

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 4:02 PM
To: HRE Testimony
Cc: barbarajservice@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB529 on Feb 14, 2017 13:00PM

SB529

Submitted on: 2/13/2017

Testimony for HRE/HMS on Feb 14, 2017 13:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara J. Service	Individual	Support	No

Comments: sorry for the late testimony!

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Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Chair
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Higher Education

Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair
Members of the Human Services Committee

Testimony by Patrick J. Duarte, President & CEO, Kāhala Senior Living Community, Inc.

Tuesday, February 14, 2017

Support of SB 529, SD1, Relating to the University of Hawai'i Center on Aging

Kāhala Senior Living Community, Inc. is a not-for-profit organization that operates Kāhala Nui, a life plan community that is home to approximately 450 seniors, and Live Well at Iwilei, a senior wellness center. As a provider of residential services, day care services, assisted living, memory support, and nursing care, we are faced with the challenge of finding enough qualified staff to serve the needs of our senior population. We are also well aware that the seniors served by institutional providers like Kāhala Nui represent only a very small percentage of the kūpuna needing care or assistance in Hawai'i. With the expected continued growth of our senior population, we are likely approaching a severe care-provider workforce shortage in our state. It is vital that action be taken now to help our state avoid a future crisis.

Development of the eldercare workforce has to be one of our state's top priorities, and SB 529, SD1 will be instrumental in enabling the state to address this looming issue. The University of Hawai'i at Manoa Center on Aging (UHM COA) can play a pivotal role in workforce development by providing gerontological education programs at the University and continuing education and training in the community and online. They can also provide assistance to state agencies tasked with developing and evaluating services for seniors. With the additional staff SB 529, SD1 will provide, UHM COA will be able to reinstate the undergraduate and graduate certificates in gerontology, which will be crucial in preparing students for careers in service to older adults. A fully operational Center on Aging will ensure that Hawaii's providers, policy makers and general public have access to state-of-the-art gerontological information and practices.

My organization strongly supports the passage of SB 529, SD1. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Aloha,

Patrick J. Duarte
President & CEO

LATE

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12 February 2017

To: Committee on Higher Education, Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Chair
Committee on Human Services, Senator Josh Green, Chair

Date: Tuesday, February 14, 2017, 1:00 p.m.

Re: SB 529 Relating to the University of Hawaii, Center on Aging

Chair Kahele, Chair Green and members of the committees:

My name is T. J. Davies Jr. I am 82 years old, retired and live in Kakaako. I am writing in STRONG SUPPORT of SB 529 Relating to the University of Hawaii, Center on Aging. I am an advocate for Kupuna issues and I am writing to ask for your support for the Center on Aging.

Hawaii has been a bit slow in responding to kupuna needs In spite of having a population that is aging faster than that of most states. We woefully underfund our quality control mechanisms, from failing to inspect and post reports on residential facilities, to starving our Long Term Care Ombudsman Program.

Public policy units are not seen as high priorities at the University of Hawaii, and most survive by stretching the workloads of existing faculty. With our rapidly increasing aging population, we might hope that our state in general and our University in particular, would appreciate the need for good policy research and growing our Gerontology workforce.

This bill is important in two respects. It recognizes that the UH can play an important role in the state's intelligent commitment to our seniors. And it recognizes that the Center on Aging in particular is a valuable asset deserving of more financial support.

Your favorable consideration of this legislation is requested. Mahalo & Aloha

T. J. Davies Jr., Volunteer
Treasurer, AARP Chapter 60 Honolulu
Treasurer, Kokua Council for Senior Citizens of Hawaii Education Fund
Director, Hawaii Alliance for Retired Americans
Director, AOA of 909 Kapiolani
Kakaako (District 26 / Senate District 12)