ACSW, LSW 51 Ku'ula Street Kahului, Maui, HI 96732-2906 808-280-1749

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Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 1878, HD1. I am pleased to testify in full support for HB1878, HD1, 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.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Cc: marseel@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1878 on Mar 17, 2016 13:35PM
Date: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 9:37:51 AM

HB1878

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for HMS/CPH on Mar 17, 2016 13:35PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marilyn	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Committees on Human Services and Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health March 17th, 2016 Re: HB 1878, HD 1 Chairs Rosalyn Baker and Michelle Kidani ; Suzanne Chun Oakland and Gil Riviere and members of the Committees: I offer strong support for HB 1878, HD1. Crucial support for these basic safety net services for older adults in Hawaii must be maintained and increased to serve a growing population in need. These are supplemental to the care provided by family and friends and offset what could be a catastrophic cost if the government had to shoulder the total cost of care. This is a wise investment for humanitarian, financial and moral reasons. We are a reflection of how we care for our most vulnerable. To that issue I would like to add an additional request for 3 new positions at the EOA for Ombudsman services on the neighbor islands. This is a long neglected service offering protection through a well respected and established program throughout the United States for the welfare of institutionalized persons of all ages. Improving care for severely disabled persons is a work in progress and we must continue to offer what protection we can for this group. Advocacy saves lives. Thank you for hearing my request. Marilyn R Seely 46-402 Haiku Plantations Drive Kaneohe, HI
marseel@aol.com

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March 14, 2016

Honorable Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair

Senate Committee on Human Services

Honorable Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair

Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health

State Capitol

Dear Chairs Chun Oakland & Baker and Committee Members:

Subject: House Bill No. 1878, HD1, Relating to Aging: Kupuna Care; Services and Programs for the Elderly (S); **Public Hearing Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 at 1:35 pm in Conference Room 016**, State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 1878, HD1. I am pleased to testify in full support for HB1878, HD1, 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.

My interest in this matter is because I personally have a few relatives and friends' parents who have suffered or suffering now with the Alzheimer's disease. This House Bill could be very instrumental to have and to expand public awareness that there is support and tools available to our caregivers whose family member may be just starting to show early signs or has an ongoing dilemma with the Alzheimer's disease. We need these programs in place to best assist caregivers so they know how to best care for their family members, as one day it may be us who will need these services and support.

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

Honorable Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair

Senate Committee on Human Services

Honorable Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair

Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health

Subject: House Bill No. 1878, HD1, Relating to Aging: Kupuna Care; Services and Programs for the Elderly (§); **Public Hearing Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 at 1:35 pm in Conference Room 016**, State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street

March 14, 2016

Page 2

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 cannot 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 very much!

Sincerely,

Rona Sugibayashi Miura

(Alzheimer's Association Aloha Chapter
Kauai Committee Member)

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Cc: sarahyuan@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1878 on Mar 17, 2016 13:35PM
Date: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 12:34:51 AM

HB1878

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for HMS/CPH on Mar 17, 2016 13:35PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sarah Yuan	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support HB1878 HD1 and all of its provisions. This bill provides funding for vital programs that promote healthy aging and support home-and-community-based long-term care resources. I respectfully request the Committees to amend the bill to include three LTC Ombudsman positions--one each for Kauai, Maui, and Hawaii--using the language in HB1884. The Ombudsman Program plays a critical role in ensuring quality care and the well-being of the residents in LTC settings. Currently, there is only one staff member in the Ombudsman Program for the entire state. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

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 Human Services
Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair

Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair

Date: March 17, 2016, Conference Room 016, 1:35 p.m.

Re: **HB 1878 HD1 – RELATING TO AGING**
Testimony in Strong Support

Chair Chun Oakland, Chair Baker, and Committee Members:

I **strongly support** HB1878 HD1, and in particular the provisions relating to the appropriation of \$70,000 for an Alzheimer's disease and related dementia services coordinator position and \$200,000 for an Alzheimer's disease and related dementia public awareness program.

Families rarely talk about how Alzheimer's disease is impacting them. But I am compelled to provide this testimony in memory of my father and on behalf of the literally thousands of individuals and unpaid family caregivers that are affected by Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. There are currently 26,000 Hawaii residents living with Alzheimer's disease and that is expected to increase by 35% to 35,000 in 2025.

As a caregiver for my father, I learned first-hand that there is no cure for Alzheimer's and it is the most expensive disease in America. My father passed away from Alzheimer's about 2 years ago. I personally saw how the disease robbed my father of his ability to control his emotions; behavior; mobility; bodily functions, and ultimately his ability to speak and show his love and appreciation to my mother. He passed away one week short of my parent's 60th wedding anniversary.

Alzheimer's is devastating as it destroys the brain. People are so terrified of the disease that they fear even thinking about it, much less planning for the possibility of getting the disease. But Hawaii cannot hide from Alzheimer's as it affects 1 in 9 people over age 65, and 1 in 3 people over age 85.

While there is not yet a cure or even a way to slow Alzheimer's, the quality of life for those living with the disease can be improved and associated costs decreased. The first step is to pass legislation to fund an Alzheimer's disease and related dementia service coordinator position and a public awareness program.

The 2015 legislature almost appropriated funds for the coordinator position and a public awareness program, but it failed to pass on the last day of Conference Committee last year. However, your committee has the opportunity to take a strong a proactive stand by passing the Alzheimer's provisions of this bill. This first step will make a huge difference in the lives of the thousands of individuals, caregivers, and families in Hawaii struggling with this disease. Alzheimer's has already devastated too many Hawaii families, it is a ticking time bomb, and the legislature cannot ignore the burden and impact of the disease any longer.

I urge you to pass the Alzheimer's provisions in this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Sincerely,

Steve Tam

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Cc: vanderso@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1878 on Mar 17, 2016 13:35PM
Date: Monday, March 14, 2016 11:11:26 PM

HB1878

Submitted on: 3/14/2016

Testimony for HMS/CPH on Mar 17, 2016 13:35PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Victoria Anderson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Chairs, Please fully support HB 1878. My wonderful father, James N. Anderson, passed away exactly one year ago, on March 13, 2015, from Alzheimers. The years leading up to this final loss were full of love, but also full of difficulties, tragedies, and exhaustion for our whole family. The presence of this disease will grow, not lessen, in the future, and we need to address it with public awareness, community support, and compassion. Please pass this important bill.

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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