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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII CENTER ON AGING.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the University of  
2 Hawaii center on aging is a key partner in the aging network and  
3 provides consultation, research, and program development and  
4 evaluation in collaboration with government and service  
5 providers.

6           The legislature also finds that gerontological education  
7 and workforce development are critical to preparing for the  
8 State's aging population. Hawaii's population is aging at a  
9 faster rate than the rest of the nation, and kupuna in Hawaii  
10 have the highest life expectancy in the nation. Between 1980  
11 and 2010, Hawaii's population of individuals age sixty and older  
12 increased one hundred forty per cent. By 2030, it is expected  
13 that twenty-three per cent of the State's overall population  
14 will be older adults.

15           The legislature further finds that the development of  
16 Hawaii's workforce to care for and address the needs of older  
17 adults has not kept pace with the growing population of kupuna.



1 The University of Hawaii center on aging has recognized this gap  
2 and will be well-equipped to address the need with two  
3 additional faculty positions. Currently staffed by an interim  
4 director and administrative assistant, the center on aging's  
5 capacity to expand and create educational initiatives is  
6 limited. An associate professor and assistant specialist  
7 position will enable the center on aging to achieve its  
8 educational mission. Specifically, the center on aging can  
9 develop and teach gerontology courses on campus and provide  
10 continuing education and technical assistance in the community.  
11 The development and teaching of gerontology courses will be  
12 invaluable, enabling students from all disciplines to view their  
13 studies with an aging lens and to better prepare for, support,  
14 and address the needs of older adults. Finally, the center on  
15 aging will be able to offer opportunities for lifelong learning,  
16 continuing education, and training for professionals in the  
17 aging network.

18 The purpose of this Act is to fund an associate professor  
19 and assistant specialist position within the University of  
20 Hawaii center on aging.



1 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
 2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$86,532 or so much  
 3 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 to fund  
 4 one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) associate professor position  
 5 within the University of Hawaii center on aging.

6 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of  
 7 Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

8 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
 9 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$75,924 or so much  
 10 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 to fund  
 11 one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) assistant specialist position  
 12 within the University of Hawaii center on aging.

13 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of  
 14 Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

15 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2016.  
 16

INTRODUCED BY:

Calvin K. Jay Gary Takemura  
Mose Geronzi Don Roy M. Latta  
Gordon Y. Hoken Jakobi B...  
OK Shun C. Lee  
A



Chris Welch

Liz DeLoite

Jeff Kuhn

OK

[Signature]

Richard [Signature]

Cindy Evans

[Signature]

Jinder Chingone

[Signature]

John M. [Signature]

JAN 22 2016



# H.B. NO. 1883

**Report Title:**

University of Hawaii; Center on Aging; Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds for a permanent full-time associate professor and permanent full-time assistant specialist position within the University of Hawaii center on aging.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*



TO : HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION  
Rep. Isaac W. Choy, Chair  
Rep Linda Ichiyama, Vice Chair

FROM: Eldon L. Wegner, Ph.D., Co-Chair Legislative Committee  
POLICY ADVISORY BOARD FOR ELDER AFFAIRS (PABEA)

HEARING: 2:01 PM Tuesday, February 2, 2016  
Conference Room 309, Hawaii State Capitol

SUBJECT: HB 1883 Relating to the University of Hawaii Center on Aging

POSITION: The Hawaii Family Caregiver Coalition, **supports** HB 1883 which appropriates funds for 2 positions in the Center of Aging at the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

RATIONALE: The Policy Board for Elder Affairs has a statutory obligation to advocate on behalf of the senior citizens of Hawaii. While we advise the Executive Office on Aging, we do not speak on behalf of the Executive Office of Aging.

The Center on Aging (COA) of the University of Hawaii, with the strong support of the University Administration, is poised to revitalize its role in addressing the critical educational and workforce shortages in the field of eldercare as well as to address the other important needs of our rapidly aging population. Budget restrictions in the past resulted in staff being reduced to only a .5 FTE Interim Director.

- However, with UH Administration support, the COA is currently recruiting for a full-time Director.
- The COA also received a generous \$2 million bequest to establish an endowment fund for the COA at the UH Foundation. A few months ago, the UH-Manoa Chancellor appointed Dr. Kathryn Braun and Dr. Maureen Makuau, in the School of Social Work, to co-administer the income from the Endowment to support new initiatives and grants for the educational and research mission of the COA.

