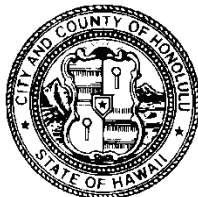


DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

925 DILLINGHAM BOULEVARD, SUITE 200 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817
PHONE: (808) 768-7762 • FAX: (808) 768-7792
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LATE

KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR



PAMELA A. WITTY-OAKLAND
DIRECTOR

SUSAN L. FERNANDEZ
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

February 20, 2018

TO: THE HONORABLE DONOVAN DELA CRUZ, CHAIR
THE HONORABLE GILBERT S. C. KEITH-AGARAN, VICE CHAIR
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

FROM: PAMELA A. WITTY-OAKLAND, DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR SB2988, SD1, RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CARE

The Elderly Affairs Division (EAD) is the designated Area Agency on Aging and Aging and Disability Resource Center for the island of 'Oahu. EAD operates in accordance with the Older Americans Act of 1965 to coordinate, advocate, and improve services to assist older persons in leading independent, meaningful, and dignified lives in their own homes and communities for as long as possible.

SB2988, SD1 includes funding to continue the Kupuna Caregivers program. The program provides up to \$70 a day, in supplemental services, to family caregivers who work at least 30 hours/week. The funding is limited to service dollars, and does not include any funds to administer the program.

With the parameters of \$70 per day, we are limited in the depth of the support we are able to provide to caregivers. During the pilot phase, we determined that the provision of Adult Day services best supported working caregivers as it allowed for 6-10 hours of care at an average of \$70 per day. Other service estimates like in-home health are on average \$27 per hour (information provided by the State Executive Office on Aging). Several families have expressed a desire to be able to utilize this type of service for the same 6-10 hours a day. The cost would then expand to roughly \$162 to \$270 per day.

In addition, we have received several calls from family members who currently have a paid caregiver in the home and need assistance in sustaining those services. With a caregiver's consent, I share the following: Just last week, I spoke with the wife of a paraplegic man in need of support. She shared how challenging it is to find a qualified caregiver who possesses the skills necessary to care for her husband and once she does, it is even harder to retain them. She has to stay at home from work when the

THE HONORABLE DONOVAN DELA CRUZ, CHAIR
THE HONORABLE GILBERT S.C. KEITH-AGARAN, VICE CHAIR
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

February 20, 2018

Page 2

caregivers call in sick, are not able to come in, and if they choose to leave the agency for another position. She shared that there are a number of people who are incapacitated and need a higher level of care, not covered by the Kupuna Care and Kupuna Caregiver program. They need services like bowel care, bag changes, and bathing, services beyond the existing Kupuna Care services. The people who have had to take on that responsibility cannot work because no adult day care center can provide these services. People like this lady are cut out of the program and yet, they are the ones who desperately need it. She feels the legislation was not intended to eliminate them, and yet the service limitations of this bill do just that.

Since the signing of the program into law in July 2017, EAD has received approximately 1,251 inquiries and has taken the necessary steps to implement and administer the program. EAD received the authorized caregiver tool from the State Executive Office on Aging (EOA) on January 18, 2018, and since then has completed 48 caregiver assessments. Of those, 9 have returned their employment verification forms.

We ask the committee to support SB 2988, SD1, and to consider 1) allocating administrative funds to the Area Agencies on Aging to sustain the implementation of this program (10% is currently allocated for Administration of other programs like Kupuna Care); 2) modifying the amount of funds allocated, rather than have it set at \$70 per day, allow for it to be set at \$350 per week or \$1,400 per month (based on a 5-day work week); 3) modifying the scope of services covered under Kupuna Caregiver to meet the needs of those individuals with a higher level of care; and 4) ensuring the timely release of funds following the legislative session, so that there will be no break in services at the end of June 2018. Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

SB-2988-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2018 10:15:20 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/21/2018 10:08:00 AM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Deborah Stone-Walls	Testifying for Maui County Office on Aging	Support	No

Comments:

Maui County Office on Aging (MCOA) is in strong support of SB2988 SD1. To date, MCOA has:

- Received approximately fifty (50) inquiries regarding program enrollment from family members involving approximately thirty (30) care recipients
- Contacted each interested family caregiver to determine eligibility
- Conducted appropriate screening, assessment, and employment verification for approximately twenty (20) primary caregivers
- Enrolled thirteen (13) primary family caregivers in Kupuna Caregivers Program with authorization for various combinations of Adult Day Care, Personal Care, and In-Home Respite services not to exceed a value of \$70/day
- Placed the remaining caregivers on a waiting list

MCOA initiated service delivery in the last week of January for the first enrollee and has since initiated services for all other enrolled caregivers. Caregivers fortunate enough to be eligible for Kupuna Caregivers Program overwhelmingly express relief and gratitude for this program. Additional funds would allow more caregivers to participate.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony regarding this matter.



