

The Twenty-Ninth Legislature  
Regular Session of 2017

**LATE**

THE SENATE

Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair

Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair

Committee on Human Services

Senator Josh Green, Chair

Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair

State Capitol, Conference Room 016

Wednesday, February 1, 2017; 2:45 p.m.

**STATEMENT OF THE ~~ILWU LOCAL 142~~ ON S.B. 530  
MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE  
OFFICE OF THE LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM**

The ILWU Local 142 ~~strongly supports~~ S.B. 530, which makes an appropriation for the Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program.

S.B. 530 is proposing a nominal \$150,000 appropriation to allow for a small expansion of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program from one staff person, who singlehandedly services the entire state with 1,702 facilities, to add one staff person for each island. The amount of funding is paltry and pays barely more than the minimum wage to individuals who must possess requisite skills to evaluate quality of care in an objective manner and have the sensitivity to interview long-term care clients, caregivers, and providers.

We think that more is needed, but whatever the Legislature can provide will, we are assured, be put to good use.

The ILWU strongly urges passage of S.B. 530. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

**LATE**

TO: Senate Committee on Human Services, Senator Josh Green, Chair  
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health, Senator Rosalyn Baker,  
Chair

Date: Wednesday, February 1, 2017, State Capitol Conference Room 016, 2:45 p.m.

RE: SB 530 Appropriation for the Office of Long Term Care Ombudsman

To Chair Green, Chair Baker and Members of the Committees,

I am writing to you in [REDACTED] requesting an appropriation for the Office of the Long Term Care Ombudsman. My name is Paul Nishimura, and I am a 59 year old resident of Waipahu. Though my parents never had to spend any time in a care home I want to believe that someone is making sure that the care homes, nursing facilities and assisted living facilities are giving appropriate care to the 12,000 long term care residents statewide. Chances are that my wife and I will be needing long term care one day. When that time comes it would give me and my caregivers piece of mind knowing that any facility we choose will offer quality care.

At the present there is only one person covering the entire state which includes 1,630 community residential care homes, 49 nursing facilities and 13 assisted living facilities. Additional staff is needed to get issues resolved in a timely manner for this most vulnerable population.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony.

[REDACTED]  
Waipahu