

finance1-Kim

---

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Saturday, February 28, 2015 4:10 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Cc: anthony\_orozco@yahoo.com  
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB763 on Mar 4, 2015 13:30PM

**HB763**

Submitted on: 2/28/2015

Testimony for FIN on Mar 4, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Anthony Orozco	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Waste of money.

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](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Testimony in STRONG OPPOSITION to HB 763 HD1

Relating to the Elderly

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair

Rep. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair

March 4, 2015

Room 308

Although the intent of this legislation is noteworthy, it lacks a key element in taxpayer financing...that being quantifiable proof of effectiveness. In our world we call that Evidence-based. And although it sounds wonderful to have a playground for seniors...there is no research we can locate on the web or elsewhere that indicates these playgrounds have undergone the rigorous research and study required of programs that actually are proven to work. In addition, there does not seem to be any concern for the dangers of this equipment. I have attached a photo indicating my concern. I want to know who pays for the injuries caused by fall off this machines, and please note on the lady whose rear is facing the camera, how easy it will be to fall or twist a knee or hip...!! Auwe..!!



Please think twice before allowing this bill to move forward. Who is going to be responsible for monitoring, or watching the injuries that are just waiting to happen on this equipment.

Please spend the dollars we have on proven senior health programs

like those of the Department of Health and the Executive Office on Aging. I am 73 years old...and in good health...however I would not attempt to step on this equipment. This is my private opinion, not necessarily the position of my employer. Sincerely in opposition to HB 693 HD 1.

Stanley Michaels

225 Kaiulani Ave. #602

Honolulu, HI 968915 8078—230-6675.

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII

VIRGINIA PRESSLER, M.D.  
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH



DIRECTOR

Telephone  
(808) 586-0100

Fax  
(808) 586-0185

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

**LATE**

**Testimony in OPPOSITION to HB 763 H.D. 1**  
**Relating to the Elderly**

REPRESENTATIVE SYLVIA LUKE , CHAIR  
REPRESENTATIVE SCOTT Y. NISHIMOTO, VICE CHAIR  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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

Hearing Date: March 4, 2015  
1:30 p.m.

Room Number: CONF. ROOM 308

1 **EOA's Position:** The Executive Office on Aging (EOA), an attached agency of the Department  
2 of Health, is in opposition to this measure. EOA has seen a growing trend on the mainland and  
3 in Europe for these playgrounds for seniors. Though this measure is well intended to provide a  
4 three year senior playground pilot project to address the health needs of older adults, we are not  
5 in support of this measure due in part to 1) the costs to build and sustain the project and 2) its  
6 potential to duplicate existing programs already in place by the Department of Health, the  
7 Executive Office on Aging, and the Parks and Recreation Department of the County  
8 Government.

9 The Executive Office on Aging is concerned with the cost to develop the project and the  
10 ongoing maintenance of the playground. There is a current bid for the development of a  
11 children's playground in Niu Valley. The funding estimate for the development of the bid is

1 \$250,000. This is for construction alone. EOA is unclear as to who would provide the  
2 supervision of the playground, an ongoing cost. From a program management perspective would  
3 participation at the senior playground be limited to 60 and older? Who would monitor this? In  
4 addition, without a certified fitness type instructor or coach to monitor the use of the playground,  
5 we are worried about possible misuse of equipment that possesses liability questions for the State  
6 and its partners. The measure is intended to prevent falls. However, without proper supervision  
7 and use, it could have an opposite effect? Like a pool would need a lifeguard, what is the safety  
8 measure for the senior playground?

9 The measure addresses the playground as a fitness park for older adults to exercise to serve as  
10 preventative care to the propensity for falls. EOA Profile of Successful Aging Among Hawaii's  
11 Older Adults, January 2013 rates Hawaii's older adults engage in more leisure and exercise time  
12 compared to older adults nationally at a rate of 76.8%, compared the national average of 67.6%.  
13 In addition, since 2006 the Executive Office on Aging has implemented Evidenced Based  
14 Interventions through the Healthy Aging Partnership (HAP) to address chronic conditions as well  
15 as fitness and falls. These programs are scientifically proven to work, as we hold true to the  
16 fidelity of the program and the evaluation components. We implement two evidenced based  
17 interventions namely the Stanford Chronic Disease Self-Management Program and the  
18 EnhanceFitness. CDSMP has engaged 1,914 people (mean age 70 years) in the program that  
19 includes 6 weekly classes, each 2.5 hours long. Outcomes of the project include decrease in  
20 visits to physicians' offices, ER, and hospitals, increase minutes spent in physical activity, and  
21 fewer negative symptoms from chronic conditions reported. The EnhanceFitness (EF) consists  
22 of one hour classes, three times a week. Every 16 weeks participants are asked to take physical

1 performance tests. Classes are facilitated by a certified fitness trainer with additional training in  
2 EF. The fitness instructors lead older adults through structured group exercise sessions of  
3 stretching, low-impact aerobics, and strength training to become more active, energized and  
4 empowered to sustain independent lives.