Hawaii Women's Coalition

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

DATE: Tuesday, February 6, 2018
TIME: 8:30 AM
PLACE: Conference Room 309

LATE

STRONG SUPPORT FOR SB2988 funding for Kupuna Care Program

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and members,

As women are primary caregivers for their families in overwhelming numbers, The Hawaii Women's Coalition supports this measure that will go a long way to supporting women who are overburdened with work and family responsibilities. It will also benefit employers who often lose trained employees who have to choose between taking care of a parent or keeping their job.

There is a demonstrable need for the Kupuna Caregivers program for families across Hawaii. Within just a few weeks of launch, the Executive Office on Aging documented over 500 requests for services. Kupuna Caregivers support those caregiving families who are not eligible for Medicaid but are still struggling to pay for the care services they need. They are working full-time, sometimes at multiple jobs, often taking care of young children and aging Kupuna at the same time.

By providing a care benefit of **\$70 per day**, the Kupuna Caregivers program establishes a much-needed "**care floor**," ensuring that working women and their families have access to resources to provide care at home. The first year of funding established the program. This next step is to fund the program fully to cover all other families who are in desperate need of support offered by the Kupuna Caregivers Program.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

Ann S. Freed Co-Chair, Hawai'i Women's Coalition
Contact: annsfreed@gmail.com Phone: 808-623-5676



LATE

PROTECTING HAWAII'S OHANA, CHILDREN, UNDER SERVED, ELDERLY AND DISABLED

February 20, 2018

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TO: Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Vice-Chair
And Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Ryan Kusumoto, Vice-Chair, PHOCUSED

SUBJECT: **Testimony in Support of SB 2988 SD1 Relating to Kupuna Care**

Hearing: Wednesday, February 21, 2018
10:08 am
Room 211

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB 2988 SD1 Relating to Kupuna Care.

PHOCUSED is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to increasing the safety for, visibility of, and investment in the children and adults in Hawaii who are marginalized, impoverished, and under-served. Our organization has been a leading voice in advocating for our kupuna since our formation, as the membership of PHOCUSED and our Board of Directors represent many of the major health and human service providers and peer organizations dedicated to serving the vulnerable populations across our state. As such, PHOCUSED is proud to strongly support this measure.

SB 2988 SD1 appropriates \$4M to continue the Kupuna Caregivers Program that was established in 2017 and implemented by the Executive Office on Aging. Act 102, Session Laws 2017, appropriated \$600,000 for FY 2017-18. The Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs) started processing applications in January 2018.

PHOCUSED is a membership and advocacy organization for health and human services in Hawaii, which works together with community stakeholders to collectively impact program and policy change for the most vulnerable in our state. Our commitment to the people is reflected in our name – Protecting Hawaii's 'Ohana, Children, Under-Served, Elderly, and Disabled. We are guided by the shared commitment of our members to protect the interests of Hawaii's people and the sector which seeks to provide them with quality programs and services.



PROTECTING HAWAII'S OHANA, CHILDREN, UNDER SERVED, ELDERLY AND DISABLED

Board of Directors

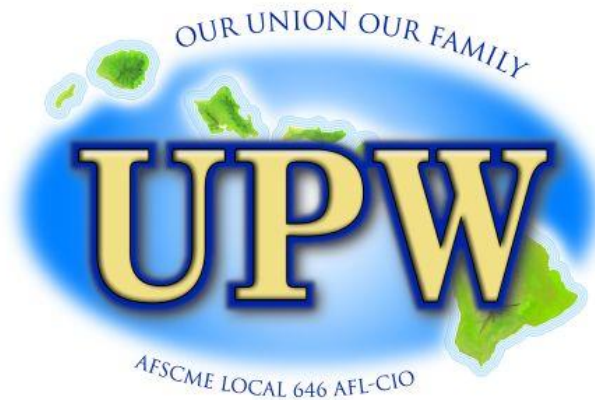
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Natalie Okeson, Exec. Dir.

