

todd2 - Chloe

From: Anthony Lenzer <tlenzer@hawaii.rr.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 3:47 PM
To: HUS testimony
Subject: Testimony in Support of SB 534 SD 2

To: Committees on Human Services and Health

From: Anthony Lenzer, PhD

Re: Support for SB 534 SD 2

Hearing: Friday, March 17, 2017, 9:30 a.m.

Conference Room 329, State Capitol

Chairs Morikawa and Belatti and Committee Members:

My name is Anthony Lenzer, and I am a member of the legislative committee of the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs (PABEA). This Board advises the Executive Office on Aging (EOA) on aging issues, and advocates on behalf of Hawaii's kupuna and their families. My testimony reflects the views of PABEA and not necessarily those of the Executive Office on Aging.

PABEA strongly supports Senate Bill 534 SD 2, which creates a Kupuna Caregivers Program within the Executive Office on Aging. This program is designed to help employed caregivers of elderly family members obtain necessary services, which will help them remain effective members of Hawaii's workforce. These services include transportation, personal care, respite care, adult day care, and chore/homemaking services. Qualified caregivers will receive vouchers for up to \$70 per day for agencies to provide such services. The program will be administered by the Area Agencies on Aging, through their Aging and Disability Resource Centers.

This program is vitally important for three reasons:

(1) over one-fifth of Hawaii's population is now aged 60+, including over 34,000 persons age 85+. The percent of residents aged 85+ is expected to double in the next 30 years. (a) These "oldest old" are most likely to have multiple chronic illnesses and/or disability, and be most in need of help in order to remain at home;

(2) family members, friends, and other unpaid caregivers provide most of the assistance to frail elders. An AARP study found 154,000 unpaid elder caregivers in Hawaii, and AARP's 2014 study of 1,000 registered voters aged 45+ found that 53% were providing or had provided care for an elderly loved one (b). National data indicates that the typical long-term family caregiver is a 49 year old woman who is caring for her mother, for twenty hours/week, while trying to keep up with work and other household responsibilities (c). Many studies have documented the physical, emotional, and financial stresses associated with caregiving, especially when few workers (nationally, only 13%) have paid family leave (d);

and (3) while some state, federal, and county funds are available to assist frail elders, there is little money for the caregivers themselves. The situation has been described by one County Executive on Aging as follows: "Unless a County receives funding from their County Council, our options to provide caregiver-specific services are limited. For Maui County, we can use approximately 10% of our overall Federal funding (Title III E) for services such as Family Caregiver Support, Training, and Counseling, Adult Day Care Respite, In-Home Respite, and support for Grandparents Raising Grandchildren (not to exceed 10% of Title III E). Without additional County funding, our ability to actively serve family caregivers would be, therefore, quite limited."(e)

In summary, the Kupuna Caregivers bill is needed because: Hawaii's growing older population, and the increasing number of oldest old persons require a variety of services to remain at home, and these are primarily provided by unpaid family caregivers; family caregivers are typically employed and have other responsibilities in addition to elder

care; and there are few sources of financial support for the services which will help caregivers continue to assist their loved ones, while meeting other responsibilities.

Please support Senate Bill 534 SD 2. Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.

Notes:

- (a) Yahirun, J. & Zan, H. (2016). Hawaii's Older Adults: A Demographic Profile. Honolulu, HI: University of Hawai'i, Center on the Family
- (b) Binette, Joanne. (September 2014, updated October 28, 2014). 2014 Hawaii Caregiving Survey: Opinions and Experiences of Hawaii Registered Voters Age 45 and Older. Washington, DC: AARP Research
- (c) PBS Newshour. (January 6, 2014). One of the hardest part-time jobs you will ever have—and the pay? Nada.
- (d) US Bureau of Labor Statistics. (2014). Employee benefits survey. Table 32, Leave benefits, Access, Civilian Workers, National compensation survey, March, 2014. Washington, DC: US Bureau of Labor Statistics.
- (e) 1/19/17 email from Deborah Stone-Walls, Maui County Executive on Aging. Subject: Update on 1/17/17 Mtg. with Sen. Baker regarding the Kupuna Caregivers Program

Helping Hawai'i Live Well

To: Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair, Representative Chris Todd, Vice Chair, Members, House Committee on Human Services

From: Trisha Kajimura, Executive Director

Re: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 534 SD2 RELATING TO KUPUNA CARE

Hearing: March 17, 2017, 9:30 am, CR 329

Thank you for hearing **SB 534 SD2**, which creates the Kupuna Caregivers program. This bill will provide the needed respite care that our kupuna caregivers deserve and the support our working families and businesses need.

This legislation would create a long-term kupuna caregivers program, which would provide support for working caregivers who also take care of their aging loved ones. Unlike other programs, this bill focuses on providing respite care for working caregivers who typically have no other financial or emotional support. As so many of us know, the desire to spend time caring for our aging parents and grandparents is often in competition with our need to continue participating in the workforce to be able to provide for our families.

By providing a care benefit of \$70 per day, this bill establishes a much needed “care floor,” ensuring that working families would have access to resources to provide care at home. This fund is not meant to cover a stay in a long-term care facility like a nursing home, which we know is often much more expensive than home care. Instead, it would allow for support at home with activities of daily living, like hiring home care aides for a few hours or providing transportation services. It may not sound like much to some people, but this sort of respite care is a lifeline for family caregivers!

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 534 SD2**. Please contact me at trisha@mentalhealthhawaii.org or (808)521-1846 if you have any questions.



CATHOLIC CHARITIES HAWAII

TO: Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair
Representative Chris Todd, Vice Chair Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services Committee on Health

FROM: Terrence L. Walsh, Jr., President and Chief Executive Officer

DATE: Friday, March 17, 2017 (9:30 a.m., Room 329)

RE: **SB 534, SD2, Relating to Kupuna Care**

Catholic Charities Hawai'i (CCH) is a tax exempt, non-profit agency that has been providing supportive home and community based services to elders since 1973 and currently serves over 4,000 elderly individuals each year. We are an experienced provider of Kupuna Care funded Transportation and Homemaker Services on Oahu. We also have over 300 employees, with a number who are providing, or have provided, caregiving for elderly relatives.

As a service provider, we are aware that family caregivers play an absolutely critical role in making it possible for frail elders to remain at home and out of institutional settings. And as an employer, we recognize that caregiving, on top of working full-time and sometimes also providing care for younger family members, places tremendous stress and strain on employees, which impacts their ability to remain physically well and mentally focused at work.

Therefore, Catholic Charities Hawai'i supports the intent of the proposed Kupuna Caregiver Program because we believe that all efforts to provide assistance and relief to caregivers are worthy of consideration.

We would like to offer the following comments and recommendations based on our experience, and our desire to ensure program success.

COMMENTS:

- 1) **Capacity of the Area Agencies on Aging (AAA's) to Implement a New Program:** The Executive Office on Aging and the Area Agencies on Aging (AAA's) are still fine tuning the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) processes. The AAA's, as the designated ADRC's, also will have significant roles in the No Wrong Door project and are likely to see increased demand once the No Wrong Door system begins to function. They need to succeed in these already defined roles. Their current capacity to successfully launch another new program, the proposed Kupuna Caregiver program, needs to be considered.
- 2) **Caregiver Needs are Diverse so Solutions Need to be Flexible:** The traditional service delivery system of the established Kupuna Care program provides very defined services that require in home assessment and authorization by the ADRC before a contracted provider agency is able to deliver the service. This has been a matter of frustration for some caregivers whose needs were urgent or

outside the defined services allowable in Kupuna Care. The proposed Kupuna Caregiver program has the potential, if structured appropriately, to provide ease of access to services so that caregivers can get the help WHEN they need it and HOW they need it.

- 3) **Kupuna Care Services Currently Provides Relief for Working Caregivers:** Please be aware that there are already caregivers whose elderly relatives are receiving Kupuna Care funded services so that the caregivers do not have to take off extra time from work. For example, Kupuna Care Transportation, which helps elders get to medical appointments during normal work hours. They would still benefit from additional support through the Kupuna Caregiver program, although due to limited resources, consideration must be given to whether an elder/caregiver can receive services from both the existing Kupuna Care and the proposed Kupuna Caregiver programs.
- 4) **The Role of the Spousal or NonWorking Caregiver:** While the impact of caregiving on the workplace is an important consideration, we also wish to acknowledge that many of the elders we provide services for have caregivers who are elderly spouses or adult children who are retired, some of whom have retired for the specific purpose of providing care. Once the Kupuna Caregiver program has been established, we hope that consideration will be given to allow these caregivers to also find relief through the program in the future.
- 5) **Kupuna Care Administrative Rules Needed:** The extensive detail in this bill regarding the Kupuna Care program puts into statute largely what is currently being done with Kupuna Care funds. We hope that administrative rules will follow to provide further clarity and guidance on the implementation of this program.
- 6) **Recognition of a Workforce Shortage:** There is a shortage of available workers. This is being seen in both government and private sector. Service providers and government are struggling to meet the needs in our community as a result. Help is needed to encourage people to enter the field and funders must understand that the profile (and wage) of the direct care worker must be raised. We need a trained, reliable workforce to serve this vulnerable population of homebound elders.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

SECTION 2: KUPUNA CAREGIVER PROGRAM (proposed)

- 1) **Page 3, lines 14-16:** “(b) The program shall be coordinated and administered by the executive office on aging and implemented through the area agency on aging.”
 - i) **Edit section to read: “(b) The program may be coordinated and administered by the executive office on aging and implemented through the area agency on aging, and may delegate the program development and implementation, including any service authorization and voucher payment system, to subcontractors.”**
 - ii) **Consider modelling the program like the State’s Coordinated Statewide Homeless Initiative (CSHI), currently managed by master contractor, Aloha United Way, in partnership with provider agencies. Provider agencies did intake and handled applications, AYW had final approval authority, provider agencies paid out to vendors.**

Rationale: CSHI was able to help over 1,400 households out of homelessness in a ten (10) month period. The ability of CSHI to quickly assess at-risk and homeless eligibility and make payments to vendors helped to reduce the flow of families into homelessness. By using a similar model, the proposed Kupuna Caregiver program could keep elders out of institutionalization and keep their caregivers in the workplace.

- 1) **Page 3, line 17 to page 4, line 16:** Listing of the eligible services as Transportation, Personal care, Personal care, Adult day care, or Chore and homemaker.
 - i) **Eliminate the listing of services EXCEPT for “Respite care”.**

Rationale: “Respite care” is a broader category that covers all the other listed services and could potentially include other services that are needed by someone caring for a frail elder. This allows flexibility to meet other needs of caregivers, including case management, home delivered meals, Adult day health, etc.
- 2) **Page 6, line 9:** “Respite care” shall be as defined in section 333F-1.”
 - i) **Edit section to read: “Respite care shall be defined as Services which offer temporary substitute supports or living arrangements for care recipients in order to provide a brief period of rest or relief for caregivers.”**

Rationale: Section 333F-3.1, refers to “short term care to meet the needs, ranging from simple to complex, of persons with developmental or intellectual disabilities”. This is an erroneous reference. The suggested wording is from the definition of Caregiver Respite Services stated in the last Request for Proposal issued by the City & County, Elderly Affairs Division in 2015 for Caregiver Respite Services (Funded by the Federal Administration on Aging, Title III Older Americans Act).
- 3) **Page 4, lines 5-6:** “provided that the voucher shall be issued directly to the service provider.”
 - i) **Edit section to ADD the following: “Service providers shall have all required licenses or certifications, and be a registered business in the State of Hawaii.”**

Rationale: This will ensure that vouchers will be issued to legal entities/businesses, NOT directly to private individuals.
- 4) **Page 6, lines 4-8:** definition of a “Qualified caregiver”
 - a) **Edit section to ADD: “(3) Does not have sufficient financial resources, or access to sufficient financial resources of the elder, to pay for the eligible service without incurring undue hardship.”**

Rationale: Until or unless the program can be sufficiently funded, the recommended funding of \$600,000 would provide financial support for about 33 caregivers (\$70/ day x 260 work days/year). There may need to be some way to prioritize those in greatest (or most urgent) need.
- 5) **Clearly define that the proposed Kupuna Caregiver program is not being made part of the existing Kupuna Care Program.**

Rationale: Because of the fine tuning that AAA’s are still doing w/ the ADRC processes, and the role that the ADRC’s will play in the No Wrong Door system, it would be best to keep the new program separate. This will enable the proposed program the opportunity to develop quickly ad

responsively outside of the established but complex ADRC processes. Additionally, it is important to preserve the existing funding for the existing Kupuna Care services which thousands of seniors rely upon each year.

SECTION 3: KUPUNA CARE PROGRAM (existing)

- 1) **Page 7, starting on line 15:** Defining Participant-directed services and support.
 - i) **Edit section to allow a caregiver to make decisions, purchase and manage the budgeted dollars for an eligible elder.**
Rationale: This allows the Participant-Directed option to be an alternative for caregivers who are caring for a Kupuna Care eligible elder, who by definition, must be frail or have cognitive impairment.

- 2) **Page 15, line 19: “(1) Adult day care:”**
 - i) **Edit to ADD: “(1) Adult day care or adult day health”**
Rationale: This may be an oversight since the description on Page 12, line 10-16 refers to both adult day care and adult day health.

Catholic Charities Hawai'i appreciates this opportunity to provide testimony. We are grateful to the Legislature and the community for acknowledging and supporting the invaluable role of caregivers in helping frail elders remain in their homes and out of institutional care.

For more information or questions, please contact Diane Terada, Division Administrator, at 527-4702. Thank you.



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COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES
Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair
Representative Chris Todd, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair
Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

Friday, March 17, 2017, 9:30 A.M.
Conference Room 329

SB534,SD2 RELATING TO KUPUNA CARE

Good morning, Chairs Morikawa and Belatti, Vice Chairs Todd and Kobayashi, and members of the Human Services and Health Committees.

