



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Higher Education
Thursday, April 20, 2017 at 4:15 p.m.

By

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

SCR 15 SD1 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.

Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Hashem, and Members of the Committee on Higher Education:

As Dean of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (UHM) Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work, I support SCR 15 SD1 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 SCR 15 SD1 HD1, the University of Hawai'i 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 SCR 15 SD1 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:

- Change the third “BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED” on page 4, line 14, by adding the work “preliminary” on line 15 to read as follows:
“BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to report its **preliminary** findings and recommendations, including proposed legislation, to the legislature no later twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2018; and”
- 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.

COMMITTEE: House Committee on Higher Education

DATE: Thursday, April 20, 2017

TIME: 4:15 p.m.

RE: SCR 15 SD1 HD1 - Requesting the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Center on Aging (UHM COA) 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.

POSITION: SUPPORT

Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Hashem, and members of the House Committee on Higher Education,

As director of the UHM COA, I appreciate this opportunity to voice my support of SCR 15 SD1 HD1. Please note that my testimony is that of an individual, rather than that of an employee of the University of Hawai'i. I support SCR 15 SD1 HD1, provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in the University's Board of Regents Approved Executive Biennium Budget. As a member of the faculty at the University of Hawai'i, I support the prioritization process that the administration utilizes to establish their annual budgetary request to the legislature and can only advocate for additional funding of university programs if it does not negatively impact existing requests that are included in the executive budget.

The directive of SCR 15 SD1 HD1, to convene a task force of key leaders of the aging network in Hawai'i to assess the current system of services for older adults and kupuna and to identify anticipated demands for services, fits well with the mission of UHM COA to serve as a resource for gerontological research, education, and service to the community. Assembling the proposed task force would be a welcome opportunity to bring together local leaders with specialized and complimentary expertise and in positions of influence to effect suggested change. In my brief time as COA director, I have received repeated requests from multiple sources in the community to develop plans for appropriate eldercare workforce recruitment and training, as well as plans for focused service expansion and ways to anticipate the impact of potential changes in Medicare/Medicaid and other forms of financing. The UHM COA recognizes the importance of the proposed initiative and stands as the logical entity to assume its lead. As COA director, I would embrace this significant and very urgent responsibility.

I would like to voice my support for the amendment set forth in Dean Mokuau's testimony for your consideration:

- 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.

To: Honorable Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair
Representative Chris Todd, Vice Chair
And Members of the Senate Committee on Human Services
SCR15 Kupuna Caucus; Kupuna Care Training Task Force

Aloha Chair Morikawa, Vice Chair Todd, and Members of the Senate Committee on Human Services:

My name is Cerina and I am a student at the University of Hawaii at West Oahu. I strongly support the act of requesting to assemble a task force that will aid our kupuna by improving and enlarging the current Elder and Kupuna Care Service to meet the anticipated demand of assistance. Growing up on the island, I have had many friends whose grandparents are their primary care person. My friends' parents did not choose to neglect their children; they would simply too busy with work or other obligations to drive their child to and from school, or provide a healthy, well-prepared meal for them on a daily, or even weekly, basis. Most of my friends' parents, including my own, are of the Baby Boomers generation or Generation X. These two generations struggled with numerous economic downfalls that unfortunately forced our parents to work strenuously long hours. The responsibility of taking care of the young Millennial was therefore given to the kupuna.

As medicine advances and the Baby Boomers of the earlier portion of the generation age, an increase in the elderly population occurs. These are people who may require domestic service to aid them in daily with their daily routines. This occurrence creates a job opportunity in the economy: domestic workers. An American activist named Ai Jen Poo is the director of an organization called National Domestic Workers Alliance, and their purpose is to ensure that care is given to the elderly or disabled, and caretaker feels respected for his/her job. With movements like this occurring, it would be opportune for Hawaii's youth to take the initiative in creating a program designed for proper caretaking. Creating a program that will teach students the proper etiquettes of domestic service will benefit our kupuna, create more jobs in the state, and increase Hawaii' longevity.

Mahalo for the opportunity to share my view on this matter.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 18, 2017 4:49 PM
To: HEDtestimony
Cc: kaulanad@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SCR15 on Apr 20, 2017 16:15PM*

SCR15

Submitted on: 4/18/2017

Testimony for HED on Apr 20, 2017 16:15PM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

hashem2 - Michael

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 19, 2017 10:59 AM
To: HEDtestimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SCR15 on Apr 20, 2017 16:15PM*

SCR15

Submitted on: 4/19/2017

Testimony for HED on Apr 20, 2017 16:15PM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov



Real Possibilities

House Committee on Higher Education

Thursday, April 20, 2017

Time: 4:15 p.m.

Conference Room 329

Late
Testimony

To: Representative Angus McKelvey , Chair
Members of the House Committee on Higher Education

RE: SCR 15, SD1,HD1 REQUESTING TO CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO ASSESS CURRENT ELDER AND KUPUNA CARE SERVICES AND ANTICIPATED DEMAND FOR SERVICES

AARP is a membership organization of people age fifty and over with nearly 150,000 members in Hawaii. AARP advocates and provides information on issues that matter to our kupuna and their families, including affordable, accessible, quality healthcare, financial resiliency, and livable communities.

SCR 15, SD1, HD1 requests 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.

AARP Hawaii testifies in support on SCR 15, SD1, HD1 and appreciates the opportunity to participate if the task force is convened.

As Hawaii's older population continues to grow rapidly, there will be a growing demand for services to help keep our kupuna healthy and independent so that they can remain at home as long as possible. This means Hawaii must develop a workforce to take care of this aging population especially the Baby Boom generation. There will not be enough family caregivers - the backbone of our long term system, to care for the increasing number of older adults. In 2010, there were 6.1 potential family caregivers for every 80 or older. By 2030, that ratio will fall to less than 3 to 1, and will further drop to 2 to 1 in 2050.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

hashem2 - Michael

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 19, 2017 4:50 PM
To: HEDtestimony
Cc: mamaupin@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SCR15 on Apr 20, 2017 16:15PM*



SCR15

Submitted on: 4/19/2017

Testimony for HED on Apr 20, 2017 16:15PM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Margaret Maupin	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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov