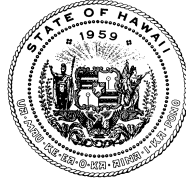


DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



TERRI BYERS  
DIRECTOR

VIRGINIA PRESSLER, M.D.  
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

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

**Testimony COMMENTING on HCR0035, HD1**  
**Requesting the University of Hawaii Center on Aging to Convene a Task Force to Assess Current Elder and Kupuna Care Services and the Anticipated Demand for Those Services in Order to Improve Those Services and Meet Anticipated Demand**

COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION  
SENATOR KAIALI'I KAHELE, CHAIR  
SENATOR MICHELLE N. KIDANI, VICE CHAIR

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES  
SENATOR JOSH GREEN, CHAIR  
SENATOR STANLEY CHANG, VICE CHAIR

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

Hearing Date: April 13, 2017  
9:00 a.m.

Room Number: 225

- 1 **EOA's Position:** The Executive Office on Aging (EOA), an attached agency to the Department
- 2 of Health would like to provide comments on this measure.
- 3 **Fiscal Implications:** None.
- 4 **Purpose and Justification:** The purpose of this concurrent resolution is to request the
- 5 University of Hawaii Center on Aging convene a task force to review the current elder and
- 6 kupuna care services situation and anticipated demand for those services and determine
- 7 requirements for adequate training, workforce expansion, services expansion, and financing to
- 8 correct the current situation and meet anticipated demands.

1 As Hawaii's aging population continues to grow, the need and demand for both long term  
2 services and supports (LTSS) and a well trained work force to provide these services will  
3 increase. The growing number of older adults is likely to put a severe strain on the State's  
4 resources. By 2029, the baby boomer population will be 65 years or older with many of them  
5 having multiple complex chronic conditions that require a caregiving workforce with a diverse  
6 set of caregiving skills to address their physical, mental, cognitive and behavioral health needs  
7 (Eldercare Workforce Alliance, Issue Brief, February 16, 2011). However, the shortage of well  
8 trained, competent, and committed caregiving providers (professional and paraprofessional)  
9 make it increasingly more difficult for kupuna to find the support services and long term care  
10 that meet their needs. The October 2011 Urban Institute and the American Association of  
11 Homes and Services for the Aging report entitled, "*Who Will Care for Us? Addressing the Long-*  
12 *Term Care Workforce Crisis,*" cited the high turnover rates, vacancies and shortage of nursing  
13 assistants, home health and home care aides, and other paraprofessional workers; smaller pool of  
14 middle-aged women who have traditionally provided care to the elderly; and poor wages and  
15 unpleasant working conditions are issues that need to be examined to develop strategies and  
16 requirements needed for adequate training, workforce and service expansion, and financing to  
17 meet the needs of our growing aging population.

18 The EOA would like to note a highlight/conclusion of our report to the Legislature pursuant to  
19 Act 138 that while the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) may authorize services  
20 within a reasonable timeframe, the timely delivery of services may be delayed due to the  
21 shortage of qualified service providers. The analysis further indicated that the following two

1 factors may also contribute to the difficulty for service providers to retain and increase qualified  
2 staffing:

3 1. *Type of work.* Homemaker, chore, personal assistance, and other similar types of  
4 occupations are not inviting areas to work in and, therefore, more difficult to fill,  
5 especially in a tight labor market.

6 The providers are competing with businesses that offer more appealing jobs, such as  
7 those in the hospitality and retail industries.

8 2. *Funding uncertainty.* The uncertainty of the year-to-year supplemental funding may  
9 have resulted in providers' hesitance to increase their staff  
10 for fear of having to discharge staff should the funding drop the following year. As a  
11 result, it would take the vendor longer to respond to service requests from the  
12 ADRCs.

13 The Executive Office on Aging will be willing to serve on the task force and offer any assistance  
14 requested.

15 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



# LANAKILA PACIFIC

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## COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

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Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

## COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

Senator Josh Green, Chair

Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair

Thursday, April 13, 2017 at 9:00am

Room 225

HCR 35 HD1, REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII CENTER ON AGING TO CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO ASSESS CURRENT ELDER AND KUPUNA CARE SERVICES AND THE ANTICIPATED DEMAND FOR THOSE SERVICES IN ORDER TO IMPROVE THOSE SERVICES AND MEET ANTICIPATED DEMAND

Good Morning, Chairs Kahele, Green, Vice Chairs Kidani, Chang and members of the Higher Education and Human Services Committees. Lanakila Pacific supports the resolution to convene a task force to assess the current elder and kupuna care services to improve those services and meet anticipated demand.

We all know that the senior population and demand for services continue to grow. However, we lack sufficient data to understand, project, and plan for their future needs.