Lanakila Pacific supports SB534, SD2, in concept. There is no doubt that family caregivers play a critical role in a senior's ability to age in place, and supports for these caregivers are essential for their health and sustenance. However, there are concerns with the implementation of the program as described in this bill.

The caregivers program should not be part of the Kupuna Care program.
The intent of the caregivers program is to provide support and relief to the caregiver. The Kupuna Care program is intended to support seniors with services that will enable them to age in place.

The program shall be coordinated and administered by the executive office on aging and implemented through the area agency on aging (AAA).
The AAAs are in the midst of fully implementing the ADRCs. They will need sufficient additional resources to implement another program. These resources must include program resources so that services can be delivered to caregivers in a timely fashion, and "administrative overhead" so service providers can be paid in a timely fashion. Another option is to allow the AAAs to contract out.

The caregivers program does not include home delivered meals as a service.

As a Kupuna Care home delivered meal provider, we know that this is a service that provides supports to caregivers. Our meals are nutritionally balanced, and in many cases, tailored for specific dietary needs. Preparing different specialized meals for the care recipient from the rest of the family can be burdensome.

The voucher shall be issued directly to the service provider.
Service provider should be defined as legal entities with appropriate licensing and insurance.

The director may adopt rules.

Rules shall be adopted. The Kupuna Care program still does not have administrative rules.

Lanakila Pacific has served Hawaii's communities for over 77-years. As a Kupuna Care service provider, Lanakila Meals on Wheels served more than 2,500 Hawaii kupuna last year. Over 45% of the kupuna responding to our 2016 survey reported the meal they received from Lanakila Meals on Wheels was the only meal they ate that day, and over 50% reported our staff or volunteer was the only person they saw that day.

With the continued growth and demands to support Hawaii's kupuna, and related demands on caregivers we request your consideration of SB 534, SD 2, with the aforementioned clarifications. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

Marian E. Tsuji
President & CEO

Lori Lau
Director, Meals on Wheels



March 17, 2017

To: Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair
Representative Chris Todd, Vice Chair and
Members of the Committee on Human Services

From: Jeanne Y. Ohta, Co-Chair

RE: SB 534 SD2 Relating to Kupuna Care
Hearing: Friday, March 17, 2017, 9:30 a.m., Room 329

POSITION: SUPPORT

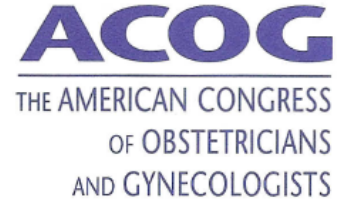
The Hawai'i State Democratic Women's Caucus writes in support of SB 534 SD2 Relating to Kupuna Care which establishes a program that supports our working caregivers who struggle to care for their loved ones while holding down their jobs and other personal responsibilities.

This proposal provides for a much less expensive option than a nursing home which can cost more than \$100,000 per year. HSDWC supports this program which will assist Hawaii's 154,000 caregivers, most of whom are women. Programs that support caregivers and allow them to remain in the workforce are important to women remaining financially self-sufficient. Many women by necessity must leave and return to the workforce multiple times during their careers. Their pay and retirement benefits are affected by these caregiver responsibilities, putting their own incomes during retirement at risk.

The Hawai'i State Democratic Women's Caucus is a catalyst for progressive, social, economic, and political change through action on critical issues facing Hawaii's women and girls.

We respectfully request that the committee pass this measure and thank the committee for the opportunity to provide testimony.

***American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
District VIII, Hawaii (Guam & American Samoa) Section***



TO: Rep. Dee Morikawa, Chair
Rep. Chris Todd, Vice-Chair

DATE: Friday, March 17, 2017
TIME: 9:30 AM
PLACE: Conference Room 329

FROM: Hawaii Section, ACOG
Dr. Greigh Hirata, MD, FACOG, Chair
Dr. Jennifer Salcedo, MD, MPH, MPP, FACOG, Vice-Chair
Dr. Cynthia Goto, MD, FACOG, Legislative Committee Member
Lauren Zirbel, Community and Government Relations

Re: SB 534 Relating to Kupuna Care

Position: Support

Dear Members,

The Hawaii Section of the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (HI ACOG) supports SB534 with the amendments proposed.

As a Section of the Nation's leading group of physicians dedicated to improving health care for women, HI ACOG represents over 160 obstetrician/gynecologist physicians in our state. Our organization calls for quality health care appropriate to every woman's needs throughout her life and for assuring that a full array of clinical services be available to women without costly delays or the imposition of cultural, geographic, financial or legal barriers.¹

By 2020, nearly 300,000 people will be age 65 or older in Hawaii.² Our 'ohana honor our elders who wish to age at home but the burden on caregivers is significant including financial and emotional stress. According to AARP, the average caregiver is a 62-year-old married woman who cares for an elderly parent or husband while still working. Working women may neglect their own health while caring for their children and their parents. They may quit their job to become caregivers for their families which jeopardizes their own access to health care.

SB 534 would provide some respite and support for caregivers who are in the workforce and trying to do the best they can to manage care for their families. HI ACOG is committed to facilitating both access to and quality of women's health care, including caregivers and their elderly parents.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

¹ The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, *Access to Women's Health Care*, Statement of Policy, Reaffirmed July 2016

² Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, Population and Economic Projections for the State of Hawaii to 2040

todd2 - Chloe

From: Allison Bean <allisonbean11@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 10:20 AM
To: HUS testimony
Subject: SB534

My name is Allison Bean and I am the Director of a small non-profit organization in Kailua that provides day care for seniors--more importantly we at Windward Senior Day Care Center provide respite care for our caregivers. Prior to working at WSDCC I ran an activities program for seniors at a independent living community in Hawaii Kai. It was here that I was able to fully grasp seniors, their needs and desires, and I found that activities and social interaction do enhance their quality of life. And it is extremely important to provide opportunities to stimulate these seniors physically, emotionally, socially, vocationally, and educationally. This position also allowed me the opportunity to understand the needs of independent seniors. After having worked there I wanted to serve seniors in a different capacity. Maybe those less affluent, possibly those seniors with more mental and physical limitations, I wanted to serve the community.

WSDCC has provided me with the insight and opportunity to work with all of the above. So often I meet family members caring for their loved ones while trying to maintain jobs, family, children, marriages, and a social life. It is important to have a balance in all of these life areas and can be quite difficult. But imagine having all of those responsibilities and obligations but also caring for a aging senior. Insurances and government programs provide some relief and financial assistance but the financial burden increases. So often I meet family members that want so badly to take care of their loved ones within the comfort of their own home. These seniors have already experienced a loss in memory or physical capacity--remaining at home allows them the quality of life they so deserve in a home that they know and with people they recognize. I attend caregivers support groups, meet with family members and present WSDCC within the community to fully understand what our caregivers face each and every day--it is a struggle, one that needs to be recognized and assistance needs to be provided. And each struggle is a little different.

No senior should ever be a burden, every senior deserves quality of life, and every caregiver requires assistance and respite. From the perspective of someone that provides resources and a program to help these seniors and their family members this bill will positively impact our community. Not only will it provide financial assistance but also resources and direction as these seniors age and as their needs change. Thank you for your work in recognizing this need and for the steps taken to provide assistance.

Thank you,
Allison Bean



March 17, 2017 at 9:30 AM
Conference Room 329

House Committee on Human Services
House Committee on Health

To: Chair Dee Morikawa
Vice Chair Chris Todd

Chair Della Au Belatti
Vice Chair Bertrand Kobayashi

From: Paige Heckathorn
Senior Manager, Legislative Affairs
Healthcare Association of Hawaii

Re: Testimony in Support
SB 534 SD 2, Relating to Kupuna Care

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii (HAH), established in 1939, serves as the leading voice of healthcare on behalf of 180 member organizations who represent almost every aspect of the health care continuum in Hawaii. Members include acute care hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, home health agencies, hospices, assisted living facilities and durable medical equipment suppliers. In addition to providing access to appropriate, affordable, high quality care to all of Hawaii's residents, our members contribute significantly to Hawaii's economy by employing over 20,000 people statewide.

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii would like to thank the committees for the opportunity to **support** SB 534 SD 2. This legislation seeks to provide financial support to individuals who need long-term care services and their families. We appreciate the intent of this measure, which is to help Hawaii residents and their caregivers access needed services that might otherwise be unaffordable. Health care costs continue to rise while wages have not generally kept up, putting many families in difficult situations. This legislation recognizes this dynamic and strives to provide some relief by helping to pay for needed caregiver services. The measure's focus on strengthening the state's healthcare workforce is also much appreciated.

This measure will not only benefit seniors, but also young adults and the families of every individual who might need long-term care services. As a result, we humbly ask for your support of this measure. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.



The House
Committees on Human Services and Health
Friday, March 17, 2017
9:30 a.m.
Conference Room 329

RE: **SB 534, SD 2 RELATING TO KUPUNA CARE**

To: Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair
Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair

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 health care, financial resiliency, and livable communities.

AARP Hawaii **strongly supports** SB 534, SD2 which establishes a program that supports our working caregivers who struggle to care for their loved ones while holding down their jobs and other personal responsibilities.

This proposed program provides a care benefit of \$70 per day which allows families obtain services such as home care or adult day care that will safely supervise a family member at home or in a community setting. This is much less expensive than a nursing home which costs \$141,000 annually (private room rate).

AARP fully supports this program which will assist Hawaii's 154,000 caregivers whom many are still in the workforce, continue to care for our kupuna in their homes and communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



HAWAII APPLESEED

CENTER FOR LAW & ECONOMIC JUSTICE

Testimony of Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice
Supporting SB 534, SD2 Relating to Kupuna Care
House Committee on Human Services
Scheduled for hearing Friday, March 17, 2017, 9:30 AM, Conference Room 329

Dear Chair Morikawa, Vice Chair Todd and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in SUPPORT of **SB 534, SD2**, which would fund up to \$70 a day for the respite that working family caregivers need in order to stay active in the workforce while caring for their kūpuna at home.

By 2020, nearly 300,000 people will be age 65 or older in Hawai'i. Because the demographic makeup of our state is changing, we need to change the way we provide care for our kūpuna.

Ninety percent of people over age 65 would prefer to remain stay in their homes as long as possible. Our extended 'ohana are often loving caregivers, but providing that care can often create financial and emotional stress. According to a MetLife survey, the cost of home health aide and homemaker services are significantly higher in Hawai'i than the national average.

When the caregiver is working full-time, adding care duties adds significant personal strain for the caregiver. As a result, many caregivers make the difficult decision to leave their job or reduce their work hours to care for an aging family member. HB 607 would create a fund to help caregivers provide care for our kūpuna. By ensuring that working caregivers have basic support and assistance to care for their aging loved one, it would enable more of our seniors to age at home.

This program isn't meant to cover a stay in a long-term care facility like a nursing home or an assisted living home. Instead, it could help pay for a home care aide for a couple of hours, transportation to adult day care or adult day health, or chore and homemaking services. This program will help make long-term care for our kūpuna more affordable and provide the helping hand caregivers so desperately need.

Supporting home caregiving means Hawai'i can honor the wishes of our seniors, improve their health outcomes, and reduce the cost of long-term care for both family caregivers and the state.

Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice Hawai'i Appleseed is committed to a more socially just Hawai'i, where everyone has genuine opportunities to achieve economic security and fulfill their potential. We change systems that perpetuate inequality and injustice through policy development, advocacy, and coalition building.



CARING ACROSS GENERATIONS

**Chair Dee Morikawa
Vice Chris Todd
House Committee on Human Services**

March 17, 2017

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 534 SD2 RELATING TO KUPUNA CARE

My name is Pedro Haro, and I wish to testify on behalf of Caring Across Generations in strong support of Senate Bill 534, Senate Draft 2.

Caring Across Generations is a national movement of families, caregivers, people with disabilities and aging Americans working to transform the way we care in this country, calling for policy solutions that enable all of us to live and age with dignity and independence. Caring Across Generations has worked with partners in Hawai'i for years in support of legislation that will help make quality long-term care accessible to everyone, and we believe that this bill is an important step toward that goal.

There is little disagreement that the lack of long-term care coverage is a critical issue facing our country. For the vast majority of families without private long term care insurance, the only choices available are to either spend down their life savings in order to qualify for Medicaid, or to rely on unpaid family caregivers. Neither choice is sustainable. In Hawai'i, the issue is even more devastating as our cost of home health care is on average \$10,000 more than on the continental U.S. To adequately meet the care needs of families, and of the direct care workforce, we need new caregiving infrastructure.

Senate Bill 534 and the creation of the Kupuna Caregivers program will provide the needed respite care that our kūpuna caregivers deserve and the support our working families and businesses need. Study after study shows that the value of unpaid, and often under-recognized, family care is astronomical, and when family caregivers are forced to leave the workforce to provide care for an aging loved one, they risk their own retirement security. No one should be forced to choose between earning a living to provide for their family or leaving a job to provide long term care. Our own research showed that 1 in 5 people indicated that they or someone in the household has had to leave a job or the workforce to help care for an aging loved one.

The benefit offered in this legislation will help ensure that aging adults in Hawaii will have access to the care they need, in a setting where they are already comfortable. And, importantly, family members in the workforce will be able to continue working, which improves their economic security and also stabilizes the workforce for business owners.