HB 1883 requests an appropriation to fill 2 full-time positions.

- One position would be for a full-time Associate Professor in the Center on Aging at \$86,532, who will re-establish the undergraduate and graduate interdisciplinary certificate programs in Gerontology which have been suspended for a number of years. This person will teach courses as well as coordinate curriculum with faculty across disciplines.
- The second position will be to fund a full-time Assistant Specialist position in the Center of Aging at \$75,924. This person will undertake comprehensive workforce development and continuing education programs for professional and paraprofessionals employed in eldercare, family caregiver education and training courses, and active aging and wellness courses to reach the wider community. This program might entail use of a range of media including on-line courses and Olelo TV broadcasts in order to serve the educational needs statewide.

Despite the minimal resources and the lack of permanent leadership, the Center on Aging has an outstanding record of securing contracts for needs assessments and evaluation research for community agencies and the Executive Office on Aging. However there are serious workforce shortages in every area of eldercare, from paraprofessional training to such professions as geriatric medicine and social work. These are job growth areas and the University needs to develop curriculum which is coordinated and articulated across its different departments and campuses.

Passage of HB 1883 would restore its educational and training programs which are critically needed. I urge you to approve funding for these two positions in order to begin the process of re-building programs of the Center to meet the critical needs of our community.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to submit testimony.

## ichiyama2-Brandon

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**From:** Eldon L. Wegner <elwegner1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 01, 2016 11:33 AM  
**To:** HEDtestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony on HB 1883 submitted a few minutes ago

Dear Representative Choy,

I discovered that my testimony supporting HB 1883 on behalf of the Policy Advisory Committee for Elder Affairs contained an error. The statement of Position should have read the Policy Advisory Committee but unfortunately reads the Hawaii Family Caregiver Coalition because of using text from a previous testimony. Please do not be confused -- my testimony was submitted on behalf of the Policy Advisory Committee for Elder Affairs.

Thank you for your understanding.

Eldon L. Wenger

Eldon L. Wegner, Ph.D.  
2333 Kapiolani Blvd #2413  
Honolulu, HI 96826  
808-946-9984





February 2, 2016

House Committee on Higher Education  
Representative Isaac W. Choy, Chair

Re: **HB 1883 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII CENTER ON AGING**

Chair Choy and Members of the Committee:

My name is Barbara Kim Stanton, AARP Hawaii State Director. 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 Hawaii strongly supports HB 1883 – Relating to the UH Center on Aging.**

The rapid aging of Hawaii's population calls for greater capacity in gerontological education programs aimed at responding to the needs of the state's elderly residents and their families, including a workforce that is educated and prepared to address their needs. The funding of two permanent positions at the UH Center on Aging would represent an important step in meeting the evolving needs of Hawaii's older adult population.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

# alzheimer's association®

## ALOHA CHAPTER

1050 Ala Moana Blvd. Suite 2610, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814  
Phone: 808.591.2771 Fax: 808.591.9071 [www.alz.org/hawaii](http://www.alz.org/hawaii)

Honorable, Representative Isaac Choy, Chair  
Committee on Higher Education  
House Committee

RE: HB 1883 Relating to the University of Hawaii Center on Aging

Dear Chairman Choy and members of the House Committee on Higher Education:

The Alzheimer's Association- Aloha Chapter is in **strong support of HB1883**. We are a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life of Hawaii's older adults with dementia and their family members.

In 2015 there were 26,000 Hawaii residents diagnosed with of Alzheimer's Disease & Related Dementias. With our rapidly aging state, this number is expected to grow to 35,000 by 2025, an increase of 34.6%. In Hawaii, we must be prepared for this public health crisis by ensuring a well-trained professional and paraprofessional workforce.

We see the UH Center on Aging as a vital partner in the aging network. The Center has the capacity to be the leader in gerontological education in the state. There is a significant need to attract students to the field of aging. Within the current aging network, professionals need continuing education and training, particularly on dementia care issues. The Center is already doing good work, partnering with us to offer dementia training to health care professionals through a federal Administration for Community Living grant.