As a Kupuna Care service provider serving more than 2,500 participants per year, Lanakila Pacific has seen the demand for meals steadily increase to more than 360,000 meals per year. The community requires the information outlined in this reso to plan and prepare to address the future needs of kupuna.

Lanakila Pacific fully supports HCR 35 HD1 and the resources required to fulfill its requirements.

Respectfully submitted,

Marian E. Tsuji  
President & CEO

Lori Lau  
Director, Meals on Wheels

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, April 7, 2017 10:05 AM  
**To:** HRE Testimony  
**Cc:** kaulanad@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HCR35 on Apr 13, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HCR35**

Submitted on: 4/7/2017

Testimony for HRE/HMS on Apr 13, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 225

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Kaulana Dameg       | 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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# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

**LATE**

Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committees on Higher Education and Human Services  
Thursday, April 13, 2017 at 9:00 a.m.

By  
Noreen Mokuau, Dean  
Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

HCR 35 HD1 – REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII CENTER ON AGING TO CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO ASSESS CURRENT ELDER AND KUPUNA CARE SERVICES AND THE ANTICIPATED DEMAND FOR THOSE SERVICES IN ORDER TO IMPROVE THOSE SERVICES AND MEET ANTICIPATED DEMAND.

Chairs Kahele and Green, Vice Chairs Kidani and Chang, and Members of the Committees on Higher Education and Human Services:

As Dean of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (UHM) Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work, I support HCR 35 HD1. By 2030, 24% of Hawai'i's population will be aged 65 or older, compared to 21% nationally. The graying of Hawai'i is associated with multiple challenges, e.g., elder abuse, dementia, caregiving, affordable age-friendly housing and transportation, and long-term services and supports, as well as opportunities to enable older adults to engage in meaningful activities.

The kupuna care program, an alternative to traditional long-term care supports and services, strives to enable older Hawaiians to lead independent, meaningful, and dignified lives in their own homes and communities. It also strives to provide a safety net of services for all kupuna and their caregivers, including access to affordable and quality home- and community-based services, hot meals, transportation, case management, and personal care assistance. It is currently difficult to find appropriately trained providers of these services, and demand for kupuna care services is expected to increase as the number of aging people increases. The State needs a work force well trained in elder care and kupuna services to meet the demands of its aging population. With support from the legislature, the UHM Center on Aging can take a leading role in building capacity to respond to these issues.

As stated in HCR 35 HD1, the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Center on Aging has been charged with convening a task force to review both the current elder and kupuna care system of services and the anticipated future demand for those services. Potential members of the task force have been identified in HCR 35 HD1 and represent the leading figures in the Hawaiian aging network. Based on this initial assessment of services, the Center on Aging and members of the task force would determine requirements for adequate training, workforce expansion, service expansion, and financing to address any current gaps in the system and meet anticipated demand.

A final report on findings, recommendations, and proposed legislation will be provided.

I recommend the following amendments for your consideration:

- The addition of the Dean of the Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work or the Dean's designee to the task force membership.
- The proposed task force is a worthy and much needed effort and the UHM Center on Aging represents the logical entity to convene it. However, given the Center's current low level of staffing, we request that the resolution be delayed for consideration until full staffing has been achieved. Given the urgency of the proposed resolution, if such delay would not be feasible, the Center would move forward as requested.

**LATE**

**From:** [Anthony Lenzer](#)  
**To:** [HRE Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HCR 35 HD 1  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 12, 2017 11:15:30 AM

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TO: Senate Committees on Higher Education and Human Services

FROM: Anthony Lenzer, PhD

RE: Support for HCR 35 HD 1

HEARING: Thursday, APRIL 13, 2017, 9:00 A.M.

Conference Room 225, State Capitol

Senators Kahele and Green, and Committee Members:

This resolution calls upon the University of Hawaii Center on aging to convene a task force to assess current programs and services for older people; to estimate future workforce needs for serving Hawaii's kupuna and their families; and to recommend ways to better meet the needs of this population. This activity is badly needed, given the many issues affecting current services, as well as work force shortages at both paraprofessional and professional levels. The work of this task force is especially relevant at this moment, given the likelihood of cuts in federal programs and services by the new administration. And it is clear that public sector funding alone will not meet the growing needs in this area. Greater public and private cooperation is an essential element to be considered by this task force.

I would like to recommend some rebalancing of the task force membership. It would be appropriate to have somewhat fewer public agency representatives, and more advocates and service providers. The private for-profit community should also be represented, in my opinion.

In the interests of full disclosure, I should explain that I served as first director of the U H Center on Aging (1988-93), and have been involved with aging advocacy for many years. I believe that this task force can make a valuable contribution in the areas of program development and workforce needs. Please give it your support. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important matter.