Care is a universal issue, and anyone in this room who is not currently providing some form of care to a family member has almost certainly done so in the past...or will do so in the future. Caring Across Generations urges this committee to support Senate Bill 534, Senate Draft 2 and help ensure that all families have the support they need to provide the care our kūpuna deserve.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

Pedro Haro
Community Organizer, Hawaii
Caring Across Generations
pedro@caringacross.org

TO : HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES
Rep. Dee Morikawa, Chair
Rep. Chris Todd, Vice Chair

FROM: Eldon L. Wegner, Ph.D.,
Hawaii Family Caregiver Coalition (HFCC)

SUBJECT: SB 534 SD2 Relating to Kupuna Care

HEARING: 9:30 am Friday, March 17, 2017
Conference Room 329, Hawaii State Capitol

POSITION: The Hawaii Family Caregiver Coalition **strongly supports SB 534 SD2** which proposes offering community supports and services to employed family caregivers through benefits available under the Kupuna Care Program and providing an appropriation for this purpose to the Executive Office on Aging.

RATIONALE:

I am offering testimony on behalf of the Hawaii Family Caregiver Coalition (HFCC), which is a coalition of agencies and individuals committed to addressing the needs of family caregivers and improving the ability of family caregivers to provide quality care for their frail and disabled loved ones.

- Family caregivers provide 70% of the care for frail elderly persons and thus bear the major burden and expense of care.
- The majority of family caregivers are also in the workforce and their employment is necessary to support the needs of their families as well as to assure that they will have sufficient social security and savings to support themselves in retirement.
- Research in Hawaii as well as nationally has shown that employed caregivers suffer an extraordinary level of stress in trying to balance the obligations of work and eldercare. Consequently, many employed caregivers have reduced productivity at work and many have to limit their hours or drop out of the workforce due to the demands of caring.
- Employers are also adversely affected by the strains their employees experience due to the difficulty of balancing work and caregiving. Besides lowered productivity, other costs are high absenteeism and the eventual loss of valued employees and the associated costs of having to hire replacements.
- The Kupuna Care Program administered by the Executive Office on Aging through the County AAA's, is a highly successful program in offering home and community services and supports to the frail elderly and disabled. Procedures for securing contracts with service providers, for administering the funds, and for collecting systematic data for monitoring, evaluating and planning, have been developed.

- SB 534 SD2 proposes to provide home and community-based services to employed family caregivers through the Kupuna Care program in order to alleviate some of the burden of care and to enable them to continue their employment. This proposal is a cost-effective way to assist employed caregivers without having to create a new program. At present, few supports for family caregivers are offered through the Kupuna Care program. This bill would extend the Kupuna care benefits to assist employed caregivers.
- By providing a care benefit of \$70 per day, this bill establishes a much needed “care floor,” ensuring that working families would have access to resources to provide care at home. It would allow for support at home with activities of daily living, like hiring home care aides for a few hours or providing transportation services. It may not sound like much to some people, but this sort of respite care is a lifeline for family caregivers!

The Hawaii Family Caregiver Coalition urges passage of SB534 SD2 to address the serious costs of balancing work and caregiving experienced by a significant number of family caregivers as well as by employers of family caregivers.

Thank you for allowing me to offer testimony.

**Chair Dee Morikawa
Vice-Chair Chris Todd
House Committee on Human Services**

March 17, 2016, 9:30 AM, Room 329

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 534, SD2 RELATING TO KUPUNA CARE

Dear Chair Morikawa, Vice-Chair Todd and Members of the Committee,

My name is **Valerie Yontz**, and I am writing to express my support for **SB 534, Senate Draft 2** and the creation of the Kupuna Caregivers program. This bill will provide the needed respite care that our kupuna caregivers deserve and the support our working families and businesses need.

This legislation would create a long-term kupuna caregivers program, which would provide support for working caregivers who also take care of their aging loved ones. Unlike other programs, this bill focuses on providing respite care for working caregivers who typically have no other financial or emotional support. As so many of us know, the desire to spend time caring for our aging parents and grandparents is often in competition with our need to continue participating in the workforce to be able to provide for our families.

By providing a care benefit of \$70 per day, this bill establishes a much needed “care floor,” ensuring that working families would have access to resources to provide care at home. This fund is not meant to cover a stay in a long-term care facility like a nursing home, which we know is often much more expensive than home care. Instead, it would allow for support at home with activities of daily living, like hiring home care aides for a few hours or providing transportation services. It may not sound like much to some people, but this sort of respite care is a lifeline for family caregivers!

I believe that all of us know at least one person who has needed long-term care. As legislators, we have elected you to be leaders to the people of Hawaii, and we are asking you, now, to lead on helping us provide the care our families need.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

Valerie Yontz
677 Auwina Street
Kailua, HI 96734
vyontz@hawaii.edu

todd2 - Chloe

From: Tom Spring <kamakiboing@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 2:20 PM
To: HUSstimony
Subject: Testimony for SB534 for 3/17 hearing at 0930 in Rm. 329

I tried to care for one of my brothers some years ago who needed help with regard to many privacy issues. There were other members of the family who could help. But without them, I would have been severely challenged to maintain a healthy attitude and body in caring for my brother. I support this legislation!! I support the caregivers who do not have the advantages I had. I was lucky!! Many of those others are not so blessed!!

Thomas Spring
3140 Waialae Ave. #323
Honolulu HI 96816
808 735 4726

--

Nature Suite
And we shall pass from this scene
And from this stage called life
Yet the Earth will always be
And her children
The wind, the sky, the land, the sea
Shall ever sing songs of praise to the Creator
Their Nature Suite

todd2 - Chloe

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 9:42 AM
To: HUS testimony
Cc: tjdavies@juno.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB534 on Mar 17, 2017 09:30AM*

SB534

Submitted on: 3/15/2017

Testimony for HUS on Mar 17, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
T.J. Davies	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

todd2 - Chloe

From: Patricia Blair <patriciablair@msn.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 9:15 AM
To: HUS testimony
Subject: Testimony+for+SB+534+hearing+on+March+17+at+9:30pm+in+Room+329

I support. Please pass. Patricia Blair, Kailua

Sent from my iPad

todd2 - Chloe

From: balihai7 <balihai7@hawaii.rr.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 8:55 AM
To: HUS testimony
Subject: Testimony+for+SB+534+hearing+on+March+17+at+9:30pm+in+Room+329

Dear Madam/Sir,
Please support the subject bill. Our kupunas cared for us; now it is our time to care for them.
Mahalo,
Lilinoe Smith
Kalaheo, Kauai 96741

This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.
<https://www.avast.com/antivirus>

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

Rep. Dee Morikawa, Chair

Rep. Chris Todd, Vice Chair

Rep. Della Au Belatti

Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro

Rep. Sharon E. Har

Rep. Andria P.L. Tupola

Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair

Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

Re: SB534 Kupuna Caregivers Bill

DATE: Friday, March 17, 2017. TIME: 9:30 AM

PLACE: Conf. Room 329, State Capitol, 415 S. Beretania

Aloha. My name is Steven Mitchell.

During my lifetime in Hawaii, I have been an employee, a business manager, and a business owner. I am here today to ask legislators to please support the Kupuna Caregivers Assistance bill SB534. I know first hand, how much it would mean, to businesspeople, their employees, and to the State of Hawaii.

I address you as one who has gone through this. Most people who have gone through this, are so damaged, depleted, and unhealthy, that they can no longer advocate for themselves, much less for others.

As a caregiver, under duress, without respite, I made poor decisions that cost me and the state of Hawaii hundreds of thousands of dollars.

I closed a business, shut down 3 stores, laid off 15 people, and stopped a cash flow that paid the State excise taxes, employment taxes, and income taxes. I was a business owner under duress, with no respite. I failed to take care of myself, ballooning to almost 300 pounds, endangering my health and my very life. The expense to the State would definitely be high, and unnecessarily premature.

As little as \$70 a day for family caregivers to hire trained home aides for respite, will pay for itself. As responsible family caregivers, our desire to care for our loved ones causes us to make irresponsible decisions, and do irreparable harm to our selves, our families, and the state revenue stream.

As Caregivers, we push ourselves through love, and devotion. We neglect our own needs as we sell our assets and our parents assets, we put our health on the back burner, and we sometimes take on irresponsible levels of debt.

We need to tell ourselves that we have done our best.

Mahalo.

Steven Mitchell

Individual-Retired (808) 352-0306.

Mauinetsteve@gmail.com

S.B. No. 534
An Act Relating to Kupuna Care
Senate Committee on Human Services

Public Hearing – Thursday, March 17, 2017
Time: 9:30 AM
Room Number: Conference Room 329

Testimony in Support of S.B. No. 534 - An Act Relating to Kupuna Care

Good Afternoon Chair Morikawa, Vice Chair Todd and fellow members of the Human Services Committee. My name is Chad Cambra and I am currently obtaining my Gerontological Masters of Social Work at the University of Hawaii's, Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work.

I am in support of S.B. No. 534. With Hawaii's growing number of seniors, it's become ever more difficult for families to provide adequate care. As a grandchild, I witnessed the importance of familial care in providing for my grandparents. When my sister graduated college, she took upon the responsibility to aid and care for our Grandparents. She did so not under obligation, but for the simple fact that they were family, they raised us and deserved to be cared for in their final years. For several years, my sister postponed her career goals to take care of family, forgoing her own financial health. If S.B. No. 534 is passed, the State of Hawaii can provide much needed support to Hawaii's caregiver, who sacrifice their own financial health to provide much needed caregiving services.

Like many other children or grandchildren of Hawaii, we owe a great deal to our Seniors. Caregivers are willing to sacrifice themselves and provide crucial services to seniors in their late life. These caregivers are deserving of this financial stipend and more. This program can assist caregivers in providing care for a senior and provide a small measure of relief.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Chad Jason Cambra
95-1252 Lililehua St.
Mililani, HI 96789

**House Committee on Human Services
Dee Morikawa, Chair
Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair**

March 15, 2017

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB534 SD2 RELATING TO KUPUNA CARE

Dear Chair Morikawa and Vice Chair Kobayashi,

My name is Henry W. Leung and I am a graduate student at UH Mānoa. I am writing to testify in strong support of Senate Bill 534.

This bill, and the creation of the Kupuna Caregivers program, will provide a breakthrough intervention in what is increasingly becoming a crisis in homecare for our elders, both regionally and nationally. Although I have no family in the state of Hawai'i who would immediately benefit from this program, I do have family on the mainland whom I anticipate caring for in the coming years. The state of Hawai'i has an opportunity to be the leader in a nationwide issue which affects all generations of the family. Care is a universal issue.

I hope you will support SB534 SD2 and help our elders to acquire the care that they need and deserve. Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

**Henry W. Leung
2732 Kolo Pl. Apt 304
Honolulu, HI 96826**

todd2 - Chloe

From: Cooper30031941 . <keymastercooper@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 1:53 PM
To: pedro@caringacross.org
Cc: HUSstestimony
Subject: Reference:, The March 17, 2017 Hearing at 09:30 am Room #329 – Papuna Care

Thank You in advance Pedro for making this my supportive letter, heard by one and all.

Grace Cooper

23 Daintry Way

London, E9 5JJ

United Kingdom

Email: grace.cooper5@aol.com

March 15, 2017

To the attention of: Chair Ms. Dee Morikawa

Vice-Chair Mr. Chris Todd

House Committee on Human Services

For March 17, 2016, 9:30 AM, Room 329

pedro@caringacross.org.

Reference:, The March 17, 2017 Hearing at 09:30 am Room #329 – Papuna Care

I the undersigned, Grace M. Cooper, herein submit my personal testimonial in support of SB-534, relating to Kupuna caring.

I personally took care of my parents who in her late years, my mother severely suffered with Alzheimer's to a point whereby she no longer recognized any living members of our family, let alone my father (her husband), who himself was then severely suffering and slowly dying from stomach cancer.

My caregiving task was 24/7 thereby making sure that both my parent were constantly and properly looked after. My caring consisted of preparing all their daily meals, changing their diapers, etc. Such family caregiving, forced me to resign from the Maui Police Dept. work I had, where I had been employed for over 7 years as an Animal Control Officer. There was no such thing back then in receiving any type of government support relating to Kupuna caring, for those like myself, or anyone else for that fact that practically labored non-stop in making sure that both my parents were constantly looked after till the day they each passed away.

I speak only for myself and fully support this Kupuna caring issue. I am presently in England with my British husband who through the British medical system has made financial provisions if and when such a repeated involvement would require my non-stop looking after him, or even if I were to need such caregiving.

Like I said, I speak only from my personal experience, however we know that a time will come, whereby those less fortunate without insurance, nor funds to have their dearest love ones enjoy the constant care that retirement homes provide, will become the designated parties, who just like I became in past, equally become the nominated person whose family love possessing angel's hands is called upon as a caregiving individual. Recognition of those whose dedication is without a doubt a most honourable act needs to be acknowledged by this committee.

Thank you Panel for your kind attention re; my support of the Kopuna project.

I respectfully remain,

Grace M. Cooper

**Chair Dee Morikawa
Vice-Chair Chris Todd
House Committee on Human Services**

March 17, 2016, 9:30 AM, Room 329

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 534, SD2 RELATING TO KUPUNA CARE

Dear Chair Morikawa, Vice-Chair Todd and Members of the Committee,

My name is Hannah Anae, and I am writing to express my support for **SB 534, Senate Draft 2** and the creation of the Kupuna Caregivers program. This bill will provide the needed respite care that our kupuna caregivers deserve and the support our working families and businesses need.

This legislation would create a long-term kupuna caregivers program, which would provide support for working caregivers who also take care of their aging loved ones. Unlike other programs, this bill focuses on providing respite care for working caregivers who typically have no other financial or emotional support. As so many of us know, the desire to spend time caring for our aging parents and grandparents is often in competition with our need to continue participating in the workforce to be able to provide for our families.

By providing a care benefit of \$70 per day, this bill establishes a much needed “care floor,” ensuring that working families would have access to resources to provide care at home. This fund is not meant to cover a stay in a long-term care facility like a nursing home, which we know is often much more expensive than home care. Instead, it would allow for support at home with activities of daily living, like hiring home care aides for a few hours or providing transportation services. It may not sound like much to some people, but this sort of respite care is a lifeline for family caregivers!