Without the Center on Aging's leadership in this area, we are concerned about the future growth of the older adult population, the rise in dementia diagnoses, and the capacity of our workforce to care for our kupuna.

The request for 2 permanent positions will provide the Center on Aging with the permanent positions it needs to develop and implement educational initiatives both on campus and in the community.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in strong support of **HB1883**.

With best regards,



Christine Payne  
Executive Director  
Alzheimer's Association, Aloha Chapter

TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION  
Representative Issac Choy, Chair  
Representative Linda Ichiyama, Vice-Chair

Testimony Supporting HB 1883: “Relating to the University of Hawaii – Center on Aging”  
February 2, 2016  
2:00 p.m.  
Conference Room 309

Individual Testimony of  
Audrey Suga-Nakagawa, Elder-Care Consultant  
ASN Consulting Services

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony in support of HB# 1883 which provides funding for two permanent positions within the University of Hawaii Center on Aging. The two positions are for a full time associate professor (1.0FTE) and an Assistant Specialist (1.0FTE). Adequate funding for these critical positions and support for the Center on Aging in general, is long overdue. With the rapidly aging population, the State needs the academic leadership, research, and educational training to help build a strong workforce and social and health care infrastructure to care for our aging residents and provide support to their families. The University’s Center on Aging must have a highly skilled and qualified staff that can expand the Center’s capacity and role to meet this vital need. It is a travesty that the Center is grossly underfunded and understaffed especially when the State leads the nation with its people having the longest life expectancy and a large percentage of the population over the age 65.

A strong academic think-tank will train our professionals in gerontology and expand the critically needed workforce for the future; conduct research on aging issues such as dementia care, chronic disease management, fall prevention and safety; test and evaluate pilot projects and new models of elder care services and programs; and provide evidence-based information to policy makers who can introduce and support effective policies and funding for aging programs and services that benefit the State. This funding request to establish a permanent faculty base at the Center of Aging is a sound investment for our future. Hawaii deserves a top-rated gerontology center that produces a high quality professional workforce, research and education.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.



Testifier's Name: Gary Simon  
President  
Hawai'i Family Caregiver Coalition

Testimony Is Directed To: House Committee on Higher Education

MEASURE: HB1883 Relating to the University of Hawai'i Center on Aging (\$). Appropriates funds for a permanent full-time associate professor (1.0 FTE) and permanent full-time assistant specialist position (1.0 FTE) within the University of Hawai'i Center on Aging.

Date & Time of Hearing: Tuesday, February 2, 2016, 2:01 p. m.

Position: **The Hawai'i Family Caregiver Coalition strongly supports HB1883.**

Dear Chair Choy, Vice Chair Ichiyama, and Honorable Members of the House Committee on Higher Education:

I am Gary Simon, President of the Hawai'i Family Caregiver Coalition (HFCC).

I am testifying as an individual who has worked in healthcare for over twenty-seven years, and I am offering testimony on behalf of HFCC.

By 2020, one in four of the state's population will be 65 years and older. This dramatic increase is associated with growing and devastating challenges including, but not limited to, caregiving, dementia, elder abuse, dementia, and long term care.

With support from the legislature, the Center on Aging (COA) can build capacity to respond to these issues.

Currently, with an Interim Director and temporary researchers, funded through grants and contracts, the COA's capacity to expand is limited. Current projects address important community needs, but are limited to activities specified in COA contracts.

The larger systemic needs of the community, for example, workforce development, are not being addressed.

Funding for a permanent associate professor position and assistant specialist position, with support from ancillary UHM endowment funds, will equip the COA in achieving all areas of its *mission: to engage in workforce development through innovative programs of interdisciplinary gerontological education and practice; to engage in collaborative and interdisciplinary research within the university and with other academic partners in critical areas; and provide state-of-the art information to policy makers, program managers, clinicians and the general public.*

COA is committed to the highest level of excellence in education, research and service to our community. Specifically:

- Being responsive to requests from the State to address the escalating needs and challenges faced by our growing aging population.
- Collaborating and conducting high quality gerontological education programs on the Manoa campus as well as continuing education and training in the community.
- Seeking and securing extramural funds for aging research from local, federal, and international sources.
- Reinstating (currently on hold) and administering the undergraduate and graduate certificate in gerontology to build a workforce that is prepared to care for our aging population
- Working with faculty and students interested in gerontology to further their scholarship and publication.