According to AARP there are 154,000 unpaid caregivers in Hawaii. Many of these caregivers are individuals who are working full time or have multiple jobs in addition to taking care of their loved one. This creates a financial and emotional burden on the caregiver and the family.

\$600,000 at \$70 per day is truly inadequate for the 154,000 caregivers in Hawaii, but it is a start. This bill will continue the Kupuna Caregivers Program and bring relief to more of our kupuna and their working caregivers. Helping working caregivers stay employed protects their long-term retirement security and helps businesses retain their workforce.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **support of SB 2988 SD1 Relating to Kupuna Care.**

PHOCUSED is a membership and advocacy organization for health and human services in Hawaii, which works together with community stakeholders to collectively impact program and policy change for the most vulnerable in our state. Our commitment to the people is reflected in our name – Protecting Hawaii's 'Ohana, Children, Under-Served, Elderly, and Disabled. We are guided by the shared commitment of our members to protect the interests of Hawaii's people and the sector which seeks to provide them with quality programs and services.



LATE

THE HAWAII STATE SENATE

The Twenty-Ninth Legislature
Regular Session of 2018

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Keith S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

DATE OF HEARING: February 21, 2018
TIME OF HEARING: 10:08 AM
PLACE OF HEARING: State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Conference Room 211

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 2988 SD1 RELATING TO KUPUNA CARE

By DAYTON M. NAKANELUA,
State Director of the United Public Workers (UPW),
AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO

My name is Dayton M. Nakanelua, State Director of the United Public Workers, AFSCME, Local 646, AFL-CIO. The UPW is the exclusive bargaining representative for approximately 12,000 public employees, which include blue collar, non-supervisory employees in Bargaining Unit 01 and institutional, health and correctional employees in Bargaining Unit 10, in the State of Hawaii and various counties. The UPW also represents about 1,500 members of the private sector.

SB2988 SD1 appropriates \$4,000,000 for the implementation of the Kupuna Caregivers Program with a requirement for the detailing of program outcomes in the annual Executive Office on Aging annual report. The UPW appreciates the concerns of the Legislature and Administration in providing for our elderly by assisting family caregivers with this program.

The UPW **supports** SB2988 SD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

Helping Hawai'i Live Well

To: Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair, Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair, Members, Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: Trisha Kajimura, Executive Director

Re: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2988SD1 RELATING TO KUPUNA CARE
Hearing: February 21, 2018, 10:08 AM, CR 211

Thank you for hearing **Senate Bill 2988**, which will provide funds to continue the Kupuna Caregivers program. Through the Kupuna Caregivers program, our dedicated family caregivers will receive the support that they need to help keep kupuna safe at home and their family stress level from becoming unmanageable.

We know that the need for the Kupuna Caregivers program is very high for families across Hawaii. Within just a few weeks of launch, the Executive Office on Aging documented over 500 requests for services. Each of those requests represents friends and neighbors who have few other resources to turn to for caregiving support. Kupuna Caregivers is intended to support those caregiving families who are not eligible for Medicaid but are still struggling to pay for the care services they need. They are working full time, sometimes working multiple jobs, and often taking care of young children and an aging kupuna at the same time.

By providing a care benefit of \$70 per day, Kupuna Caregivers establishes a much needed "care floor," ensuring that working families have access to resources to provide care at home. The first year of funding took the important step of establishing the program and could help assist dozens of families across the state. This next step forward needs to fund the program fully to cover all other families who are in desperate need of support offered by Kupuna Caregivers.

Mental Health America of Hawaii is a 501(c)3 organization founded in Hawai'i 76 years ago, that serves the community by promoting mental health through advocacy, education and service. Kupuna and caregivers are both at-risk for mental health issues due to aging and high levels of stress. The Kupuna Caregivers program supports the mental health of our working and caregiving families.

Thank you for considering my **testimony in support of SB 2988 SD1**. Please contact me at trisha.kajimura@mentalhealthhawaii.org or (808)521-1846 if you have any questions.