My mother is 71 and father 76. Both parents will be in need of 24-hour care soon. My work schedule and way of subsistence prevents me from being present for them on a 24-hour basis. I believe that all of us know at least one person who has needed long-term care. As legislators, we have elected you to be leaders to the people of Hawaii, and we are asking you, now, to lead on helping us provide the care our families need.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

**Hannah Anae
53549 Kamehameha Hwy, Apt 305
Hau‘ula, Hawai‘i 96717**

From: afiller@twc.com
To: [HUSTestimony](#)
Subject: *****SPAM***** Testimony SB534, SD2
Date: Thursday, March 16, 2017 8:03:49 AM
Importance: High

TESTIMONEY IN SUPPORT OF SB 534 SD2
RELATING TO KUPUNA CARE

To: Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair, Committee on Human Services, and
Committee Members
Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair, Committee on Health, and Committee
Members

Hearing Date: Friday, March 17, 2017, 9:30 a.m.; CR 329

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in strong support of SB 534 SD2, Relating to Kupuna Care. My name is Anna Filler and I retired two years ago at the age of 75. I was a caretaker for my father who passed away at the age 97. I first retired at the age of 62 and worked several temporary jobs to help take care of my father which I shared with my younger sister.

This bill will provide funds to help caregivers pay for a home health care worker when a family caregiver is not available. It is a difficult decision for a caregiver to leave a full time job or reduce work hours to care for an aging family member.

Kupuna Care program requests funds for a pilot program to help working caregivers provide care for their elder family members.

I urge you to support Hawaii's growing senior population by supporting SB 534 SD2.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to submit my testimony in support of SB 534 SD2

Anna Filler
Email: afiller@twc.com
Kakaako/Senate District 12

To: House Joint Committees on Human Services and Health

Chairs Dee Morikawa and Della Belatti

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Room: 329

RE: SB534, SD2 RELATING TO KUPUNA CARE

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of SB534 Relating to Aging. My name is Linda Dorset and I am a concerned aging resident and live in the Wailuku area. To reiterate what I said before, the passage of this bill is important to me because I am anticipating a time when I may have to quit working in order to take care of my husband who has lung cancer. This appropriation would allow me to get services to help with the activities of daily living so I could continue to work to support us. I know there are many others with the same concerns.

Please allow this bill to move forward out of committee with the appropriation intact.

Mahalo

March 16, 2017 9:30 A.M.
Conference Room 329

Committee on Human Services

To:
Rep. Dee Morikawa, Chair
Rep. Chris Todd, Vice Chair
Esteemed Members of the House of Representatives

From:
Xotchil Sueoka
Student University of Hawaii at Manoa

Re: SB 534 SD2 – Testimony in Support

My Name is Xotchil Sueoka, I am currently a student at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. I'm a third-generation Japanese American and lived in Hawaii my entire life. I realized the true price we pay for living in paradise, when the health of my grandfather a WWII veteran and a member of 442 battalion began to deteriorate. It started slow, but eventually for his safety and others, we decided grandpa should not drive anymore. He lost that simple freedom that most of us take for granted.

Like most people my age I was working while putting myself through school and my father was working full time. We help as much as we could, spending time with grandpa and taking him to the doctor. But we were not ready for that day he slipped in the bathtub. It was at that time we realized we had to move him to a facility where he could be taken care of. Unfortunately, only place we could afford was a care home in Ewa. I'm ashamed to say that the conditions weren't ideal and we later found that the treatment my grandfather received was negligible at best. How could we have let grandpa, a man that had already done so much for not only our family but our country, live out his golden years like this?

We moved him from that care home to a more suitable establishment but it wasn't too much longer before he had to be moved to hospice care.

Given the impairments that grandpa had, he would have been considered a prime candidate. The bill states that a patient qualifies for coverage if they have impairments of at least; one activity of daily living and one instrumental activity of daily living. In his case the impaired activities were, not able to bathe, utilize transportation, perform light or heavy housework, or shopping for personal items.

Had the Kupuna Caregivers Program been in place we would've been able to keep him in the place he and grandma made into a home. A familiar and safe place to live out his golden years. I urge you to support SB 534 S.D. 2 and thank you for the opportunity to testify.

From: [Amelia Jodar](#)
To: [HUS testimony](#)
Cc: [Amelia Jodar](#)
Subject: Testimony for SB 534 hearing on March 17 at 9:30pm in Room 329
Date: Thursday, March 16, 2017 7:19:05 AM

Aloha,

My name is Amelia Jodar, and I am writing to express my support for SB 534 and the creation of the Kupuna Caregivers program. This bill will provide the needed respite care that our kupuna caregivers deserve and the support our working families and businesses need.

This legislation would create a long-term kupuna caregivers program, which would provide support for working caregivers who also take care of their aging loved ones. Unlike other programs, this bill focuses on providing respite care for working caregivers who typically have no other financial or emotional support. As so many of us know, the desire to spend time caring for our aging parents and grandparents is often in competition with our need to continue participating in the workforce to be able to provide for our families.

By providing a care benefit of \$70 per day, this bill establishes a much needed “care floor,” ensuring that working families would have access to resources to provide care at home. This fund is not meant to cover a stay in a long-term care facility like a nursing home, which we know is often much more expensive than home care. Instead, it would allow for support at home with activities of daily living, like hiring home care aides for a few hours or providing transportation services. It may not sound like much to some people, but this sort of respite care is a lifeline for family caregivers!

I believe that all of us know at least one person who has needed long-term care. As legislators, we have elected you to be leaders to the people of Hawaii, and we are asking you, now, to lead on helping us provide the care our families need.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,
Amelia G. Jodar
870238 Hakimo Rd.,
Waianae HI 96792

From: [Michael Zentz](#)
To: [HUS testimony](#)
Subject: Re: Testimony in support of SB 534
Date: Thursday, March 16, 2017 7:04:03 AM

Good morning,

I would like to submit testimony in support of SB 534, for the hearing on March 17, 2017, at 9:30AM, Room 329.

My name is Michael Zentz, I am a 37 year old Veteran of the US Army, resident of Kaneohe, and a graduate student in the University of Hawaii American Studies Department. As both a proud veteran and concerned citizen I often feel compelled to stand up for those of our fellow citizens who make our country great yet are often relegated to the shadows of our society. Today I would like to speak on behalf of two groups, our beloved Kapuna and those service workers who often take care of our Kapuna in their most needed time. Both groups deserve our communities' highest regards yet too often our Kapuna and their caregivers lead indignified lives, the former to feel like burden on their already stressed and stretched families, the latter relegated to feel underpaid and underrepresented and all too often over worked.

This bill would be a small effort on behalf of the state of Hawaii to make a positive impact on not only the lives of our Kapuna, their families, and their caregivers, but also further highlight our society's awareness of the problems they each face.

Once our Kapuna reach the age of retirement they deserve to live out the rest of their days with dignity and as much care and comfort as we all can provide. Their caregivers too, in most cases working unpopular jobs with lower than deserving pay, also deserve our upmost respect so that they too can lead dignified lives and care for their families as well. Nobody is against this, certainly not the Hawaii Senate, yet I understand that we must not add too an already over burdened budget. This is why I feel that this bill will serve all of our interests by lowering burdens on families, providing vouchers to ease the burden of paying for their care, while making a small but substantial step towards ensuring there are funds to provide a good living wage for those that care for them. The effects this bill will have on our community, although initially at a small cost to Hawaiian taxpayers, will save money for everyone in the long term. By providing this modest voucher to qualified Kapuna and their caregivers, we will be lowering the burden of costs on individual families, healthcare providers, and even our already over burdened Emergency Rooms where, sadly, many of our Kapuna seek care when it may be too late to help them. Not only will costs be lowered for those carrying the biggest burdens, but stress will be lowered and overall happiness will be raised! This really is a Win, Win, Win!

Please support the passage and funding of this bill which would so positively impact our community!

Mahalo and Aloha,
Michael Zentz

On Thu, Mar 16, 2017 at 6:33 AM, Michael Zentz <zentzmd@hawaii.edu> wrote:

Good morning,

I would like to submit testimony in support of SB 534, for the hearing on March 17, 2017, at 9:30AM, Room 329.

My name is Michael Zentz, I am a 37 year old Veteran of the US Army, resident of Kaneohe, and a graduate student in the University of Hawaii American Studies Department. As both a proud veteran and concerned citizen I often feel compelled to stand up for those of our fellow citizens who make our country great yet are often relegated to the shadows of our society. Today I would like to speak on behalf of two groups, our beloved Kapuna and those service workers who often take care of our Kapuna in their most needed time. Both groups deserve our communities' highest regards yet too often our Kapuna and their caregivers lead indignified lives, the former to feel like burden on their already stressed and stretched families, the latter relegated to feel underpaid and underrepresented and all too often over worked.

todd2 - Chloe

From: Louise To <louise.y.to@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 11:31 AM
To: HUSstestimony
Subject: Testimony for SB 534 hearing on March 17 at 9:30am in Room 329

Chair Dee Morikawa
Vice-Chair
Chris Todd
House Committee on Human Services

March 17, 2016, 9:30 AM, Room 329
TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 534, SD2 RELATING TO KUPUNA CARE

Dear Chair Morikawa, Vice-Chair Todd and Members of the Committee,

My name is Louise To. I was born and raised here in Honolulu. My father passed away in June of 2014. Before he passed at the age of 73, my mother, brother, and I acted as his caregivers. My mother had to continue working as a sales associate for Maui Divers Jewelry while caring for my father because her manager, at the time, framed it as though she would put the company in a bad position if she took time off. And this was also after her manager said she needed to resign if she wanted to take time off to care for my father. This was extremely manipulative, messed up, and not to mention, illegal according to the Family and Medical Leave Act, but for the sake of keeping her job and a good relationship with her manager, my mother kept to her schedule. It was exhausting and soul crushing. My brother and I helped out as much as possible, but I felt incredibly helpless watching my mother push through sleepless nights of caregiving and full work days.

It is for this reason that I express my support for SB 534, Senate Draft 2 and the creation of the Kupuna Caregivers program. This bill will provide the needed respite care that our kupuna caregivers deserve and the support our working families need. This legislation would create a long-term kupuna caregivers program, which would provide support for working caregivers who also take care of their aging loved ones.

The desire to spend time caring for our aging parents and grandparents is often in competition with our need to continue participating in the workforce to be able to provide for our families. By providing a care benefit of \$70 per day, this bill establishes a much needed "care floor," ensuring that working families would have access to resources to provide care at home. My grandmother is currently rehabilitating after a stroke at Hale Nani in Makiki. Every time I visit her, she tells me she wants to go home, but I can only sadly look down and say, "I'm sorry, but we can't give you the support you need if you're at home alone and we're all at work." SB 534 would allow for support at home with activities of daily living, like hiring home care aides for a few hours or providing transportation services. This may not sound like a lot to some, but for those who know the true hardship of caregiving would know how much relief this could provide. As legislators, we have elected you to be leaders to the people of Hawai'i, and we are asking you, now, to lead on helping us provide the care our families need. Thank you for considering my testimony.

Aloha,
Louise Y. To
1335 Wilder Ave Apt 304
Honolulu HI 96822
(808) 428-6091

**Chair Dee Morikawa
Vice-Chair Chris Todd
House Committee on
Human Services**

March 17, 2017

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB534, SD2 RELATING TO KUPUNA CARE

Dear Chair Morikawa, Vice-Chair Todd and Members of the Committee,

My name is Roseanne Sakamoto. I strongly support SB534, Senate Draft 2 and the creation of the Kupuna Caregivers program. This bill will provide the needed respite care for our kupuna caregivers and provide help to our kupuna.

Overcoming day care costs is a major concern for many caregivers. It is not always affordable, despite the caregiver working. Many caregivers favor having their loved ones attend day care, where their safety is looked after, but day care facilities continue to shutter their doors for lack of attendance due to affordability.

As our legislators, we have elected you to be leaders to the people of Hawaii, and I am appreciative to those that drafted this bill. Helping the caregiver help our elders at their most fragile and vulnerable stage in life matters. Our elders matter. I ask that you pass HB607 to provide the care families in Hawaii need.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,
Roseanne Sakamoto
P.O. Box 142
Kahuku, Hawaii 96731

Chair Dee Morikawa
Vice-Chair Chris Todd
House Committee on Human Services

March 17, 2016, 9:30 AM, Room 329

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 534, SD2 RELATING TO KUPUNA CARE

Dear Chair Morikawa, Vice-Chair Todd and Members of the Committee,

My name is Beth Hoban, and I am writing to express my support for SB 534, Senate Draft 2 and the creation of the Kupuna Caregivers program. This bill will provide the needed respite care that our kupuna caregivers deserve and the support our working families and businesses need.

This legislation would create a long-term kupuna caregivers program, which would provide support for working caregivers who also take care of their aging loved ones. Unlike other programs, this bill focuses on providing respite care for working caregivers who typically have no other financial or emotional support. As so many of us know, the desire to spend time caring for our aging parents and grandparents is often in competition with our need to continue participating in the workforce to be able to provide for our families.

By providing a care benefit of \$70 per day, this bill establishes a much needed “care floor,” ensuring that working families would have access to resources to provide care at home. This fund is not meant to cover a stay in a long-term care facility like a nursing home, which we know is often much more expensive than home care. Instead, it would allow for support at home with activities of daily living, like hiring home care aides for a few hours or providing transportation services. It may not sound like much to some people, but this sort of respite care is a lifeline for family caregivers!