Your support is imperative in providing COA with the capacity to be a community resource for caregivers, students, professional groups, healthcare organizations, private and governmental agencies, and service providers, with the intent of improving our health care workforce and the quality of life for all older adults in Hawai'i.

We urge you to support HB1883 and to recommend its passage, and we thank you for seriously considering the Bill.

Very sincerely,  
Gary Simon  
President  
Hawai'i Family Caregiver Coalition  
Phone 808 547 8140  
Email [gsimon@stfrancishawaii.org](mailto:gsimon@stfrancishawaii.org)



hawaii pacific gerontological society

Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Higher Education  
Tuesday, February 2, 2016 at 2pm

HB1883 – Relating to the University of Hawaii Center on Aging (\$). Appropriates funds for a permanent full-time associate professor (1.0 FTE) and permanent full-time assistant specialist position (1.0 FTE) within the University of Hawaii Center on Aging.

Chair, Representative Isaac Choy, Vice Chair, Representative Linda Ichiyama, and members of the House Committee on Higher Education:

The Hawaii Pacific Gerontological Society (HPGS) is in **strong support of HB1883**. HPGS is a nonprofit, professional organization dedicated to improving the quality of life of Hawaii's older adults. Currently, more than 400 gerontology educators, medical and social service practitioners, health care providers, agency personnel and organizations from all sectors of the community, older adults, and caregivers make up the membership.

We see the UH Center on Aging as a vital partner in the aging network. The Center has the capacity to be the leader in gerontological education in the state. There is a significant need to attract students to the field of aging. Within the current aging network, professionals need continuing education and training. Without the Center on Aging's leadership in this area, we are concerned about the future growth of the older adult population and the capacity of our workforce to care for and support our kupuna.

The request for 2 permanent positions will provide the Center on Aging with the permanent positions it needs to develop and implement educational initiatives both on campus and in the community.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in strong support of **HB1883**.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Percy Ihara', written in a cursive style.

Sincerely,

Percy Ihara  
President  
Hawaii Pacific Gerontological Society

Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Higher Education  
Tuesday, February 2, 2016 at 2pm

HB1883 – Relating to the University of Hawaii Center on Aging (\$). Appropriates funds for a permanent full-time associate professor (1.0 FTE) and permanent full-time assistant specialist position (1.0 FTE) within the University of Hawaii Center on Aging.

Chair, Representative Isaac Choy, Vice Chair, Representative Linda Ichiyama, and members of the House Committee on Higher Education:

Kokua Council is in **strong support of HB1883**. Kokua Council is one of Hawaii's oldest advocacy groups. Kokua Council seeks to empower seniors and other concerned citizens to be effective advocates in shaping the future and well-being of our community, with particular attention to those needing help in advocating for themselves.

The UH Center on Aging as a critical partner in Hawaii's aging network, dedicated to improving the lives of older adults in Hawaii. The Center has the capacity to be the leader in gerontological education in the state. There is a significant need to attract students to the field of aging. Within the current aging network, professionals need continuing education and training. Without the Center on Aging's leadership in this area, we are concerned about our growing aging population and the capacity of our workforce to care for and support our kupuna.

This request for two permanent positions will provide the Center on Aging with stability it needs to develop and implement educational programs and initiatives both on campus and in the community.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in strong support of **HB1883**.

Sincerely,



Marc Delorme

President-Kokua Council

## ichiyama2-Brandon

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**From:** Anthony Lenzer <tlenzer@hawaii.rr.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 31, 2016 12:28 PM  
**To:** HEDtestimony  
**Subject:** HB 1883

To: Rep. Isaac W. Choy, Chair, Rep. Linda Ichiyama, Vice Chair, and Members of the House Higher Education Committee

From: Anthony Lenzer, PhD

Re: Support for HB 1883

Hearing: Tuesday, February 2, 2016, 2:01 p.m.

