

SB2588

Measure Title: RELATING TO AGING.
Report Title: Kupuna Caucus; Kupuna Care; Appropriation (\$)
Description: Makes an appropriation to DOH for the kupuna care program.
Companion: [HB1913](#)
Package: Kupuna Caucus
Current Referral: CPH/HMS, WAM
Introducer(s): IHARA, S. CHANG, ENGLISH, HARIMOTO, KIM, NISHIHARA, RUDERMAN, TOKUDA, Espero, Gabbard, Green, Riviere, Taniguchi

SB-2588

Submitted on: 2/4/2018 9:31:16 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/5/2018 3:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	OCC Legislative Priorities	Support	No

Comments:

The Twenty-Ninth Legislature
Regular Session of 2018

THE SENATE

Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Vice Chair

Committee on Human Services

Senator Josh Green, Chair

Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair

State Capitol, Conference Room 016

Monday, February 5, 2018; 3:10 p.m.

**STATEMENT OF THE ILWU LOCAL 142 ON S.B. 2588
RELATING TO AGING**

The ILWU Local 142 **supports** S.B. 2588, which makes an appropriation to the Department of Health for the Kupuna Care program.

Kupuna Care has been recognized as an effective program to keep seniors living at home (as most of them prefer) for as long as possible. By providing Kupuna Care services such as personal care, homemaking, chores, home-delivered meals, adult day care, case management, assisted transportation, regular transportation, and attendant care, the State is able to assist kupuna to remain in the community and avoid institutionalization, which can be costly for the elderly person and his/her family as well as for the State.

Most people who are forced to live in institutions like nursing homes are not able to afford the huge cost of such care, which can run \$11,000 a month or more. When their financial resources are exhausted, they end up applying for Medicaid. Taxpayers bear the burden for Medicaid costs, which are shared by both federal and state governments. As Hawaii's aged population continues to grow and more require institutional care, Medicaid costs will eat into State funding sources that could be used for other programs and needs.

Kupuna Care is a cost-effective and humane program that recognizes both the needs and desires of the kupuna themselves.

The ILWU urges passage of S.B. 2588. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



LANAKILA PACIFIC

Building Independence for Challenged Lives

PRESIDENT & CEO

Marian E. Tsuji

LANAKILA PACIFIC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair

Carl Hinson

Vice Chair

Scott Nahme

Secretary

Todd Yamanaka

Treasurer

Dwayne Takeno

Directors

Maria Borje-Bonkowski

Frank Ho

Tom Hutton

Debra Kagawa-Yogi

Suzanne Kaulukukui

Kristi O'Heron

Savan Patel

Randy Perreira

Bob Toyofuku

Sherri Yim

JoAnn Yosemori

LANAKILA PACIFIC FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair

Ryan Yamamoto

Vice Chair

Cleo Brown

Treasurer/Secretary

Alton Murakami

Directors

Jodi Endo Chai

Ken Hayashida

Bryan Kapeckas

Bill Kern

Jackson Nakasone

Ed Sugimoto

Masaichi Tasaka

Lynn Zane

1809 Bachelot Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817
Phone: 808-531-0555
Fax: 808-533-7264
www.lanakilapacific.org

An Equal Opportunity Employer



State of Hawaii Senate

Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Vice Chair

Committee on Human Services

Senator Josh Green, Chair

Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair

SB 2588, Relating to Aging

Monday, February 5, 2018, 3:10 PM

Conference Room 016

From: Marian Tsuji, President & CEO

Re: **Support for SB 2588**

Lanakila Pacific is in support of **SB 2588** which will provide \$4.1 million funding to the Kupuna Care program in addition to the appropriation in the base budget of the Executive Office of Aging. Lanakila Meals on Wheels is partially funded through this program.

However, we continue to have concerns that the Kupuna Care program, which was enacted in 1999, still does not have administrative rules. We would be willing to assist Executive Office on Aging in drafting the rules.

Lanakila Pacific Meals on Wheels is a Kupuna Care program provider servicing more than 2,500 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.