I believe that all of us know at least one person who has needed longterm care. I am a caregiver to my 92 year old mother. Until recently, she was able to ambulate with some assistance but with a recent fracture, she will need my full time attention. I am trying to balance fulltime work and caring for my mother at the same time. I know of others in the same situation, who will need respite care for their kupuna. Providing a resource for these caregivers will offer some quality life for both the kupuna and the caregiver.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

Beth Hoban
45-104 Mahalani Circle
Kaneohe, HI 96744

todd2 - Chloe

From: nihipalim001@hawaii.rr.com
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 11:48 AM
To: HUSstestimony
Subject: SB534

Dear House Human Services Committee:

I am writing in support of SB534 the Kapuna's Caregivers Bill. I was a care giver to my elderly mother until she passed away at age 90. I could only work part time and spent long hours taking care of her. Having help to care for her at my home would have been a blessing. This bill is of critical importance as more and more of our elderly are living longer and family is tasked as primary care givers.

By providing a care benefit of \$70 per day, this bill establishes a much needed "care floor," ensuring that working families would have access to resources to provide care at home. This fund is not meant to cover a stay in a long-term care facility like a nursing home, which we know is often much more expensive than home care. Instead, it would allow for support at home with activities of daily living, like hiring home care aides for a few hours or providing transportation services. It may not sound like much to some people, but this sort of respite care is a lifeline for family caregivers!

Thank you,
Michele Nihipali
54-074 Kamehameha Hwy.
Hauula, HI 96717

Chair Dee Morikawa
Vice-Chair Chris Todd
House Committee on Human Services

March 17, 2017, 9:30 AM, Room 329

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 534, SD2 RELATING TO KUPUNA CARE

Dear Chair Morikawa, Vice-Chair Todd and Members of the Committee,

My name is Clementina Ceria-Ulep and I am the Co-Chair of the Faith Action for Community Equity (FACE) Long-Term Care Taskforce. I am writing to express my support for **SB 534, Senate Draft 2** and the creation of the Kupuna Caregivers program.

This legislation would create the long-term Kupuna Caregivers program, which would provide support for working caregivers who are also taking care of their aging loved ones. Unlike other programs, this bill focuses on providing respite care for working caregivers who typically have no other financial or emotional support. This is important as many caregivers are in the sandwich generation, caring for our aging parents and grandparents while also struggling to continue to work to provide for our families.

By providing a care benefit of \$70 per day, this bill establishes a much needed “care floor,” ensuring that working families would have access to resources to provide care at home. This fund is not meant to cover a stay in a long-term care facility like a nursing home, which we know is often much more expensive than home care. Instead, it would allow for support at home with activities of daily living, like hiring home care aides for a few hours or providing transportation services. It may not sound like much to some people, but this sort of respite care is a lifeline for family caregivers!

I know relatives and friends who have struggled caring for their parents, their own family while at the same time working. As legislators, we have elected you to be leaders to the people of Hawaii, and we are asking you, now, to lead on helping us provide the care our families need. FACE has been working on this issue for 21 years! Let’s make it happen this year!

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

Clementina D. Ceria-Ulep
Clementina D. Ceria-Ulep
211 Hoomalu Street; Pearl City, HI 96782

William Beadle
1720 Ala Moana, 1406A
Honolulu, HI 96815

To: Joint Committees on Human Services and Health, Chairs Dee Morikawa and Della Belatti

Date: March 15, 2017

RE:SB534/SD2

The purpose of this correspondence is to express my **strong support for SB534/SD2**, which provides funding for programs assisting the elderly to age at home rather than in a care facility. I am retired, getting older by the minute and have witnessed friends and families transition from being young and vital to older and frail. When the time comes for me to need assistance in daily living, I hope that I will be cared for in a familiar environment by loved ones, rather than in a profit driven facility by hired employees. While there are many fine elderly care facilities, the cost savings and comfort level of being able to age at home is a far better option both for the individual and society.

For over seventeen years the kupuna care program has provided assistance to those over 60 years of age to age in place. Our elderly population in Hawaii is expanding rapidly and life expectancy is lengthening. There is a greater demand for kupuna care programs than ever before, that is why I am in support of SB534/SD2...we need more resources to serve more people.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my support for SB534/SD2.

Aloha, Bill Beadle

Waikiki

todd2 - Chloe

From: M Markl <ahimsam9@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 8:17 PM
To: HUS testimony
Subject: Testimony for SB 534 hearing on March 17 at 9:30pm in Room 329

Hello:

The following is my comments of my understanding of this bill. In the past I had been a volunteer at a care home plus had another opportunity to spend a little time at another one. Though many care homes might be run efficiently. there was the feeling of having lost their individuality, being an anonymous number, of feeling trapped, being at the end of the road, Their biggest choice might be what flavor of ice cream they want. I have heard from patient(s), that a caregiver had taken their own frustrations physically out on them by pinching or roughhandling and they are afraid to say anything because of repercussions or not having any other options. There is also the possibility of over medicating to keep them quiet or to be less bother to the staff.

I later also worked for a caregiver temporary agency to assist people in their homes who had enough money to pay for such services.

This had a vastly different feeling. In their homes surrounded by familiarity with their lifetime possessions that had meaning to them, they were the star, not just a number. Oftentimes all that is needed is some help with bathing, some meals, few chores & some conversation. This approach keeps peoples dignity to the end.

Oftentimes the hard workers and dutiful ones have worked much harder in their life than what they got paid for usually end up in a care home. Imagine if it was you, and you were carted off to a care home where you could not take many of your meaningful possessions because of lack of space, or go to a special outing that had meaning to you or an occasional movie and instead were always on someone else's generic schedule. I imagine it would be a feeling of despair, that one's spirit was trapped and just counting time, no longer supported to have a say in having a life that is meaningful to oneself. I have a friend in this exact situation in that all they need is to have someone check in with them for a little time each day and help them with a few basic tasks that would make an enormous difference but cannot afford to pay an agency. PLEASE pass this bill now whether you are hearing it and continue to speak to the decision makers who will affect whether the final years have meaning or loses their individuality and spirit and becomes an anonymous number because they did not have the money to afford private care.

todd2 - Chloe

From: Vicki Franco <vicki.franco@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 8:48 PM
To: HUS testimony
Subject: SD 534, SD2 Kupuna Care Friday, March 17, 2017, Conf Rm 329

The House

Committees on Human Services and Health

Friday, March 17, 2017

9:30 a.m.

Conference Room 329

RE: SB 534, SD 2 RELATING TO KUPUNA CARE

To: Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair

Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair

I am a member of AARP in Hawaii. AARP advocates and provides information on issues that matter to our kupuna and their families, including affordable, accessible, quality health care, financial resiliency, and livable communities.

I **strongly support** SB 534, SD2 which establishes a program that supports working caregivers who struggle to care for their loved ones while holding down their jobs and other personal responsibilities.

This proposed program provides a care benefit of \$70 per day which will allow families to obtain services such as home care or adult day care that will safely supervise a family member at home or in a community setting. This is much less expensive than a nursing home which costs \$141,000 annually (private room rate).

AARP fully supports this program which will assist Hawaii's 154,000 caregivers whom many are still in the workforce, continue to care for our kupuna in their homes and communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Victoria Franco

Manoa Resident

TO: Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair – Committee on Human Services
Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair - Committee on Health

DATE: Friday, March 17, 2017
TIME: 9:30 AM
PLACE: Conference Room 329

Re: SB 534, SD2 Relating to Kupuna Care

Position: Support

Dear Representative Morikawa, Representative Belatti, and Committee Members,

I am writing to support SB 534, SD 2 to create a Kupuna Caregivers program.

As a physician, there are times when patients delay their own health care and needs because they are too busy taking care of their elders or family to come in for their own care. Working mothers put aside their own needs to care for their children and their parents.

As a caregiver for my parents, I experience the emotional and physical stresses placed on families who are doing their best to provide the love and support our parents deserve. Please help us, the caregivers, by providing a little more support, so we can create and enjoy our final moments of joy with our loved ones.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Goto, M.D.



January 8, 2017 | 🌤️ 64° | 🚗 Check Traffic

Editorial | Island Voices

Caregivers need the help of legislators

By Dr. Cynthia Goto

Posted January 08, 2017

January 8, 2017

I watch my parents with a deep sadness as the sun sets on their long and useful lives. My mother, 85, once a nurse, has just joined my father, 95, once a doctor, on the terrible journey with Alzheimer's. I used to be a partner in my father's OB/GYN practice. Now I am a partner in helping my parents manage the pain of their decline. I feel lucky that as a doctor, I can make a significant contribution to overseeing their care.

My father's hospice services are covered by Medicare. Their ongoing daily care is not — and it is expensive. Fortunately they can still afford to pay for 24 hour caregiving assistance.

I often wonder how other families manage. I hope our legislators are wondering too. Every one of our elected representatives must have someone in their immediate or extended family who is struggling with caring for their aging loved ones. Self-interest, if not a sense of moral urgency, should prompt legislators to begin to address the growing challenge of seniors unable to fend for themselves.

Some will say that we should not look to the government to solve all our problems; that we should each plan for our later years. And they are right. But life is neither simple nor predictable. The people left coping with life's surprises are more often than not, the women of the family.

Among my patients and my friends and family, I see many other women in my situation: struggling with the emotional toll of caring for their elders.

For many, the toll is also financial, as they cut short their careers and deplete their savings, trying to do what is best for their family members.

As they become consumed by the demands of caregiving, I see how they juggle the multiple roles that fall to women, taking on more and more while doing less and less

to care for themselves.

Patients will tell me they cannot come to an appointment, for instance, because the grandchildren have just been left in their care. Women are the connectors that bring and hold families together. They provide a largely invisible, and not fully acknowledged infrastructure for family cohesion for which they are not compensated financially. The more stress we put on that family infrastructure, the more fragmented and insecure families become.

This is a societal problem, not just an individual challenge. Sooner or later, each of us will face that challenge.

As a community, we have not done a good enough job of anticipating the needs of seniors. But it is never too late to start. Let's not let the perfect be the enemy of the good.

Legislators can start by creating some form of public assistance so that family caregivers — most of them women — get some respite from their labor of love. Neighbors can offer a ride to the hospital. Friends can bring a hot meal. Family members can take turns carrying out the multitude of little tasks that help keep things humming. It takes a village.

Involve the seniors wherever possible. This Christmas, I had my mother help me fold napkins for the table. I asked if there was anything missing in the preparations. "Yes," she said. "Candles. We always have candles." So my nephew went in search of candles. On another occasion my mother asked me who I was. When I said my name, she responded: "I have a daughter by that name."

We take each day as it comes, the tears along with the joy of catching a glimpse of our loved ones in the shell of the persons we now care for. We can do more to help alleviate the pain. I pray legislators appreciate the urgency and take that first step forward.

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todd2 - Chloe

From: Robert H Stiver <bobfromoahu@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 11:15 PM
To: HUS testimony
Subject: Testimony in Support of SB 534, SD 2, Relating to Kupuna Care

For Chair Dee Morikawa, Vice-Chair Chris Todd, and Members of the Committee on Human Services

I write in unequivocal support of SB 534, Senate Draft 2, which will be deliberated on Friday. Please support it equally in your positions as legislators and leaders of our Hawaiian community.

I am told that an op-ed by me will appear in tomorrow's (Thursday's) Honolulu Star-Advertiser. I commend it to you.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Robert H. Stiver, 98-434 Hoomailani Street, Pearl City 96782

todd2 - Chloe

From: Joei R. Gomez <joei@hawaii.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 11:40 PM
To: HUSstestimony
Subject: Testimony in support of SB 534

Testimony in support of SB 534, for the hearing on March 17, 2017, at 9:30AM, Room 329

Dear Chair Morikawa, Vice-Chair Todd and Members of the Committee,

My name is Joei R. Gomez, and I want to show my support for SB 534.

I am not at this moment affected by the need to take care of an elder loved one; however, I do know people who are. Observing and hearing their stories convinces me that something needs to be done to aid them. We should do our best to decrease circumstances where people need to put their own lives on hold in order for them to take care of someone they love.

In addition, the kupuna deserve dignity and the option to be with their family; but, family members should not become full-time caregivers. They should not have to leave the workforce or risk their own health when trying to take care of someone. People should do their best for their love ones; but, people have limitations and need help from professionals. With the Kupuna Caregivers program, families can be given some relief, and better attention can be given to kupuna.

We must consider that trained professionals can also identify other problems that untrained caregivers are not able to do. For instance, if a kupuna is suffering from depression or some other ailment, their loved ones may not recognize or may want to believe that their parent or grandparent is struggling with an unidentified problem. Besides providing respite, we can better assist kupuna and their needs with this program. Please consider that we can potentially resolve or prevent additional issues that may plague the the elderly. Taking account of all this, I believe this bill is a significant move for the well being for all of our ohana. For all of our families, I humbly ask for your support for this bill.

Thank you for your consideration and your time.

Joei R. Gomez
95-1079 Koolani Dr. Apt 310
Mililani, HI 96789

Mahalo,
Joei R. Gomez

Joei R. Gomez
Pre-Business :: University of Hawaii at Manoa

www.linkedin.com/in/joeigomez
www.joeig.com

"A good laugh makes a good day."

todd2 - Chloe

From: Mary Weir <mary.e.weir@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 9:09 AM
To: HUS testimony
Subject: Testimony for SB 534 hearing on March 17 at 9:30pm in Room 329

Testimony in support of SB534

My name is Mary Weir, and I am in support of SB534 and creation of the Kupuna Caregivers Program. This program will help make long-term care of our kupuna more affordable and provide the helping hand caregivers so desperately need.

I urge you to pass SB534 to support our working caregivers who care for their loved ones at home.

