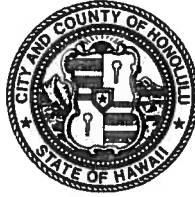


POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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TT-NTK

January 27, 2017

The Honorable Josh Green, Chair
and Members
Committee on Human Services
State Senate
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 016
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Green and Members:

SUBJECT: Senate Bill No. 539, Relating to the Elderly

I am Thomas Taflinger, Captain of the Criminal Investigation Division of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD supports Senate Bill No. 539, Relating to the Elderly.

This bill creates an offense for someone who is responsible for the care, safety, and welfare of anyone 62 years of age or older and financially exploits the elderly victim. This bill also expands the traditional caregiver definition to include those who have a legal, contractual, or fiduciary responsibility.

We believe that this law will provide more protection for the elderly and deter individuals from taking advantage of this growing population.

The HPD urges you to support Senate Bill No. 539, Relating to the Elderly.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

APPROVED:


Cary Okimoto
Acting Chief of Police

Sincerely,


Thomas Taflinger, Captain
Criminal Investigation Division



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COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES
Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair

Friday, January 27, 2017 2:45pm
Room 016

SB 539, Relating to the Elderly

Good afternoon, Chair Green, Vice Chair Chang and members of the Human Services Committee.

Lanakila Pacific **strongly supports** SB 539, Relating to Elderly, as it works with existing state laws and services to further protect vulnerable kupuna from financial abuse by the very individuals who are supposed to be providing care and support.

As a Kupuna Care service provider, Lanakila Meals on Wheels serves more than 2,000 kupuna each year. Our average recipient is an 83-year old female of Asian or Pacific Island descent who is limited in at least two activities of daily living. Along with serving more than 360,000 nutritious meals each year, Lanakila Meals on Wheels also provides wellness checks, education, and referrals to needed resources.

Lanakila Pacific has served Hawaii's communities for over 76-years. We have received requests from concerned neighbors and community members to assist kupuna in need.

More than 45% of the kupuna who responded to our 2016 survey reported the meal they received from Lanakila Meals on Wheels was the only meal they ate that day. More than 50% reported the staff or volunteer was the only person they saw that day. When so many of Hawaii's kupuna are isolated and unable to care for themselves, it is easy for predatory caregivers to victimize them. We urge you to protect Hawaii's kupuna by advancing SB 539 and creating strong punishments to deter elder financial exploitation.

Respectfully submitted,

Marian E. Tsuji
President & CEO

Lori Lau
Director, Meals on Wheels

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, January 24, 2017 12:58 PM
To: HMS Testimony
Cc: cchaudron08@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB539 on Jan 27, 2017 14:45PM

SB539

Submitted on: 1/24/2017

Testimony for HMS on Jan 27, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Camila Chaudron	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Hi, my name is Camila Chaudron and I live in the Manoa/Makiki area. I support this bill because I hope that by imposing strong punishments against the abuse of the elderly will discourage people from ever attempting such an endeavor. Thank you.

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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S.B. No. 539
An Act Relating to the Elderly
Senate Committee on Human Services
Public Hearing – January 27, 2017
Time: 2:45 pm - State Capitol, Conference Room 016

S.B. No. 539 - An Act Relating to the Elderly

Good Afternoon Chairman Senator Green, Vice Chair Senator Chang and Human Services Committee Members. My name is Chad Cambra and I am currently a Masters of Social Work student at the University of Hawaii's, Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work. Currently I am in my final year in obtaining my MSW, with a specialization in Gerontology.

I am in support of S.B. No. 539. Financial exploitation of an elder played in important role in shaping my current educational pursuits. Though I will not go into great detail as to what occurred in my family. I can say that I personally have had experiences with financial exploitation within my own family. With a family member shifting funds, utilizing credit cards, endorsing checks and not accounting for personal expenses. These were red flags for financial exploitation, but were overlooked as we saw it as care for that elder. This personal experience has opened my eyes to the harsh reality that family members are often the Trojan horse who commit acts of exploitation of our elder population.

As a student specializing in Gerontology, I have had the privilege to better understand the growing number of our aging population entering into their elderly years. My studies have focused a great deal on the needs, but more importantly the financial exploitation aspect of our elderly population. Acknowledging that the primary culprits of financial exploitation of the elderly are primarily family members and caregivers is important. It is more so important that there are laws with regards to our elderly population, as the current laws are limited in protecting this population.

As a future social worker and a grandson brought up by his Grandparents, it is important to establish laws in an effort to limit and protect our elderly population. By establishing penalties and criminalizing these actions is an important first step in addressing this issue. It's my hope that there will be future bills which will expand elderly protections and open a conversation as to screening for those who are at risk of financial exploitation. To understand financial exploitation is not primarily committed through phone scams, but rather by family members or caregivers who are thought to be "good" people in aiding an elder in late life.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Chad Jason Cambra
95-1252 Lililehua St.
Mililani, HI 96789

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, January 26, 2017 10:51 PM
To: HMS Testimony
Cc: mauifaith@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB539 on Jan 27, 2017 14:45PM*

SB539

Submitted on: 1/26/2017

Testimony for HMS on Jan 27, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Faith Chase	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, January 26, 2017 6:58 PM
To: HMS Testimony
Cc: mkhan@hawaiiintel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB539 on Jan 27, 2017 14:45PM

SB539

Submitted on: 1/26/2017

Testimony for HMS on Jan 27, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leimomi Khan	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am an elder and hope to never have to experience financial exploitation by caregivers, family members, or others. Having said that, I am aware of elders who have been exploited, so fully support this proposed legislation.

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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