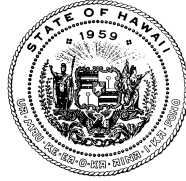


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



TERRI BYERS
DIRECTOR

VIRGINIA PRESSLER, M.D.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII
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Testimony in SUPPORT of SB2796, SD1
Relating to the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
REPRESENTATIVE JOHN M. MIZUNO, CHAIR
REPRESENTATIVE BERTRAND KOBAYASHI, VICE CHAIR

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

Hearing Date: March 8, 2018 Room Number: 312
9:30 a.m.

- 1 **EOA's Position:** The Executive Office on Aging (EOA), an attached agency to the Department
- 2 of Health is in strong support of this Administration proposal.
- 3 **Fiscal Implications:** None.
- 4 **Purpose and Justification:** The bill would amend section 349-4(a), Hawaii Revised Statutes to
- 5 change the composition of the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs (PABEA). It would
- 6 decrease the number of members, specifying that ex officio members are non-voting members,
- 7 and revise the list of agencies that provide representatives to serve as ex officio members.
- 8 The changes being proposed were requested by PABEA leaders to aide in meeting quorum
- 9 requirements and in meeting Legislative intent. Decreasing the overall number of voting Board
- 10 members will reduce the number of Board members required to be present to meet quorum
- 11 requirements. Removing voting obligations of ex officio members was sought by existing

1 agency representatives who voiced concerns that included: (1) lack of information on the wide
2 array of aging issues and (2) time and resource obligations of primary work demands. The
3 change was also motivated by existing statute requirements that the Board have a majority over
4 the age of sixty years of age. Generally, ex officio members do not meet that criteria.

5 Adjustments are necessary in the list of agencies that provide ex officio members to reflect a
6 departmental name change relating to the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs at the
7 State level and an organizational change impacting the Social Security Administration at the
8 federal level.

9 The Statute changes will reduce barriers currently faced by the Board (quorum, ex officio voting
10 obligations, majority representation by those over the age of sixty) while maintaining
11 engagement, collaboration, and alignment between PABEA and other government and
12 community agencies.

13 I am confident that the change in composition will maintain effective group decision making
14 while increasing the diverse membership composition to allow for a variety of viewpoints and
15 dialogue on critical issues that affect Hawaii's growing vulnerable and older adult population.

16 **Recommendation:** EOA is in strong support of this bill.

17 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

SB-2796-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/6/2018 4:31:33 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/8/2018 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marilyn	PABEA	Support	No

Comments:

TO: [COMMITTEE ON HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES](#)

Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair

Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

Thursday, March 8, 2018 9:30 am

Regarding SB [SB 2796, SD1 \(SSCR2278\)](#)

FROM: Marilyn Seely, Chair, Plans and Project Review Committee, Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs (PABEA)

Dear Chairs Mizuno and Kobayashi and members of the Committee;

I write urging you to pass this legislation which we believe will enable the PABEA to more effectively carry out its role as advisor to the Director, Executive Office on Aging on issues related to the well being of the state's older adult population.

The proposed changes will increase the number of voting appointed members by one and change the status of our ex-officio members to non voting status primarily at their request. We do not believe this will diminish the participation or significance of the resources our ex officio members bring to the work of PABEA. Rather it will allow the Department Directors who are the designated ex-officio members in the statute to have more latitude in selecting surrogates without having to adhere to requirements of age and attendance. A large majority of members appointed and ex-officio agreed to these changes in a recent survey we conducted. We believe this will enable us to more easily meet our quorum as well.

Overall we are seeking to be more effective in our advocacy efforts on behalf of all seniors and their families in Hawaii. We respectfully ask your support of this measure.

SB-2796-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/7/2018 9:09:33 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/8/2018 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	OCC Legislative Priorities Committee, Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

PRESENTATION OF THE
OAHU COUNTY COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES
DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAII
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2018
Thursday, March 8, 2018
9:30 a.m.
Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 312

RE: Testimony in Support of **SB2796 SD1** RELATING TO THE POLICY ADVISORY BOARD FOR ELDER AFFAIRS

To the Honorable John M. Mizuno, Chair; the Honorable Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice-Chair and the Members of the Committee on Health and Human Services:

Good morning, my name is Melodie Aduja. I serve as Chair of the Oahu County Committee ("OCC") Legislative Priorities Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on **SB2796 SD1** relating to the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs; quorum; and its membership.

The OCC Legislative Priorities Committee is in favor of **SB2796 SD1** and supports its passage.

SB2796 SD1 is in alignment with the Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i ("DPH"), 2016, as it decreases the number of members appointed to the Policy Advisory Board of Elder Affairs; specifies that ex officio members are nonvoting members; and revises the list of agencies that provide representatives to serve as ex officio members. This measure will improve the efficiency of the Board and ensure that the decisions of the Board are better informed by members with first-hand experience, knowledge, interest, and expertise in aging issues.

Specifically, the Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i provides that "[a]ccess to health care is a basic human need. Our citizens and visitors have an inherent right to high quality, high standard health care. The state legislature and the

federal government should take all appropriate steps to create and support a health care system of public, for-profit, and nonprofit hospitals and other medical facilities that follow best practices to enhance and protect and preserve life.

We support the development of long-term care financing solutions, better pay and working conditions for all health care providers, parity of mental and physical health coverage, and appropriate regulation of health care delivery systems. We also support the development of empirically validated prevention programs targeted at major public health issues." (Platform of the DPH, P. 7, Lines 361-369 (2016)).

Given that **SB2796 SD1** decreases the number of members appointed to the Policy Advisory Board of Elder Affairs; specifies that ex officio members are nonvoting members; and revises the list of agencies that provide representatives to serve as ex officio members, it is the position of the OCC Legislative Priorities Committee to support this measure.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Melodie Aduja

Melodie Aduja, Chair, OCC Legislative Priorities Committee

Email: legislativepriorities@gmail.com, Tel.: (808) 258-8889