Conference Room 309

Rep. Choy, Rep. Ichiyama, and Members of the Committee:

I am a member of the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs and the Hawaii Family Caregiver Coalition, both of which strongly support this bill. I should add that I was also first director of the Center on Aging (1988-1993). House Bill 1883 provides critical resources which will help the Center on Aging fulfill its original mission of teaching, research, and community and public service. The bill focuses on one important aspect of the Center's mission, which is to provide gerontological education programs on the Manoa campus as well as continuing education and training in the community. The growth of the aging population in Hawaii and the increasing number of very old adults have created significant manpower shortages in all gerontological and geriatric professions. These shortages are currently not being addressed at Manoa or via other educational institutions. The faculty positions identified in this bill will enable the Center to stimulate new course offerings on the campus; to reinstate the undergraduate and graduate gerontology certificate programs; and to provide training opportunities for professional and paraprofessional workers in the community.

For a number of years, gerontology workforce needs were neglected due to a lack of staff and funding at the Center on Aging. The Center continued to exist primarily on grants and contracts which, while useful, did not allow a focus on the Center's basic educational missions. I am delighted to see that the University Chancellor and the Dean of the School of Social Work have both endorsed this bill. With University and legislative support, the Center on aging can once again become the focus for inter-disciplinary gerontology education, research and service.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important legislation.





UNIVERSITY  
of HAWAII®  
MĀNOA

February 1, 2016

Rep. Isaac W. Choy, Chair  
Rep. Linda Ichiyama, Vice Chair  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 309

Dear Senator Taniguchi:

I am a Public Health graduate student at University of Hawaii at Manoa (UH) and I am expressing my concern of an upcoming serious health issue in Hawai'i. Recent research indicates that by 2030, the number of people who are 65 or older in the U.S. will almost double, constituting over 41% of our total population and will significantly impact U.S. healthcare, with approximately 75% of this population having two or more chronic conditions. By the year 2035, about 25% of Hawai'i's population will be 65 years and older constituting as the largest aging population in the U.S. I also work at UH, Center on Aging (UHCOA) on various aging research-based programs, which are extramurally funded. Through these programs, we are currently able to accomplish our first mission by promoting collaborative and interdisciplinary research within academic and community partners. I know firsthand that our programs have transformed Honolulu County to an age-friendly city, strengthening Hawai'i's dementia programs and keeping the elderly safe. These programs have benefitted working families and have positive effect on the entire community and extending to the outer islands.

With the rapid growth of the older adult population, there is an urgent need to educate and train health professionals and family members in evidence-based geriatric care. This brings our second mission to develop innovative programs of interdisciplinary gerontology workforce and educational models that will create Culture, Diversity and Community Engagement Research. UHCOA strives to re-open "gerontology learning for all" that will entice various disciplines i.e. law, public health, medicine to provide gerontology knowledge that will lead to certification programs to create service provisions.

**I was pleased to learn that the General Assembly is considering a bill HB1883 to support two associate professors to accomplish the education piece programs at UHCOA. As one of your constituents, I urge you to support it.** We have extended educational information through revamping the UHCOA website, creating brochures and teaming up with partners and local communities. In addition, this program will provide our community's citizens with a proven history of success that features focused and improved geriatric care. The interdisciplinary gerontology education will enable the practice of healthy behaviors and healthy screenings from an early age that will reduce the risk of these chronic diseases so we do not completely dismantle the healthcare system that we have in place today. One of the best things about the program is the way it brings together various community members and gets them actively involved in helping students learn and grow to support our Kupuna. At UHCOA, we have created successful movie nights about older communities and shared stories and opportunities to get involved. UHCOA formed a partnership with `Iolani School to create a high school level class called One Mile Project to empower students to study aging issues, develop empathy for elders in their community, look within a one-mile radius of campus to assess community needs, and utilize design thinking to develop proposals for community projects. Students engaged in design thinking and developed a solution to create an intergenerational center on nearby property owned by the school to provide opportunities for active aging and intergenerational exchange. The class concept drew national attention and was recently awarded an intergenerational award from Generations United and AARP.

Thank you for considering my views as you move forward with legislation that will successfully achieve an academic environment that is critical in our state's growing aging community to prevent Hawai'i's major healthcare impact in the future.

If I can be of any assistance, please call me at 808-956-5001. Thank you for your time and your commitment to the health of all Hawaii citizens.

