

HB493 HD1

Testimony

Measure Title: RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII.

Report Title: University of Hawaii; Center on Aging; Appropriation (\$)

Description: Appropriates funds for a permanent full-time director (1.0 FTE) and permanent full-time faculty specialist position (1.0 FTE) within the University of Hawaii Center on Aging. (HB493 HD1)

Companion: SB967

Package: Kupuna Caucus

Current Referral: HEA/HMS, WAM

Introducer(s): TAKAYAMA, AQUINO, BELATTI, BROWER, CACHOLA, CHOY, CREAGAN, HASHEM, ICHIYAMA, ITO, KAWAKAMI, MCKELVEY, MIZUNO, MORIKAWA, NISHIMOTO, ONISHI, SAY, THIELEN, Luke, Tsuji, Woodson



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts
Senate Committee on Human Services
Thursday, February 11, 2016 at 2:20pm

By
Robert Bley-Vroman, Chancellor
And
Noreen Mokuau, Dean
Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

HB 493 HD1 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Chairs Taniguchi and Chun Oakland, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the committees:

As Chancellor and Dean of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (UHM) Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work, we strongly support HB 493 HD1, provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in our BOR Approved Budget. 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. As Chancellor, I strongly support UHM's role in advancing instruction, scholarship and service around the urgent challenges in gerontology.

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.

We are in strong support, but would like to *amend and update the language*. Since the bill was introduced last year, a search has begun for a permanent director for the Center on Aging that will be funded by current general funds. So we are no longer requesting funding for a permanent director. Instead, we are requesting 2 faculty positions, who will be charged with addressing workforce development issues: 1) associate professor to develop and teach innovative gerontological education programs at UHM and 2) an assistant specialist to develop and implement continuing education and training programs in gerontology. As such, we would like to recommend *replacing current language with SB2207 language (introduced this year)*.

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.



February 11, 2016

Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair

Senate Committee on Human Services
Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair

Re: **HB 493 HD1 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII CENTER ON AGING**

Chair Taniguchi, Chair Chun Oakland and Members of the Committees:

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 493 HD1 – 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.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Cc: elwegner1@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB493 on Feb 11, 2016 14:20PM
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 2:34:11 PM
Attachments: [HB 493.HD1 UH-COA.docx](#)

HB493

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for HEA/HMS on Feb 11, 2016 14:20PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Eldon L. Wegner	Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs (PABEA	Support	No

Comments:

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

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

Testimony presented before the
COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND THE ARTS
And COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES
Thursday, February 11, 2016 at 2:20pm

Honorable, Senator Taniguchi, Chair
Honorable, Senator Chun Oakland, Chair
Honorable, Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair
Committee on Higher Education and the Arts
Committee on Human Services

RE: HB493 HD1

Dear Chair Taniguchi, Chair Chun Oakland, Vice Chair Riviere, and members of the Committee on Higher Education and the Arts and the Committee on Human Services:

The Alzheimer's Association – Aloha Chapter is in **strong support of HB493 HD1**. 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 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 prepare 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.

Mahalo for allowing me to testify in strong support of **HB493 HD1**.

Sincerely,



Ivy Castellanos

Director of Programs

Alzheimer's Association – Aloha Chapter





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

Testimony Is Directed To: Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts
Senate Committee on Human Services

MEASURE: HB493, HD1
RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII
Appropriates funds for a permanent full-time director (1.0 FTE) and permanent full-time faculty specialist position (1.0 FTE) within the University of Hawaii Center on Aging.

Date & Time of Hearing: Thursday, February 11, 2016, 2:30 p. m.

Position: **The Hawai'i Family Caregiver Coalition strongly supports HB493, HD1.**

Dear Chair Taniguchi, Chair Chun-Oakland, Vice Chair Riviere, Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts, and Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Human Services:

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-eight 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 full-time director and a permanent full-time faculty 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 HD493, HD1 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



hawaii pacific gerontological society

Testimony presented before the
COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND THE ARTS
And

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

Thursday February 11, 2016 at 2:20pm

Chair Senator Taniguchi, Chair Senator Chun Oakland, Vice Chair Senator Gil Riviere, and members of the Committee on Higher Education and the Arts and the Committee on Human Services,

RE: HB493 HD1

The Hawaii Pacific Gerontological Society (HPGS) is in **strong support of HB493 HD1**. 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 **HB493 HD1**.