Mahalo,
Mary Weir
mary.e.weir@gmail.com

todd2 - Chloe

From: Darlene R <darlene.rodrigues@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 9:04 AM
To: HUS testimony
Subject: Testimony in support of SB 534, SD2

Chair Dee Morikawa
Vice-Chair Chris Todd
House Committee on Human Services
March 17, 2017 9:30 AM, Room 329

Testimony in support of SB534, SD2 Relating to Kupuna Care

My name is Darlene Rodrigues, and I write in strong support of **SB534, Senate Draft 2**. I am the primary caregiver for my 86 year old mother who is living with Dementia and Alzheimer's. For the past nine years since my mother's diagnosis, I have done so willingly because I was taught growing up in Hawai'i to take care of family. Starting on this journey with my mother, I anticipated that the physical and emotional burden of caring for someone living with Dementia and Alzheimer's would be hard to bear at times. What I did not anticipate or fully expect was the financial burden that caring for her would entail. I have gone from working at a full-time job to piecing together part-time jobs as my mother's health declines, requiring more of my time to maintain her daily life.

This bill would allow someone like myself a better chance for gainful employment while still caring for my mother at our family home. This bill would mean that our family would be able to hire someone to be with her after daycare so that I could make my way through traffic from town to Mililani without worrying that she would be alone or if she would be fed dinner. Passing this bill would mean that we could hire someone on a Saturday to be with her so that I could enjoy having a weekend. The passage of this bill would increase my chances of being able to save money for retirement, pay into social security, medicare and pay taxes to contribute to my future welfare and the welfare of others. I do not want to be a burden to society when I reach my mother's age. What is proposed is much needed financial relief for the 150,000 caregivers who do our duty willingly. Please show some aloha to those caring for our kupuna. Caring for our kupuna should feel like the honor and privilege that it is and not a horrible burden that it can become.

Passing this bill would show that we honor and value what caregivers do, that Hawai'i honors cherishing our kupuna.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.
Sincerely,
Darlene Rodrigues
94-338 Ulukoa St.
Mililani, HI 96789

Aloha Chair Morikawa, Vice Chair Todd, Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Kobayashi and committee members.

I am a senior citizen and a resident of House District 19 (your district, Rep Kobayashi) and Senate District 9. I am a member of AARP, Kokua Council, the Hawaii Alliance of Retired Americans and the Legislative Committee of PABEA.

I'm testifying in strong support of SB534, SD2 to establish the Kupuna Caregivers Program. This program would enable working caregivers to receive a modest sum and hopefully avoid having to make the decision to leave the workforce in order to stay home to care for a loved one. The typical unpaid caregiver in Hawaii is a woman in her 50's, who is employed outside the home and must balance her family, her job and the care of a loved one. Some give up their jobs in order to provide that care. This leaves them vulnerable with respect to their own retirement planning and savings.

Please approve funding for SB534,SD2 to help these caregivers provide for their loved ones without sacrificing their own futures.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Barbara J. Service

Hearing for March 17, 2017. 9:30 am

Good Morning, Human Services and Health Committee Members,

My name is Rosaly Fisher, and I am a student in the Myron B. Thompson school of social work at UH Manoa. This testimony is in reference to bill SB. NO 534, relating to Kupuna care. I support this bill because Kupuna care is an important issue because of the fast growing population needing the care. These baby boomers, are most likely being taken care of by family members who may not necessarily know what this responsibility entails. These care givers are working class citizens who have their own lives and families who need to be taken care of. However, now they have an obligation to take care of their kupuna. This means taking of work to take their kupuna to doctors appointments, as well as paying for expensive medicines, or treatments. I personally have witness how being a caregiver can have a toll on a person not only financially but emotionally as well. This bill is offering a solution to the burden of the caregivers as well as helping boom this job market.

If this bill were passed, it would provide a solid infrastructure, which would allow us to focus on other ways to make our kupuna as well as their families lives better. Please consider supporting this bill, as it would be the foundation for change in the lives of many of our Hawaiian families. Thank you very much for your time today, and I hope you can help make a change.

Sincerely,

Rosaly Fisher

March 16, 2017

Hearing Date : March 17, 2017

House Committee on Human Services, Rep. Dee Morikawa, Chair

RE: SB534,SD2 - Relating to Kupuna Care

Most distinguished Chair Morikawa and Members of the Committees:

I STRONGLY SUPPORT SB534,SD2

AND request the members of the Committee on Human Services recommend the establishment of a Kupuna Caregiver Program.

As the Hawaii population ages, there is an intrinsic need for caregivers. In-home care with caregivers vs. assisted or nursing care is preferred by seniors...and in fact is a cost saving benefit for the individual and the state.

A majority of caregivers in Hawaii are family members with jobs. Seniors have needs during all hours of the day. Contracted workers are needed to fill this need. A \$70 voucher system, as proposed by HB 607, administered by the State's Office on Aging, is needed.

These facts of Senior Living in Hawaii are constant:

- Hawaii's life expectancy is longer than any other state
- Assisted-Living care costs increase annually
- Current family-caregivers who are working need to remain healthy and on the job.

There is a real need to support the Kupuna Caregiver Program.

Please vote affirmatively on SB534.SD2 to allow the successful 'Aging in Place' of Hawaii Seniors. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Olah
Honolulu Resident

todd2 - Chloe

From: Kristen Mowrey <kmowrey47@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 8:23 AM
To: HUS testimony
Subject: Testimony+for+SB+534+hearing+on+March+17+at+9:30pm+in+Room+329

Chair Dee Morikawa
Vice-Chair Chris Todd
House Committee on Human Services

March 17, 2016, 9:30 AM, Room 329

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 534, SD2 RELATING TO KUPUNA CARE

Dear Chair Morikawa, Vice-Chair Todd and Members of the Committee,

My name is Kristen A. Mowrey and I am writing to express my support for **SB 534, Senate Draft 2** and the creation of the Kupuna Caregivers program. This bill will provide the needed respite care that our kupuna caregivers deserve and the support our working families and businesses need.

This legislation would create a long-term kupuna caregivers program, which would provide support for working caregivers who also take care of their aging loved ones. Unlike other programs, this bill focuses on providing respite care for working caregivers who typically have no other financial or emotional support. As so many of us know, the desire to spend time caring for our aging parents and grandparents is often in competition with our need to continue participating in the workforce to be able to provide for our families.

By providing a care benefit of \$70 per day, this bill establishes a much needed “care floor,” ensuring that working families would have access to resources to provide care at home. This fund is not meant to cover a stay in a long-term care facility like a nursing home, which we know is often much more expensive than home care. Instead, it would allow for support at home with activities of daily living, like hiring home care aides for a few hours or providing transportation services. It may not sound like much to some people, but this sort of respite care is a lifeline for family caregivers!

I believe that all of us know at least one person who has needed long-term care. As legislators, we have elected you to be leaders to the people of Hawaii, and we are asking you, now, to lead on helping us provide the care our families need.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

Kristen A. Mowrey LMHC

todd2 - Chloe

From: Wyatt Bartlett <wybart4@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 8:18 AM
To: HUS testimony
Subject: Testimony for SB 534 hearing on March 17 at 9:30pm in Room 329

Chair Dee Morikawa
Vice-Chair Chris Todd
House Committee on Human Services

March 17, 2016, 9:30 AM, Room 329
TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 534, SD2 RELATING TO KUPUNA CARE

Dear Chair Morikawa, Vice-Chair Todd and Members of the Committee,

My name is Wyatt Bartlett, and I am writing to express my support for **SB 534, Senate Draft 2** and the creation of the Kupuna Caregivers program. This bill will provide needed support for our kupuna caregivers and working families.

This legislation would create a long-term kupuna caregivers program, which would provide support for working caregivers who also take care of their aging loved ones. Unlike other programs, this bill focuses on providing respite care for working caregivers who typically have no other financial or emotional support. As so many of us know, the desire to spend time caring for our aging parents and grandparents is often in competition with our need to continue participating in the workforce to be able to provide for our families.

Here in Hawaii, our aging population continues to grow at a rapid rate. This bill will help to offset the cost that many families are taking on their shoulders to provide quality care for their kupuna in their homes.

By providing a care benefit of \$70 per day, this bill establishes a much needed “care floor,” ensuring that working families would have access to resources to provide care at home. This fund is not meant to cover a stay in a long-term care facility like a nursing home, which we know is often much more expensive than home care. Instead, it would allow for support at home with activities of daily living, like hiring home care aides for a few hours or providing transportation services. It may not sound like much to some people, but this sort of respite care is a lifeline for family caregivers!

I believe that all of us know at least one person who has needed long-term care. As legislators, we have elected you to be leaders to the people of Hawaii, and we are asking you, now, to lead on helping us provide the care our families need.

Thank you for considering my testimony. Sincerely,

Wyatt Bartlett

1914 University Ave

#408

Honolulu, HI 96822

Chair Dee Morikawa
Vice-Chair Chris Todd
House Committee on Human Services
Hearing Date: March 17, 2016, 9:30 AM, Room 329

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 534, SD2 RELATING TO KUPUNA CARE

Dear Chair Morikawa, Vice-Chair Todd and Members of the Committee,

My name is Allyson Enos, student at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa, pursuing a Masters degree in Social Work, with a specialization in Gerontology. I am writing to express my strong support for SB 534, Senate Draft 2 and the creation of the Kupuna Caregivers program. This bill will provide the needed respite care that our kupuna caregivers deserve and the support our working families and businesses need. This legislation would create a long-term kupuna caregivers program, which would provide support for working caregivers who also take care of their aging loved ones. Unlike other programs, this bill focuses on providing respite care for working caregivers who typically have no other financial or emotional support. As so many of us know, the desire to spend time caring for our aging parents and grandparents is often in competition with our need to continue participating in the workforce to be able to provide for our families. By providing a care benefit of \$70 per day, this bill establishes a much needed "care floor," ensuring that working families would have access to resources to provide care at home. This fund is not meant to cover a stay in a long-term care facility like a nursing home, which we know is often much more expensive than home care. Instead, it would allow for support at home with activities of daily living, like hiring home care aides for a few hours or providing transportation services.

It may not sound like much to some people, but this sort of respite care is a lifeline for family caregivers! I was very fortunate to be able to take time off from my state employment and become a full-time caregiver for my father, age 75. He was not able to do several of the activities of daily living (ADLs) and instrumental activities of daily living (IADLs) because he was battling stage four lung cancer. Those six months of caring for my father took a toll on my own physical health, mental health, and finances - as I depleted my vacation and sick leave, and was on leave without pay for a few months. Unfortunately my children and my marriage were neglected during this time as well. Therefore, I understand and feel for the current caregivers, who are often family members and by having this care benefit of \$70 per day, would be a tremendous help to them, even if it is just needed respite to prevent caregiver burn out.

I believe that all of us know at least one person who has needed long-term care. As legislators, we have elected you to be leaders to the people of Hawaii, and we are asking you, now, to lead on helping us provide the care our families so desperately need.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

Allyson Enos
52 Gartley Place
Honolulu, HI 96817

Chair Dee Morikawa
Vice-Chair Chris Todd
House Committee on Human Services

Friday, March 17, 2017
9:30 AM
Conference Room 329

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB534 RELATING TO KUPUNA CARE

Dear Chair Morikawa, Vice-Chair Todd and Members of the Committee,

My name is Rosa Blackman, I am writing in support of **SB534** for the creation of the Kupuna Caregivers program. Through this legislative action our communities will receive a much needed support and the recognition for the sacrifices that working families endure as they bravely care for their own. Kupuna Caregivers make our cultural fabric strong as it impacts our whole way of life. **SB534** will make possible the availability of respite care for working caregivers who need the peace of mind and the sense of security that this validation can provide.

As we are mindful of our increasing aging population, and the ever present challenges of our modern family life, the Kupuna Caregivers program can become the buffer to the stress and anxiety of many; like a booster shot of hope. **SB534** can greatly contribute to the mental health and stability of our families and to the safeguarding of our labor force. Because **SB534** lessens the load of caregiving concerns for our working population, its impact on businesses will be immediate by reducing absenteeism from the worker caregiver. It will alleviate employers' worries and make our businesses more productive and competitive in this global economy.

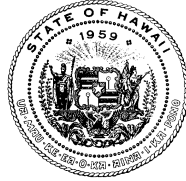
I much enthusiastically urge you to support **SB534** for the protection of our Aloha-responsible way of caring for our family and communities, and to secure the health and welfare of our present and future state.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

Rosa Blackman
1515 Nuuanu Avenue #100
Honolulu, HI 96817

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



LATE

TERRI BYERS
DIRECTOR

VIRGINIA PRESSLER, M.D.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII
EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON AGING
NO. 1 CAPITOL DISTRICT
250 SOUTH HOTEL STREET, SUITE 406
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-2831
eoa@doh.hawaii.gov

Testimony in SUPPORT of SB0534, SD2
Relating to Kupuna Care

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES
REPRESENTATIVE DEE MORIKAWA, CHAIR
REPRESENTATIVE CHRIS TODD, VICE CHAIR

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
REPRESENTATIVE DELLA AU BALATTI, 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 17, 2017,
9:30 a.m.

Room Number: 329

1 **EOA's Position:** The Executive Office on Aging (EOA), an attached agency to the Department
2 of Health supports this measure, provided that its enactment does not reduce or replace priorities
3 within the Administration's budget request.

4 **Fiscal Implications:** This measure appropriates funds for fiscal year 2017-2018 and fiscal year
5 2018-2019.

6 **Purpose and Justification:** As Hawaii's aging population continues to grow, the need for long
7 term services and supports will continue to increase. As stated in Section 1 of the measure,
8 unpaid caregiving is on the rise. Caregiving places burdens on families financially, emotionally
9 and physically which over time leads to chronic stress.