Sincerely,  
*Zeyana S Saad-Jube, PhD*

**ichiyama2-Brandon**

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**From:** marilyn <marseel@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 31, 2016 4:21 PM  
**To:** HEDtestimony  
**Subject:** HB 1883 Relating to the University of Hawaii Center on Aging

Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Higher Education  
Tuesday, February 2, 2016 at 2pm

HB1883 – Relating to the University of Hawaii Center on Aging (\$). Appropriates funds for a permanent full-time associate professor (1.0 FTE) and permanent full-time assistant specialist position (1.0 FTE) within the University of Hawaii Center on Aging.

Chair, Representative Isaac Choy, Vice Chair, Representative Linda Ichiyama, and members of the House Committee on Higher Education:

Hawaii is in a position as a state with a rapidly expanding aging population, large numbers of those in the oldest old category of 85+, with a wealth of research data related to aging and a growing need for trained gerontologists to serve this population. The UH Center on Aging is a critical partner in Hawaii's aging network, dedicated to improving the lives of older adults in Hawaii. The Center has the capacity to be the leader in gerontological education in the state. There is a significant need to attract students to the field of aging. Within the current aging network, professionals need continuing education and training. Without the Center on Aging's leadership in this area, we are concerned about our growing aging population and the capacity of our workforce to care for and support our kupuna.

This request for two permanent positions will provide the Center on Aging with stability it needs to develop and implement educational programs and initiatives both on campus and in the community.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in strong support of **HB1883**.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Seely  
46 402 haiku Plantations drive  
Kaneohe, HI 96744

marseel@aol.com



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

**LATE**

Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Higher Education  
Tuesday, February 2, 2016 at 2:01pm

By

Robert Bley-Vroman, Chancellor

And

Noreen Mokuau, Dean

Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

### HB1883 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII CENTER ON AGING

Chair Choy, Vice Chair Ichiyama and members of the House Committee on Higher Education:

As Dean of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (UHM) Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work, and on behalf of the University of Hawai'i, we strongly support HB1883.

By 2020, one in four of the state's population will be 65 years and older; this dramatic increase is associated with growing and devastating challenges including elder abuse, dementia, caregiving and long-term care.

With support from the legislature, the Center on Aging (COA) can build capacity to respond to such issues. Currently, with an Interim Director and temporary researchers, funded through grants and contracts, the COA's capacity to expand is limited. Current projects address important community needs, but are limited to activities specified in COA contracts. The larger systemic needs of the community, for example, workforce development, are not being addressed. Funding for a permanent associate professor position and assistant specialist position, with support from ancillary UHM endowment funds, will equip the COA in achieving all areas of its *mission*: to engage in workforce development through innovative programs of interdisciplinary gerontological education and practice; to engage in collaborative and interdisciplinary research within the university and with other academic partners in critical areas; and provide state-of-the-art information to policy makers, program managers, clinicians and the general public.

COA is committed to the highest level of excellence in education, research and service to our community. Specifically:

- Being responsive to requests from the State to address the escalating needs and challenges faced by our growing aging population.
- Collaborating and conducting high quality gerontological education programs on the Mānoa campus as well as continuing education and training in the community.
- Seeking and securing extramural funds for aging research from local, federal, and international sources.

- Reinstating (currently on hold) and administering the undergraduate and graduate certificate in gerontology to build a workforce that is prepared to care for our aging population
- Working with faculty and students interested in gerontology to further their scholarship and publication.

Your support is requisite in providing COA with the capacity to be a community resource for students, professional groups, healthcare organizations, private and governmental agencies, service providers, caregivers, and diverse consumers, with the intent of improving our health care workforce and the quality of life for all older adults in Hawai`i.

Please note, we strongly support this bill provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in our BOR Approved Budget.

**LATE**

Heather Chun, MSW  
420 Poipu Drive  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96825  
[Heathmc1400@yahoo.com](mailto:Heathmc1400@yahoo.com)

House Committee on Higher Education  
Tuesday, February 2, 2016 at 2pm  
In consideration of  
HB1883  
Relating to the University of Hawaii Center on Aging (\$)

Chair, Representative Isaac Choy, Vice Chair, Representative Linda Ichiyama, and members of the House Committee on Higher Education:

I strongly support HB1883, which seeks to appropriate funding for an associate professor and assistant specialist position within the University of Hawaii Center on Aging (COA). With a rapidly aging local population, there is a demand for innovative and cost-effective programs to ensure care is available to all of Hawaii's older adults, research to support the escalating needs of our aging community, and publicly available and up-to-date information. Since its origin, COA's mission aims to fulfill this role throughout Hawaii. Unfortunately, COA's staffing has been scarce since the inception.