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

Sincerely,

Percy Ihara
President
Hawaii Pacific Gerontological Society

TO: Honorable Senator Brian Taniguchi, Chair
Honorable Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Members of the Committee on Higher Education and the Arts

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

DATE: Thursday, February 11, 2016
PLACE: State Capitol Room 224
TIME: 2:20 PM
SUBJECT: Testimony in support of HB 493 HD1-Relating to the University of Hawaii

Chairs Taniguchi and Chun Oakland, and Members of the Committee on Higher Education and the Arts

Chair Chun Oakland, Vice Chair Riviere and Members of the Committee on Human Services

Thank you for the opportunity to submit a written testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of HB493 HD1 – Relating to the University of Hawaii.

As Administrator for Project Dana, a volunteer caregivers program serving Hawaii's older adults for 27 years, I am in strong support of HB493 HD1 which provides for two full-time permanent positions within the UH Center on Aging.

The Center must be strengthened with qualified full-time staff to provide the necessary leadership to forge ahead and develop the much needed academic programs in gerontology, thereby increasing young professionals to serve Hawaii's older population.

Additionally, the staff would promote training, research, and collaboration among the faculty departments and community partners such as Project Dana. Most recently, the Center on Aging is in partnership with Project Dana on a new Federal Administration on Community Living grant aiming to improve dementia care and services. As part of this grant, the Center on Aging is training numerous health care professionals, Project Dana leaders and volunteers, and family caregivers. The development of a strong U.H. Center on Aging is imminent as Hawaii's older adults will benefit to improve their quality of life.

Please support HB 493 HD1 – Relating to the University of Hawaii. Thank you very much.

Rose Nakamura
Project Dana

From: [Anthony Lenzer](#)
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Subject: HB 493, HD 1
Date: Sunday, February 07, 2016 6:36:55 PM

To: Committee on Higher Education and the Arts
Sen. Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Committee on Human Services
Sen. Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair, Sen. Gil Riviere, Vice Chair

From: Anthony Lenzer, PhD

Subject: Testimony in Strong support of HB 493, HD 1

Hearing: Thursday, February 11, 2016, 2:20 p.m.
Conference Room 224

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, which creates two new, permanent faculty positions for the UHM Center on Aging. I should add that I was also first director of the Center on Aging (1988-1993). HB 493, HD 1 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 an 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.

Ashley Muraoka-Mamaclay, MURP

1122 A 20th Avenue

Honolulu, HI 96816

(808) 542-9166

Committee on Higher Education and the Arts AND Committee on Human Services

HB493 HD1 – 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 faculty specialist position (1.0 FTE) within the University of Hawaii Center on Aging.

Chair Senator Taniguchi, Chair Senator Chun Oakland, Vice Chair Senator Gil Riviere, and members of the Committee on Higher Education and the Arts and the Committee on Human Services:

I am submitting testimony, as an individual, **in strong support of HB493 HD1**. 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 or (808) 542-9166. Thank you for the opportunity to testify and show my support of HB493 HD1.

All the Best,

Ashley Muraoka-Mamaclay, MURP

TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND THE ARTS
AND COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

Testimony Supporting HB 493 HD1: "Relating to the University of Hawaii – Center on Aging"

February 11, 2016

2:20 p.m.

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# 493 HD1 which provides funding for two full time permanent positions within the University of Hawaii Center on Aging. 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.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Cc: marseel@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB493 on Feb 11, 2016 14:20PM
Date: Sunday, February 07, 2016 4:10:20 PM

HB493

Submitted on: 2/7/2016

Testimony for HEA/HMS on Feb 11, 2016 14:20PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marilyn	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Testimony presented before the COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND THE ARTS And COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES Thursday February 11, 2016 at 2:20pm Chair Senator Taniguchi, Chair Senator Chun Oakland, Vice Chair Senator Gil Riviere, and members of the Committee on Higher Education and the Arts and the Committee on Human Services, RE: HB493 HD1 I am strongly in support of this bill which would add much needed resources for the Center on Aging to develop workforce capacity for Hawaii's Kupuna and their families. Too often providers must hire untrained workers without basic understanding or knowledge about serving this population. We need a strong gerontology program at the University of Hawaii which responds to the growth rate in the older adult population- the fastest growing group in our state. Aging touches everyone of all ages in our state and this bill is an example of an investment in our future well being. Mahalo for your consideration of this measure. Marilyn R Seely

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov



UNIVERSITY
of HAWAII®
MĀNOA

February 9, 2016

Bill: **HB493 HD1**

Date: **Thursday February 11, 2016 at 2:20pm**

Chair Senator Taniguchi, Chair Senator Chun Oakland, Vice Chair Senator Gil Riviere, and members of the Committee on Higher Education and the Arts and the Committee on Human Services

Dear Senators:

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 Hawaii'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 HB493 HD1 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 Hawaii'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