1 SB0534, SD2 establishes the Kupuna Caregiver program, clarifies kupuna care services and
2 supports provided through the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC), amends the
3 Kupuna Care program, Section 349-3.1 to be consistent with the Kupuna Caregiver program, and
4 appropriates funding for the establishment and implementation of the Kupuna Caregivers
5 program. This measure builds upon the ADRC infrastructure and allows caregivers who are
6 employed to remain in the workforce by providing financial assistance of up to \$70 per day to
7 cover costs for transportation and assisted transportation services, personal care services, respite
8 care, adult day care, and chore or homemaker services that would have normally been provided
9 by the caregiver for the care recipient. Eligibility is modeled after the Kupuna Care program with
10 the additional requirement that qualified caregivers must be employed.

11 EOA supports the intent of the bill as we feel it would be a huge step in providing support to
12 caregivers. The funding for the Kupuna Caregiver program is not a part of the Administration's
13 budget request. Should there be a surplus of funds available for these measures, we would be
14 supportive as it is consistent with EOA's goals and objectives.

15 **Recommendations:** EOA respectfully requests your consideration of amendments to be
16 incorporated into the bill. EOA proposes merging the definitions that were included in Section 3,
17 349-3.1 Kupuna Care Program with Section 2, Kupuna Caregiver Program. The purpose is to
18 establish the Kupuna Caregiver program first and then amend the Kupuna Care program as
19 needed for consistency with the establishment of the Kupuna Caregiver program. We are also
20 proposing amendments to the bill to clarify the references in the bill for qualified caregiver and
21 care recipient. The qualified caregiver is the individual who provides care for a care recipient and
22 is employed at least thirty hours per week from one or more employers. The care recipient is the

1 older adult who meets the eligibility requirements as outlined in this bill. Based on these rules
2 and for consistency between the Kupuna Care program and the Kupuna Caregiver program,
3 references to “participants” and “individuals” have been changed to “care recipient.”
4 EOA is also requesting consideration of language to be inserted stating that the office shall
5 establish the Kupuna Caregiver program pending the availability of state funds.
6 Finally, we recommend changing bill text stating that EOA “may adopt rules” to “shall adopt
7 rules” for the Kupuna Caregiver program for consistency with the Kupuna Care program and
8 because the subject matter can be addressed in greater detail through administrative rules.
9 The summary of suggested amendments and formatting of SB534, SD2 is attached for reference.
10 Thank you for considering our suggested amendments and for the opportunity to testify.

THE SENATE
TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE, 2017
STATE OF HAWAII

S.B. NO. 534
S.D. 2

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO KUPUNA CARE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the State must find
2 new ways to accommodate a broader range of home- and community-
3 based long-term care options for Hawaii's rapidly growing
4 elderly population. According to 2015 population data from the
5 department of business, economic development, and tourism, there
6 are 236,914 persons, or 16.5 per cent of the population, 65
7 years and older in Hawaii. The percentage of this population is
8 projected to rise to 19.4 per cent by 2020 and 23 per cent by
9 2030.

10 The legislature further finds that family caregivers play a
11 major role in the State's health care system by providing long-
12 term care to the elderly. According to AARP, there are 154,000
13 unpaid family caregivers in Hawaii, with the average caregiver
14 being a 62-year-old married woman who cares for an elderly
15 parent or husband while still working. Caregiving for an
16 elderly family member takes a toll on caregivers, and care
17 recipients often worry they will become a burden on family
18 members. Numerous studies show that caregivers report higher

1 levels of psychological distress, and caring for elderly family
2 members over extended periods of time without compensation can
3 lead to chronic stress. In some instances, adult children who
4 work on the mainland may have to return home to live, and
5 abandon careers in the process, in order to care for their
6 parents at home because it is the only alternative to expensive
7 institutional care. If children already live in Hawaii, they
8 often have to quit their jobs to stay home to care for aging
9 parents, which may result in financial disaster for the family
10 and a loss of tax revenue for the State. While caregivers play
11 a critical role in helping others, it is imperative that
12 caregivers take care of themselves and have the necessary
13 services and supports to sustain their own health as well as the
14 health of the family member for which they are caring.

15 The purpose of this Act is to:

16 (1) Require the executive office on aging to establish the
17 kupuna caregivers program to assist community members in
18 obtaining care for elders while remaining in the workforce;

19 (2) Clarify the kupuna services and supports provided by
20 area agencies on aging within the kupuna care program and make
21 establishment of the kupuna care program mandatory; and

1 (3) Appropriate funds for the establishment and
2 implementation of the kupuna caregivers program.

3 SECTION 2. Chapter 349, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
5 and to read as follows:

6 "§349- Kupuna caregivers program. (a) The executive
7 office on aging shall establish the kupuna caregivers program
8 pending the availability of state funds. The program shall
9 provide assistance to a qualified caregiver who meets the
10 requirements of this section.

11 (b) The program shall be coordinated and administered by
12 the executive office on aging and implemented through the area
13 agency on aging.

14 (c) The kupuna caregivers program shall award an
15 allocation of funds, a voucher of a maximum of \$70 per day to
16 cover costs for the following services that would otherwise be
17 performed by the qualified caregiver for the care recipient:

- 18 (1) Transportation/Assisted Transportation;
19 (2) Personal care;
20 (3) Respite care;
21 (4) Adult day care; or
22 (5) Chore and homemaker;

1 provided that the ~~allocated funds~~ ~~voucher~~ shall be issued
2 directly to the service provider ~~upon receipt and invoice for~~
3 ~~services rendered.~~

4 (d) The director ~~may~~ ~~shall~~ adopt rules pursuant to chapter
5 91 necessary for the purposes of this section.

6 (e) As used in this section, ~~and to add consistency to~~
7 ~~Section 349.-3.1~~ unless the context otherwise requires:

8 "Activities of daily living" ~~shall be as defined in section~~
9 ~~349-3.1.~~ means the following activities that individuals perform
10 as a part of daily living the include eating, dressing, bathing,
11 toileting, transferring in and out of bed or chair, and walking.

12 "Adult day care" ~~shall be as defined in section 349-3.1~~ or
13 "adult day health" means personal care for dependent elders in a
14 supervised, protective, and congregate setting during some
15 portion of the day. Services offered in conjunction with adult
16 day care or adult day health typically includes social and
17 recreational activities, training, counseling, and services such
18 as rehabilitation, medication assistance, and home health aide
19 services for adult day health.

20 "Aging and disability resource centers" means an entity
21 established by the State as part of the state system of long-
22 term care, serving as a highly visible and trusted source where

1 people of all incomes and ages can get information on the full
2 range of long-term support options, and a single point of entry
3 for access to public long-term support programs and benefits.

4 "Area agency on aging" shall be as defined in section 349-
5 3.1. means an agency designated by the executive office on aging
6 to develop and administer their area plan for a comprehensive
7 and coordinated system of services.

8 "Assisted transportation" means assistance with
9 transportation, including escort, for person who has
10 difficulties, cognitive, or physical, using regular vehicular
11 transportation.

12 "Attendant care" means stand-by assistance, supervision, or
13 cues, for example, verbal prompts for medication, bathing,
14 eating, grooming, and dressing, and may include other activities
15 to help maintain the independence of a care recipient at home.

16 Attendant care shall not include physical contact in support.
17 For example, weight-bearing assistance with transfers, washing,
18 bathing, and dressing.

19 "Care coordination" means a person-centered, assessment-
20 based, interdisciplinary approach to integrating health care and
21 social support services that are tailored to an individual's
22 needs and goals across all care services.

1 "Care recipient" means an individual who:

2 (1) Is a citizen of the United States or a qualified
3 alien; provided that for the purposes of this paragraph,

4 "qualified alien" means a lawfully admitted permanent resident
5 under the Immigration and Nationality Act;

6 (2) Is sixty years of age or older;

7 (3) Is not covered by any comparable government or private
8 home and community based care services;

9 (4) Does not reside in a long-term care facility, such as
10 an intermediate care facility, assisted living facility, skilled
11 nursing facility, hospital, community care foster family home,
12 adult residential care home, or expanded adult residential care
13 home; and

14 (5) Has impairments of at least:

15 (A) Two activities of daily living;

16 (B) Two instrumental activities of daily living;

17 (C) One activity of daily living and one instrumental
18 activity of daily living; or

19 (D) Substantive cognitive impairment requiring
20 substantial supervision because the individual behaves in a
21 manner that poses a serious health or safety hazard to the
22 individual or another person.

1 "Case management" means assistance in the form of access or
2 care coordination where an individual is experiencing diminished
3 functioning capacities, personal conditions, or other
4 characteristics that require services by formal service
5 providers or family caregivers. Activities of case management
6 may include assessing needs, developing care plans, authorizing
7 and coordinating services, and providing follow-up and
8 reassessment, as required.

9 "Chore" ~~shall be as defined in section 349-3.1~~ means
10 assistance such as heavy house work, yard work, or sidewalk
11 maintenance for a person.

12 "Coach" means an individual who:

- 13 (1) Helps care recipient understand the program of
14 participant-directed supports;
15 (2) Develops and implements a spending plan to describe
16 how the care recipient will spend his/her budget; and
17 (3) Evaluates whether the participant-directed program is
18 meeting the care recipient's needs.

19 "Family caregivers" ~~shall be defined in section 349-~~
20 ~~3.1.~~ means a spouse, adult child, other relative, partner, or
21 friend who has a personal relationship with, and provides a

1 broad range of unpaid assistance for an older adult with a
2 chronic or disabling condition.

3 "Home delivered meals" means meals provided to a care
4 recipient in his/her place of residence; provided that the meal
5 is served through a program administered by the state unit on
6 aging or an area agency on aging and meets all of requirements
7 of the Older Americans Act of 1965 as amended, and all the state
8 and local laws.

9 "Homemaker" shall be as defined in section 349-3.1 means
10 assistance with preparing meals, shopping for personal items,
11 managing money, using the telephone, or performing light
12 housework.

13 "Instrumental activities of daily living" shall be as
14 defined in section 349-3.1. means the following instrumental
15 activities that individuals perform as a part of daily living:
16 preparing meals, shopping for personal items, medication
17 management, managing money, using the telephone, performing
18 light and heavy housework, and making use of available
19 transportation.

20 "Kupuna care core services" means services consisting of:

21 (1) Adult day care;

22 (2) Attendant care;

- 1 (3) Case management;
- 2 (4) Chore;
- 3 (5) Homemaker;
- 4 (6) Home delivered meals;
- 5 (7) Personal care;
- 6 (8) Transportation; or
- 7 (9) Assisted transportation.

8 "Person-centered plan" means a plan developed by a care
9 recipient with the assistance of a coach that allows he/she to
10 establish goals, skills, and knowledge necessary to work towards
11 the desired outcomes and identifies practical steps to
12 achievement of the goals; provided that family and friends may
13 provide assistance in developing a care recipient's plan if
14 he/she chooses to include them.

15 "Person-centered planning" means a process, directed by the
16 care recipient, intended to identify his/her strengths,
17 capacities, needs, and desired outcomes.

18 "Personal care" shall be as defined in section 349-3.1.
19 means personal assistance, stand-by assistance, supervision or
20 cues.

21 "Qualified caregiver" means an individual who meets the
22 following requirements:

- 1 (1) Provides care for a care recipient; and
2 (2) Is employed at least thirty hours per week from one or
3 more employers.

4 "Respite care" shall be as defined in section 333F-1. means
5 services which offer temporary, substitute supports or living
6 arrangements for care recipients in order to provide a brief
7 period or rest to caregivers. For example, (1) In-home respite
8 personal care, homemaker, and other in-home respite; (2) respite
9 provided by attendance of a care recipient at a senior center or
10 other nonresidential program; and (3) institutional respite
11 provided by placing the care recipient in an institutional
12 setting such as a nursing home for a short period of time as a
13 respite service to the caregiver; and (4) any combination of
14 services to assist the qualified caregiver as deemed appropriate
15 by the area agency on aging.

16 "Transportation" shall be as defined in section 349-3.1."
17 means transportation from one location to another with a vehicle
18 and does not include any other activity.

19 SECTION 3. Section 349-3.1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
20 amended to read as follows:

21 "[+]§349-3.1[+] **Kupuna care program.** (a) The executive
22 office on aging [may] shall establish the kupuna care program

1 pending the availability of state funds. The program shall
2 provide [~~affordable and quality home- and community-based~~
3 ~~services.~~] long-term services and supports to address the needs
4 of Hawaii's older adults and their desire to remain in their own
5 homes and communities as they age.

6 (b) The program [~~may be provided in every county as a~~
7 ~~function of the aging and disability resource centers.~~] shall be
8 coordinated and administered by the executive office on aging
9 and implemented through the area agencies on aging.

10 (c) Kupuna care shall be delivered through two distinct
11 service options: traditional service delivery or participant-
12 directed services and support, based on an individual support
13 plan for each eligible ~~participant care recipient~~; provided
14 that:

15 (1) Traditional service delivery shall be a service
16 provider organization or person who provides services to clients
17 under a formal contractual arrangement with the executive office
18 on aging or an area agency on aging who shall deliver to each
19 ~~participant care recipient~~ one or more kupuna care core services
20 to address the ~~participant care recipient~~'s specific needs that
21 have been identified ~~in his/her through~~ person-centered
22 planning; and

1 (2) Participant-directed services and support shall
2 address the ~~participant care recipient's~~ assessed needs that
3 have been identified through the person-centered planning
4 process and documented in the support plan. Participant-
5 directed services and support shall be long-term services and
6 supports that a ~~participant care recipient~~ uses to maintain ~~the~~
7 ~~participant's~~ independence in the community, in which the
8 ~~participant care recipient~~ determines what mix of services and
9 support ~~will address their needsworks best for the~~
10 ~~participant~~. The ~~participant care recipient~~ shall have
11 decision-making authority over ~~the participant's his/her~~
12 budgeted dollar amount to purchase and manage ~~the participant's~~
13 needed services and supports based ~~upon on the participant's~~
14 ~~his/her~~ person-centered support plan. Participant-directed
15 services and support shall provide the ~~participant care~~
16 ~~recipient~~ with a coach to assist the ~~participant care recipient~~
17 with using the services and support in a manner that best
18 supports the ~~participant care recipient's~~ ability to maintain
19 independence and enable a quality living experience in the
20 community.