Currently, without base funding and support, COA's capacity continues to be limited with an interim director and administrative assistant, with previously employed researchers being funded through grants and contracts. Without a sufficiently staffed office, these limitations will have a profound impact on Hawaii's efforts to solidify long-term services and supports (LTSS) systems and an infrastructure capable of withstanding the escalating demands of those in need of support. If appropriated, this funding would significantly enhance the reach of COA to foster workforce development, strengthen local research and collaborations, build capacity within Hawaii's systems of care, and leverage additional funding to further expand COA's capabilities and ensure its sustainability.

Should you have any questions, you may reach me at [heathmc1400@yahoo.com](mailto:heathmc1400@yahoo.com) or (808) 286-2982. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Heather Chun, MSW

**LATE**

**Ashley Muraoka-Mamaclay, MURP**

1122 A 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Honolulu, HI 96816  
(808) 542-9166

**House Committee on Higher Education  
HB1883 – Relating to the University of Hawaii**

*Relating to the University of Hawaii Center on Aging (\$). Appropriates funds for a permanent full-time associate professor (1.0 FTE) and permanent full-time assistant specialist position (1.0 FTE) within the University of Hawaii Center on Aging.*

Chair, Representative Isaac Choy, Vice Chair, Representative Linda Ichiyama, and members of the House Committee on Higher Education:

**I am submitting testimony**, as an individual, **in strong support of HB1883**. I have studied and worked in the field of gerontology, in the state of Hawaii, for over 10 years. Hawaii has one of the fastest growing aging populations in the nation, and the fastest growing 85+ older population. As a state, we should be setting the standards and I strongly believe the Center on Aging plays an essential role in the transformation. The Center on Aging is perfectly positioned to play the role of community catalyst. The Center on Aging can act as an incubator for testing new models and methods, while focusing on workforce development, through collaborations across all programs at the University of Hawaii Campus.

Without this allocation, the Center on Aging is limited to what it can do and achieve. If appropriated, the funding would expand the opportunities for the State of Hawaii, by fostering workforce development, leverage additional funding, and build upon the communities' capacity to meet the needs and expand on the resources available to take care of our elders. This small allocation will allow the flexibility for the Center on Aging to focus on what the State of Hawaii needs, rather than have it dictated by outsourced funding.

If you have any questions, please feel to contact me at [ashleymu@gmail.com](mailto:ashleymu@gmail.com) or (808) 542-9166. Thank you for the opportunity to testify and show my support of HB1883.

All the Best,

Ashley Muraoka-Mamaclay, MURP

ichiyama2-Brandon

**LATE**

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 02, 2016 2:38 AM  
**To:** HEDtestimony  
**Cc:** sarahyuan@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1883 on Feb 2, 2016 14:01PM

**HB1883**

Submitted on: 2/2/2016

Testimony for HED on Feb 2, 2016 14:01PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sarah Yuan	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Representatives: I strongly support the bill HB 1883 which appropriates funds for two positions in the Center on Aging (COA) at the University of Hawaii. The proposed Associate Professor and Assistant Specialist positions will be responsible for developing the undergraduate and graduate interdisciplinary certificate programs in Gerontology; offering opportunities for lifelong learning and continuing education; providing technical assistance in the community; and training for professionals in the aging network. The Center has an outstanding record in securing grants and contracts, and contributed greatly to the gerontological research on Hawaii's older adult population. Due to the University's budget constraints, the Center has been staffed with only one half-time Interim Director in the past few years. Recently, the University approved for the recruitment of a new full-time COA Director position. The Center also has a \$2 million endowment fund managed by the UH Foundation, which is used for research and new initiatives that support the Center's mission. The two positions requested by this bill will augment the Center's current resources to support the gerontological education and workforce development for the state. I urge you to support this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

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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