LATE

SB-2988-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2018 11:17:21 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/21/2018 10:08:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan J. Wurtzburg	Testifying for American Association of University Women, Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

SUPPORT



Board of Directors:

Senate Committee on Ways & Means

Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action supports SB2988 SD1

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Karen Shishido

Leslie Malu Shizue Miki

Kekaulike Prosper Tomich

Cade Watanabe

Dear Chair Dela Cuz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committees,

On behalf of the Hawaii Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA), I am testifying in support of SB2988, SD1.

HAPA is a statewide environmental, social and economic justice organization. HAPA engages over 10,000 local residents annually through our work.

Bill 2988, Senate Draft 1, will provide funds to continue the Kupuna Caregivers program. Through the Kupuna Caregivers program, our dedicated family caregivers, as well as our local small businesses, will receive the support that they deserve and need.

We know that the need for the Kupuna Caregivers program is incredibly high for families across Hawaii. Within just a few weeks of launch, the Executive Office on Aging documented over 500 requests for services. Each of those requests represents friends and neighbors who have few other resources to turn to for caregiving support. Kupuna Caregivers is intended to support those caregiving families who are not eligible for Medicaid but are still struggling to pay for the care services they need. They are working full time, sometimes working multiple jobs, and often taking care of young children and an aging kupuna at the same time.

By providing a care benefit of \$70 per day, Kupuna Caregivers establishes a much needed "care floor," ensuring that working families have access to resources to provide care at home. The first year of funding took the important step of establishing the program and could help assist dozens of families across the state. This next step forward needs to fund the program fully to cover all other families who are in desperate need of support offered by Kupuna Caregivers.



Last year, the legislature received national attention for its leadership in creating a first-in-the-nation model to value the time and selfless efforts of family caregivers. We ask you to take this important next step to continue the program we so desperately need. I ask you to please pass Senate Bill 2988, Senate Draft 1.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Respectfully,

Anne Frederick, Executive Director
Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action (H.A.P.A.)

The Twenty-Ninth Legislature
Regular Session of 2018

LATE

THE SENATE

Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
State Capitol, Conference Room 211
Wednesday, February 21, 2018; 10:00 a.m.

**STATEMENT OF THE ILWU LOCAL 142 ON S.B. 2988, SD1
RELATING TO KUPUNA CARE**

The ILWU Local 142 **supports** S.B. 2988, SD1, which appropriates \$4,000,000 for implementation of the Kupuna Caregivers Program and requires the Executive Office on Aging to include in its annual report to the Legislature a section that details program outcomes.

The Kupuna Caregivers Program was established in the 2017 session with an appropriation of \$600,000 to be used to assist caregivers with support services for their loved ones in order to allow caregivers to remain in the workforce. This nominal appropriation was intended to start up the program and serve as a “pilot” to demonstrate the need and effectiveness of providing services such as adult day care to allow family caregivers to go to work with the peace of mind that their loved ones would be properly cared for.

Too many caregivers, lacking financial resources for this type of respite care, have been forced to lose work hours and income or resign or retire far earlier than desired. In most, if not all, cases, fewer work hours or early retirement has resulted in financial sacrifice by reducing income security in later years. Likewise, employers have suffered economic hardship when employees must take paid or unpaid leave to care for a kupuna or must leave the workforce prematurely, requiring employers to hire and train replacement workers. With Hawaii’s unemployment rate the lowest in the nation, employers cannot afford to lose experienced employees to caregiving responsibilities.

S.B. 2988, SD1 calls for a small investment (\$70 a day does not go far) to help stabilize the workforce to address what is already a growing problem. The frail elderly population will only continue to grow in the future.

The Kupuna Caregivers Program recognizes the valuable role played by family caregivers who are still in the workforce. Since kupuna prefer to live at home, not in a nursing home, providing support to caregivers will serve the needs of kupuna while potentially saving the State millions of dollars in Medicaid matching funds. As the cost of nursing home care exceeds \$11,000 a month, most kupuna, who need long-term care but have no one able to help them, will need to seek financial help from Medicaid.

The requirement in S.B. 2988, SD1 for the Executive Office on Aging to include Kupuna Caregiver Program outcomes in its annual report to the Legislature will help to ensure accountability.

