



LATE

THE HAWAII STATE SENATE
The Twenty-Eighth Legislature
Regular Session of 2016

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH
The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair (CPH)
The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair, (CPH)

DATE OF HEARING: Tuesday, February 9, 2016
TIME OF HEARING: 9:00 a.m.
PLACE OF HEARING: State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Conference Room 229

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL SB2064 RELATING TO LONG TERM CARE SERVICES

By DAYTON M. NAKANELUA,
State Director of the United Public Workers (UPW),
AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO

My name is Dayton M. Nakanelua, State Director of the United Public Workers, AFSCME, Local 646, and AFL-CIO. The UPW is the exclusive bargaining representative for approximately 12,000 public employees, which include blue collar, non-supervisory employees in Bargaining Unit 01 and institutional, health and correctional employees in Bargaining Unit 10, in the State of Hawaii and various counties. The UPW also represents about 1,500 members of the private sector.

The UPW strongly supports SB2064 Relating to Long Term Care Services .This bill is one of the most important of health bill to save the operations of Leahi and Maluhia hospitals. By

appropriating some \$10,300,000 to both hospitals for FY2016 the state is fulfilling its moral and constitutional commitment to provide a safety net to the people of Hawaii, especially those in need of long term care and who are supported by Medicare and Medicaid.

The findings of the legislature are both compelling and urgent; those that are unable to help care for themselves medically need Leahi and Maluhia hospitals. The funding for operations and personnel must be restored and service levels increased to meet the needs of our people especially, the elderly.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony in strong support of SB2064.

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baker3 - James

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2016 7:58 PM
To: CPH Testimony.
Cc: dylanarm@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2064 on Feb 9, 2016 09:00AM*

SB2064

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for CPH on Feb 9, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dylan Armstrong	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.

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Hearing Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016
9:00 a.m. – Conference Room 229

To: Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health

From: Jerilyn Yamashiro
Jyamashiro18@gmail.com

RE: SB 2064 Relating to Long-Term Care Service
TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT

I am writing in support of SB 2064. I am a social worker at Maluhia nursing home and have seen the impact the budget crisis affecting the Oahu Region of Hawaii Health Systems Corporation on has had on our residents, families and staff.

Employment aside, closure of Maluhia or Leahi would be devastating for the residents in our care and also for their families. This is their home – a safe place where elders thrive. Some return home but this is where many ultimately spend their final days. While “institutional” care may not seem ideal, we have seen numerous elders come to life with consistent medical and psychosocial care, good nutrition, exercise, socialization and activities.

For Medicaid foster homes or adult residential care homes are less costly, but they do have their limitations. Those homes are not equipped to manage elders with behavior problems common in elders with dementia/Alzheimer’s disease. Those elders often have multiple antipsychotic medications and are passed from home to home because the caregiver cannot provide for the care.

Our elders are too often overlooked and disregarded. Our hard working elders have paid into the system and deserve to have a choice as to where they live once it is determined they cannot safely live at home. I urge you to please pass this bill.

Aloha Kākou,

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I just wanted to share my support for Leahi Hospital and the good work that they do for our loved ones and our communities around Hawai'i. As a guardian of one of the patients who is a Big Island resident, there is no doubt in my mind that Leahi professional care and support has greatly increased the quality of my brother's life these past 3 years. During his long stay at the State Hospital in Kaneohe, he physical condition was at risk due the his specific needs of health care. Since he qualified to be transferred to Leahi, it was a quick restorative process that helped transform a patient that had been rushed to Queens emergency 4 times in 3 months during his last 6 months at the State Hospital to no emergency needs in the past three years at Leahi.

Their staff has been a source of light for my brother and all of the patients that reside at Leahi Hospital. They need to be funded and supported and even looked at as a model of health care for those who are need of specific treatments. Without Leahi Hospital, my brother would really have no place to be cared for considering his special needs. There is no place here on the Big Island and until that need is addressed, Leahi will always be the best place for him to be at while he is incapacitated.

Me ke aloha,

Brian L. Boshard

