

THE SENATE

Committee on Human Services

Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair

Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair

Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair

Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

State Capitol, Conference Room 016

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

**STATEMENT OF THE ILWU LOCAL 142 ON H.B. 2252, HD1
RELATING TO DISCHARGE PLANNING**

The ILWU Local 142 **supports** H.B. 2252, HD1, which requires hospitals to adopt and maintain discharge policies, consistent with recent updates to federal regulations, to ensure that patients continue to receive necessary care after leaving the hospital.

The ILWU is a member of a coalition that supports the CARE Act, which has been considered by the Legislature the past two legislative sessions. The CARE Act proposes to require hospitals to give a patient admitted to a hospital for inpatient treatment the opportunity to designate a caregiver, to notify the designated caregiver about planning for the patient's discharge, and to provide the caregiver with instructions for any after-care needs at home. Two working groups have met on this issue.

We believe the language in H.B. 2252, HD1 adequately addresses concerns, particularly after an amendment by the House Committee on Health to simplify the definition of "patient" and remove any concern that hospitals may deny patients the right to a designated caregiver's support.

In our view, there are common-sense reasons for designating a caregiver when the patient is frail elderly, seriously ill or disabled, and incapable of caring for himself or herself. And there are also legal concerns that hospitals rightly have about liability if they are required to provide after-care instructions. But H.B. 2252, HD1 and other bills dubbed "the CARE Act" address these concerns by including language to shield hospitals from liability.

The ILWU believes it is time to come to an agreement and move forward. We urge passage of H.B. 2252, HD1. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

Faith Action for



Community Equity

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LATE

March 17, 2016

THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2016
COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES
Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair

DATE: Thursday, March 17, 2016
TIME: 1:35 p.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 016
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

HB2252 HD1, RELATING TO DISCHARGE PLANNING

Good afternoon Chair Baker, Chair Chun Oakland and members of the committees:

I am Patrick Zukemura, President of FACE Oahu (Faith Action for Community Equity). FACE is associated with the Hawaii CARE Act Coalition.

We appreciate this opportunity to testify in support of HB2252 HD1 with revisions. We are encouraged with the progress of this bill but prefer the Senate version (SB2397 SD1) because SD1 makes it clearer that the bill adds important supports for patients and caregivers in addition to standards that hospitals may be required to meet under existing rules. This is achieved by adding the words "also include" to the language of Section 2(c) as reflected in SD1.

Again, we are pleased with the progress that has been made to date. We hope you will concur with these proposed revisions. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.