

SB3042

Testimony

Measure Title: RELATING TO LONG-TERM CARE.

Report Title: Long-term Care; University of Hawaii; Center on Aging; Long-term Care Training Program; Appropriation (\$)

Description: Appropriates funds to the University of Hawaii's center on aging to establish a long-term care training program.

Companion:

Package: None

Current Referral: HEA/HMS, WAM

Introducer(s): IHARA, CHUN OAKLAND, Inouye



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

SB 3042 – RELATING TO LONG-TERM CARE

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 acknowledge and support the intent of SB 3042, provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in our BOR Approved Budget. We thank Senator Ihara for introducing the bill, and Senator Chun-Oakland and Senator Inouye for co-signing the bill.

We would like to provide the following background at the UH Center on Aging (COA). Since 1988, COA has been actively engaged in a range of community-based projects aimed at improving the capacity of the aging network. It has developed curricula and trained paraprofessionals on the basics of aging and caring for older adults. COA has trained professionals within the aging network on needs assessment, planning, and evaluation.

Recently, the Center has received a 3-year Federal Administration on Community Living grant, aiming to improve dementia care and services in the state. As part of this grant, the Center on Aging is training numerous health care professionals at all levels, community health workers, outreach volunteers, and family caregivers.

It appropriate that COA take a leadership role in professional, paraprofessional, and family caregiver training in the community. However, currently our priority is to secure 2 permanent positions within the COA, and these 2 faculty members will be tasked with the development and implementation of educational programs and workforce development initiatives both on campus and in the community. These positions are our focus this Legislative session, in order to build our capacity to take on new initiatives, like SB 3042. Thank you for the opportunity to comment and we appreciate the Senators' ongoing support of the UH Center on Aging.

TO : SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND THE ARTS
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES
Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair

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

HEARING: 2:20 PM Thursday, February 11, 2016
Conference Room 224, Hawaii State Capitol

SUBJECT: SB 3042 Relating to Long Term Care

POSITION: The Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs **supports the intent of SB 3042**. The appropriation of \$206,913 to the UH Center on Aging would be to provide a broad program of educational resources to enhance the workforce in eldercare in order to expand the available home and community services. The program would include opportunities for continuing education of paraprofessionals, training for family caregivers, and active aging courses to enhance to lives and health of elder persons.

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.

- Currently, there are inadequate educational resources in the field of Gerontology as well as the paraprofessional and professional fields. Furthermore, existing programs are siloed rather than articulated, creating barriers to career mobility and to collaboration between the existing programs. The UH Center on Aging (COA) on the Manoa campus has an outstanding record of education, research and community service, with many contracts with the Executive Office on Aging and with the services providers in the Aging Network. UH COA has a record demonstrating that it is competent, dependable, expert, and has strong resources to create the program called for by SB 3042.
- The COA is also positioned to create a broad-ranging long-term care education and training statewide through partnering with the community colleges. Such a program should create seamless opportunities for persons in eldercare careers to continually update their training and also to have opportunities to enhance their careers through further education and movement into positions requiring more advanced degrees and technical training. Providing career opportunities is key to retaining persons in the field of eldercare. This step can be accomplished only by a close working partnership between paraprofessional training, 2-year Associate degree programs, the 4-year bachelor programs, and the post-graduate professional schools.
- Recently, the Center received a three-year Federal Administration on Community

Living grant with the aim of improving dementia care and services in the state. As part of this grant, the Center on Aging is training numerous health care professionals at all levels, including, but not limited to, community health workers, outreach volunteers, and family caregivers. The Center's leadership in professional, paraprofessional, and family caregiver training in the community is appropriate, essential, and vital.

- In separate bills (e.g. HB 1883, HB 493 HD 1), the COA is requesting an appropriation for 2 new permanent positions. One of the positions is to fund a full-time Assistant Specialist position in the Center of Aging at \$75,924. This person would 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. This person would be available for implementing the program called for in SB 3042.
- There are serious workforce shortages in every area of eldercare, from paraprofessional training to such professions as geriatric medicine, geriatric nursing, and social work. These are job growth areas which the University is capable of addressing but it rests upon developing curriculum which is coordinated and articulated across its different departments and campuses.

The breadth of the program proposed by SB 3042 requires collaboration and negotiations among the numerous programs and campuses of the university and the community partners. We hope that a step can be taken towards realizing this vision.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to submit testimony.



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: SB3042
RELATING TO LONG-TERM CARE
Appropriates funds to the University of Hawaii's center on aging to establish a long-term care training program.

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

Position: **The Hawai'i Family Caregiver Coalition supports SB3042.**

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.

The Kapiolani Community College Kupuna Education Center had provided an important service for the community with its affordable, practical, and valuable paraprofessional and caregiving training.

However, the Center has not provided such training for over a year.

The Hawai'i Family Caregiver Coalition is confident that the UH Center on Aging will be competent, dependable, expert, and strong resource for our community.

The UH Center on Aging has been a helpful and valuable partner in the aging network.

Recently, the Center received a three-year Federal Administration on Community Living grant with the aim of improving dementia care and services in the state.

As part of this grant, the Center on Aging is training numerous health care professionals at all levels, including, but not limited to, community health workers, outreach volunteers, and family caregivers.

The Center's leadership in professional, paraprofessional, and family caregiver training in the community is appropriate, essential, and vital.

We urge you to support SB3042 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

S.B. 3042 – Relating to Long-Term Care

My name is Kelly Terakawa and I support S.B. 3042 in regards to creating a broader range of home and community based long term care options. My family is currently going through the struggle of finding a possible placement for my grandparents to reside. We have also looked into keeping them in their own home because it has been statistically proven elderly who remain in their own homes have a better overall quality of life. We've looked into assisted living but due to a high demand this is almost impossible to come by. They have been put on a waitlist but in reality, my family does not have time to wait for a year. My grandparent's children/children-in-law have full time jobs along with their own families so it has been extremely difficult to care for them. My family has been playing "tag team" when it comes to who's going to watch my grandparents daily/nightly. I highly support expanding the home and community based long term care workers. I currently attend the University of Hawaii at Manoa as a Social Work graduate student and if there were a course or training program in the topic mentioned above, I would enroll so I am able to help with my grandparents in the comfort of their own home. Please consider passing the S.B. 3042. Thank you.

From: [Anthony Lenzer](#)
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Subject: SB 3042
Date: Sunday, February 07, 2016 7:28:03 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 Support of SB 3042](#)

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

The KCC Kupuna Education Center has provided an important service to the community, through provision of both classroom and on-line courses for paraprofessionals working with older adults, as well as family caregivers and persons interested in Active Aging. However, the Center is, to my knowledge, no longer functioning, since losing both of its professional staff members during the past year.

By contrast, the UHM Center on Aging has had increasing experience with workforce development activities. Most recently, the Center received a 3-year Federal Administration on Community Living grant aimed at improving dementia care and services throughout the state. As part of this grant, the Center is training health care professionals at all levels, community health workers, outreach volunteers, and family caregivers. The Center has shown that it can play a vital leadership role at all levels of workforce development, and therefore could be an appropriate home base for the type of programs formerly offered at KCC.

In the interest of full disclosure, I should indicate that I served as first Director of the Center on Aging (1988-93). In the intervening years, I have followed gerontology education activities at Both Manoa and at KCC, and my support for this bill is based on that experience.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.