5 EF Evaluation Findings: HAPhas provided 565 seniors with EF. Hawai`i EF participants are, on  
6 average, 77 years old. The majority of EF participants are non-White (41% Japanese, 21%  
7 Filipino, 7% Native Hawaiian, and 30% White). Many EF participants report having chronic  
8 conditions, for example, 44% have hypertension, 42% have arthritis, and 25% have diabetes.  
9 Findings from the physical performance tests, comparing baseline to 16-week data, are available  
10 for 363 Hawai`i EF participants. Findings demonstrate that, after 16 weeks in the program,  
11 participants:

- 12 • Reduced their falls by 28%.
- 13 • Increased the number of days spent in physical activity per week by 26%.
- 14 • Showed improvement in measures of physical function, including:
  - 15 • Improved upper-body strength, as tested by number of arm curls per minute
  - 16 • Improved lower-body strength, as tested by number of chair stands per minute
  - 17 • Improved balance, speed, and stamina, as tested by the Up-and-Go test

18 Both interventions are provided through the Area Agencies on Aging in each county and utilizes  
19 in-kind support such as community centers, churches, meals sites and alike to conduct both EF  
20 and CDSMP.

1 The Counties have their own ongoing Parks and Recreation Programs. They include well  
2 developed Parks and Recreation activities throughout the State for older adults from swimming,  
3 tai chi, aerobics and tennis to name a few.

4 **Recommendation:** We respectfully ask that this measure be deferred until further analysis of  
5 this situation can be reviewed. There are too many unanswered questions and high risks  
6 involved if this were to move forward.

7 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**LATE**

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Wednesday, March 04, 2015 6:59 AM  
To: FINTestimony  
Cc: adamkkhughes@gmail.com  
Subject: \*Submitted testimony for HB763 on Mar 4, 2015 13:30PM\*

**HB763**

Submitted on: 3/4/2015

Testimony for FIN on Mar 4, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Adam H. Patton	Individual	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](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)



From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
 Sent: Wednesday, March 04, 2015 7:41 AM  
 To: FINTestimony  
 Cc: makanalono@gmail.com  
 Subject: Submitted testimony for HB763 on Mar 4, 2015 13:30PM

**HB763**

Submitted on: 3/4/2015

Testimony for FIN on Mar 4, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 308

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

Comments: Senior playgrounds have already been established internationally and recently in the United States with Florida and Texas where equipment in these playgrounds are specifically designed for seniors to help maintain their balance and coordination. We need to help, support, and be there fore Hawaii's aging population as they have for us. Mahalo for your time and please support HB 763 Senior playgrounds have already been established internationally and recently in the United States with Florida and Texas where equipment in these playgrounds are specifically designed for seniors to help maintain their balance and coordination. We need to help, support, and be there fore Hawaii's aging population as they have for us. Mahalo for your time and please support HB 763 HD1

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](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)



**LATE**

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Wednesday, March 04, 2015 6:58 AM  
To: FINTestimony  
Cc: nnarmitage@gmail.com  
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB763 on Mar 4, 2015 13:30PM

**HB763**

Submitted on: 3/4/2015

Testimony for FIN on Mar 4, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nathan Armitage	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Creating a senior playground within the Office of Aging will be better in the long run with our aging population as one of the major causes for hospitalization for the elderly are falls. Playgrounds designed specifically for aging residents have already been established in England, Finland, Germany and throughout Asia and are slowly making their mark in the United States as in Texas and Florida with the help of KaBOOM. We are a family-oriented state. We need to continue taking care of our kupuna as they have done for us. I respectfully ask the Committee on Health to pass HB 763 HD1

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](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

finance1-Kim

**LATE**

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
 Sent: Wednesday, March 04, 2015 7:16 AM  
 To: FINTestimony  
 Cc: nainoakh@gmail.com  
 Subject: \*Submitted testimony for HB763 on Mar 4, 2015 13:30PM\*

**HB763**

Submitted on: 3/4/2015

Testimony for FIN on Mar 4, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nainoa Hughes	Individual	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](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)