The ILWU urges passage of S.B. 2988, SD1. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

LATE

SB-2988-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2018 10:10:19 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/21/2018 10:08:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carmen Golay	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

SB-2988-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2018 9:51:23 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/21/2018 10:08:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rachel L. Kailianu	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

LATE

SB-2988-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/21/2018 12:00:35 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/21/2018 10:08:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Katinka B. Hammerich	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Katinka B. Hammerich
2440 Campus Rd. #373, Honolulu, HI 96822

To: Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair Senator Josh Green, Chair

Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health Senate Committee on Human Services

Tuesday, February 21, 2018 10:08 A.M.

Conference Room 211

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2988 RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM

Dear Chairs Baker and Green, Vice-Chairs Tokuda and Chang and Members of both committees:

My name is Katinka Hammerich and I stand in strong support of S.B. 2988, which appropriates continued funding for the Kupuna Caregivers Program. There is a high demand for the Kupuna Caregivers for families across Hawai'i. Kupuna Caregivers is intended to support family caregivers who work outside the home and who are struggling to pay for the care services they need for their kupuna.

As a social worker, having worked with older adults and family caregivers for many years, I have experienced first hand the enormous physical, psychological, and financial burden that family caregivers are experiencing in our state. When family caregivers are working full-time, sometimes working multiple jobs, and often taking care of young children, adding care duties of a kupuna to their obligations brings additional personal strain. The Kupuna Caregivers Program assists in lifting some of the financial burdens of family caregivers and gives our kupuna an opportunity to be cared for at home, surrounded by their loved ones

Last year, the legislature received national attention for its leadership in creating a first-in-the-nation model to value the time and selfless efforts of family caregivers. I am hopeful that this program will continue to provide working caregivers with the opportunity to continue working with the peace of mind of knowing that their loved ones are safe and are receiving services and support that maximize their independence and quality of life. I ask you to take this important next step to continue the program we so urgently need. I ask you to please pass Senate Bill 2988.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,
Katinka B. Hammerich, MSW, LSW

katinka@hawaii.edu

To: Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

LATE

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for S.B. No. 2988 S.D. 1

Hearing: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 at 10:08 A.M.
Conference Room 211, State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee, First of all, thank you for representing the people of Hawai'i and for scheduling a hearing for this momentous bill Relating to *Kupuna* Care. My name is Tani Kagesa. I am a social work student at the University of Hawaii at Mānoa and a Social Services Associate at a skilled nursing facility (SNF) that primarily serves *kupuna*.

On a daily basis, I witness the pressures that caregivers undergo while caring for their elderly loved ones. Oftentimes families are left with the difficult dilemma of compromising their employment to provide care versus continuing to work full-time but sacrificing the necessary level of care that their *kupuna* need. The additional funding for the *Kupuna* Caregivers program would help to alleviate these pressures.

Recent studies have found that elder caregivers experience high levels of caregiver burden in various ways: social burden, physical burden, developmental burden, and emotional burden. Caregivers are at a much higher risk for their own health to decline compared to their non-caregiver counterparts.

Within the first year of the program, hundreds of burdened caregivers have applied for these services but the original \$600,000 is not enough to help half of them. The appropriated funding would make a difference for numerous families by giving caregivers the opportunity to recuperate, improve their personal well being, and stay in the workforce. I strongly support the new amendments in S.D.1 because they promote the efficacy, quality, and sustainability of the program.

It is also important to consider the future of Hawai'i with the approaching silver tsunami. In the next 10-20 years, the elderly population will exponentially increase until one out of every five people are 65 years old and older. The main causes for the silver tsunami are that the baby boomers' generation is reaching retirement age and there has been an increase in average lifespan due to healthcare technology improvements. This will overwhelm the healthcare system and damage our economy unless our society proactively prepares to support more *kupuna*. There will be an increased need for *kupuna* caregivers who are also needed in the workforce to sustain the economy. Where will this leave the people of Hawai'i?

This innovative legislation has received National attention as it has been featured on NBC News and the New York Times. With the coming of the Silver Tsunami, legislators around the U.S. will look to Hawai'i, the first state to pass bills that support *kupuna* caregivers. Let us lead by example as we share the *aloha* spirit by caring for our *kupuna* and their caregivers.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of S.B. No. 2988 S.D.1.

Sincerely,
Tani Kagesa
tkagesa@hawaii.edu

LATE

SB-2988-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/21/2018 5:43:14 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/21/2018 10:08:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stephany Cecil	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Give the caregivets of our kupuna what they need to do this noble job!