21 (d) To qualify for the kupuna care program, an individual
22 shall qualify as a care recipient pursuant to section 349- (e).

1 (e) TheAn area agency on aging, through the aging and
2 disability resource center or other entity designated by the
3 executive office on aging, shall conduct an intake and
4 assessment of individuals seeking long-term services and
5 supports to determine eligibility for the program. The intake
6 and assessment shall include the following:

7 (1) A statewide uniform intake process developed with and
8 adopted by the executive office on aging to preliminarily
9 determine eligibility for publicly funded services and supports,
10 including kupuna care services; and

11 (2) If warranted necessary, an assessment of the eligible
12 individual care recipient utilizing a statewide uniform
13 comprehensive in-home assessment. Upon completion of the in-
14 home assessment, the individual care recipient develops a
15 written individualized person-centered support plan, with
16 participation from family, friends, and others, if the
17 individual care recipient desires such additional
18 assistance. The support plan identifies all of the services and
19 supports needed or currently used to meet the individual care
20 recipient's needs, formal and informal, including those provided
21 by other programs such as medicaid or private paid
22 programs. The plan shall be reviewed with the individual care

1 recipient to confirm it is the plan that ~~the individual~~his/her
2 desires.

3 (f) TheAn area agency on aging shall use the assessment
4 data and individualized support plan to confirm kupuna care
5 eligibility then authorize and coordinate services and
6 supports. TheAn area agency on aging shall directly authorize
7 and allot kupuna care services and shall not delegate the
8 service authorization function to any subcontractors.

9 (g) An individual shall be determined to be ineligible for
10 kupuna care services when:

11 (1) An individual does not meet the eligibility
12 requirements specified;

13 (2) An individual's need is not substantiated through an
14 in-home assessment;

15 (3) An individual leaves the State or the individual's
16 whereabouts are unknown; or

17 (4) An individual refuses services.

18 (h) TheAn area agency on aging shall provide an individual
19 with written notice of the disposition of a request for kupuna
20 care services.

21 (i) An individual who has been determined to be ineligible
22 for kupuna care services shall have the opportunity to appeal

1 the decision to the director of the executive office on aging
2 within ninety days after the date of notice of the area agency
3 on aging's written disposition. The director of the executive
4 office on aging's decision on the appeal shall be issued in
5 writing and shall be final.

6 (j) Prior to termination of kupuna care services, service
7 providers shall notify the appropriate contracting area agency
8 on aging of the date and reason for termination. Termination of
9 kupuna care services may occur if the participant care
10 recipient:

11 (1) Moves and the provider is unable to locate the
12 participant care recipient;

13 (2) Is transferred to another area agency on aging;

14 (3) Dies;

15 (4) No longer needs kupuna care services and supports;

16 (5) Is uncooperative with the service provider;

17 (6) Is non-compliant with the basic requirements of the
18 program;

19 (7) Engages in behavior that threatens or demonstrates
20 violence toward the service provider;

21 (8) Decides the participant care recipient no longer needs
22 or wants a particular service or support;

1 (9) Uses comparable services from other programs; or

2 (10) Has a communicable disease that threatens the safety
3 and welfare of the service provider.

4 (k) All area agencies on aging shall record all consumer
5 data, assessments, and service delivery within a statewide
6 consolidated database.

7 ~~[(c)] (l) As used in this section, unless the context~~
8 ~~otherwise requires:~~

9 ~~— "Activities of daily living" means the following activities~~
10 ~~that individuals perform as a part of daily living: eating,~~
11 ~~dressing, bathing, toileting, transferring in and out of a bed~~
12 ~~or chair, and walking.~~

13 ~~— "Adult day care" or "adult day health" means personal care~~
14 ~~for dependent elders in a supervised, protective, and congregate~~
15 ~~setting during some portion of a day. Services offered in~~
16 ~~conjunction with adult day care or adult day health typically~~
17 ~~include social and recreational activities, training,~~
18 ~~counseling, and services such as rehabilitation, medication~~
19 ~~assistance, and home health aide services for adult day health.~~

20 ~~— "Aging and disability resource centers" means an entity~~
21 ~~established by the State as part of the state system of long-~~
22 ~~term care, serving as a highly visible and trusted source where~~

1 ~~people of all incomes and ages can get information on the full~~
2 ~~range of long-term support options, and a single point of entry~~
3 ~~for access to public long-term support programs and benefits.~~

4 ~~—— "Area agency on aging" means a state agency designated to~~
5 ~~develop and administer the area plan for a comprehensive and~~
6 ~~coordinated system of aging services.~~

7 ~~—— "Assisted transportation" means assistance with~~
8 ~~transportation, including escort, for a person who has~~
9 ~~difficulties, cognitive or physical, using regular vehicular~~
10 ~~transportation.~~

11 ~~—— "Attendant care" means stand-by assistance, supervision, or~~
12 ~~cues, and may include other activities to help maintain the~~
13 ~~independence of an individual at home. Attendant care shall not~~
14 ~~include providing hands-on-the-body support, including but not~~
15 ~~limited to weight-bearing assistance with transfers; washing,~~
16 ~~bathing, or grooming a participant's body; or guiding a~~
17 ~~participant's limbs or implements to assist with feeding or~~
18 ~~dressing.~~

19 ~~—— "Care coordination" means a person-centered, assessment-~~
20 ~~based, interdisciplinary approach to integrating health care and~~
21 ~~social support services that are tailored to an individual's~~
22 ~~needs and goals across all care services.~~

1 ~~"Case management" means assistance either in the form of~~
2 ~~access or care coordination in circumstances where an individual~~
3 ~~is experiencing diminished functioning capacities, personal~~
4 ~~conditions, or other characteristics that require the provision~~
5 ~~of services by formal service providers or family~~
6 ~~caregivers. Activities of case management may include assessing~~
7 ~~needs, developing care plans, authorizing and coordinating~~
8 ~~services among providers, and providing follow-up and~~
9 ~~reassessment, as required.~~

10 ~~"Chore" means assistance such as heavy housework, yard~~
11 ~~work, or sidewalk maintenance for a person.~~

12 ~~"Coach" means an individual who:~~

13 ~~(1) Helps the participant understand the program of~~
14 ~~participant-directed supports;~~

15 ~~(2) Develops and implements a spending plan to describe~~
16 ~~how the participant will spend the participant's budget; and~~

17 ~~(3) Evaluates whether the participant-directed program is~~
18 ~~meeting the participant's needs.~~

19 ~~"Family caregivers" means a spouse, adult child, other~~
20 ~~relative, partner, or friend who has a personal relationship~~
21 ~~with, and provides a broad range of unpaid assistance for an~~
22 ~~older adult with a chronic or disabling condition.~~

1 ~~—"Home delivered meals" means meals provided to a qualified~~
2 ~~individual in the individual's place of residence; provided that~~
3 ~~the meal is served through a program administered by the state~~
4 ~~unit on aging or an area agency on aging and meets all of the~~
5 ~~requirements of the Older Americans Act of 1965 as amended, and~~
6 ~~all state and local laws.~~

7 ~~—"Homemaker" means assistance with preparing meals, shopping~~
8 ~~for personal items, managing money, using the telephone, or~~
9 ~~performing light housework.~~

10 ~~—"Instrumental activities of daily living" means the~~
11 ~~following instrumental activities that individuals perform as a~~
12 ~~part of daily living: preparing meals, shopping for personal~~
13 ~~items, medication management, managing money, using the~~
14 ~~telephone, performing light housework, performing heavy~~
15 ~~housework, and making use of available transportation.~~

16 ~~—"Kupuna care core services" means services consisting of:~~

17 ~~(1) Adult day care;~~

18 ~~(2) Attendant care;~~

19 ~~(3) Case management;~~

20 ~~(4) Chore;~~

21 ~~(5) Homemaker;~~

22 ~~(6) Home delivered meals;~~

1 ~~(7) Personal care;~~
2 ~~(8) Transportation; or~~
3 ~~(9) Assisted transportation.~~

4 ~~"Person-centered plan" means a plan developed by a~~
5 ~~participant with the assistance of a coach that allows the~~
6 ~~participant to establish goals, skills, and knowledge necessary~~
7 ~~to work toward the desired outcomes and lays out practical steps~~
8 ~~to the achievement of the goals; provided that family members~~
9 ~~and friends may provide assistance in developing a participant's~~
10 ~~plan if the participant chooses to include them.~~

11 ~~"Person-centered planning" means a process, directed by the~~
12 ~~participant, intended to identify the strengths, capacities,~~
13 ~~preferences, needs, and desired outcomes of the participant.~~

14 ~~"Personal care" means personal assistance, stand-by~~
15 ~~assistance, supervision, or cues.~~

16 ~~"Transportation" means transportation from one location to~~
17 ~~another with a vehicle and does not include any other activity.~~

18 ~~(d)~~ ~~(i)~~ (1) The director shall adopt rules pursuant to
19 chapter 91 necessary for the purposes of this section."

20 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
21 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
22 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and the

1 sum of \$ or so much thereof as may be necessary for
2 fiscal year 2018-2019 for the establishment and implementation
3 of the kupuna caregivers program.

4 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the executive
5 office on aging for the purposes of this Act.

6 SECTION 5. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
7 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

8 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.

Report Title:

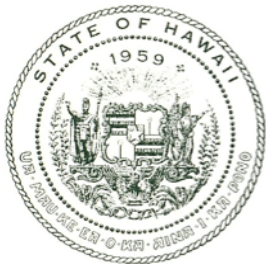
Kupuna Care; Caregivers; Executive Office on Aging;
Appropriation

Description:

Requires the executive office on aging to establish the kupuna caregivers program to assist community members in obtaining care for elders while remaining in the workforce. Makes establishment of the kupuna care program mandatory rather than discretionary. Clarifies the kupuna service and support options provided by area agencies on aging within the kupuna care program. Appropriates funds for establishing and implementing the kupuna caregivers program. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD2)

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

HAWAII
STATE
COMMISSION
ON THE
STATUS
OF
WOMEN



Chair
LESLIE WILKINS

COMMISSIONERS:

SHERRY CAMPAGNA
CYD HOFFELD
JUDY KERN
MARILYN LEE
AMY MONK
LISA ELLEN SMITH

Executive Director
Catherine Betts, JD

Email:
Catherine.a.betts@hawaii.gov
Visit us at:
humanservices.hawaii.gov
/hscsw/

235 S. Beretania #407
Honolulu, HI 96813
Phone: 808-586-5758
FAX: 808-586-5756

March 17, 2017

LATE

To: Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair
Representative Chris Todd, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Human Services

Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair
Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Health

From: Cathy Betts
Executive Director, Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women

Re: Testimony in Support, SB 534, SD2, Relating to Kupuna Care

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of SB 534, SD2, which would establish the Kupuna Caregivers program. This program is designed to help provide additional assistance to working caregivers.

Hawaii currently has the highest percentage of multigenerational households in the nation. This means that many family members are called upon to provide care to their family in addition to maintaining much needed employment. Historically, caregiving work, whether for newborns or elderly family members, has fallen on the shoulders of women. As such, women often have to make a difficult choice between providing care for family members or maintaining stable employment.

SB 534, SD2 provides for a voucher program which would provide vouchers to caregivers to be used for some respite care, transportation costs, or caregiving assistant services. This honors the important work of caregiving while also allowing working caregivers to remain in the workforce and provide care for their family members.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of SB 534, SD2.



LATE

March 17, 2017

Chair Dee Morikawa
Vice-Chair Chris Todd
House Committee on Human Services

SUPPORT FOR SB 534, SD 2, RELATING TO KUPUNA CARE

HPHA is an association of over 600 community members, public health professionals and organizations statewide dedicated to improving public health. HPHA also serves as a voice for public professionals and as a repository for information about public health in the Pacific.

The Hawaii Public Health Association emphatically **supports Senate Bill 534, Senate Draft 2**, which creates the Kupuna Caregivers program to aid working caregivers in Hawaii. We believe this bill is a positive first step to improve the health of our kūpuna as well as their caregivers.

It has been well documented on various peer-reviewed journal articles that the health of caregivers is negatively impacted as they care for the health of a loved one. The Centers For Disease Control and Prevention's *A Public Health Approach to Translating Research into Practice* states that "family caregiving has been associated with increased levels of depression and anxiety as well as higher use of psychoactive medications, poorer self-reported physical health, compromised immune function, and increased mortality."

Yet family caregivers are a critical national health care resource. Families often are a primary source of home care and support for older relatives, contributing services that would cost hundreds of billions of dollars annually if they had to be purchased. We simply could not survive as a community without the support that family caregivers provide.

Working caregivers have a difficult task of balancing work and life balance, typically finishing a full day of work only to continue to their duties at home. These working caregivers need the respite services provided by Kupuna Caregivers program established **by House Bill 607**. This bill would fund up to \$70 a day for the respite that working family caregivers need in order to stay active in the workforce while caring for their kupuna at home.

The Hawaii Public Health Association fully **supports Senate Bill 534, Senate Draft 2**, and urges you vote to pass the measure today.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Holly Kessler'.

Holly Kessler, Executive Director
Hawai'i Public Health Association



March 17, 2017/9:30 a.m.
Conference Room 329

House Committee on Human Services
House Committee on Health

To: Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair
Representative Chris Todd, Vice Chair

From: Michael Robinson
Vice President – Government Relations & Community Affairs

Re: SB 534 SD2 – Testimony in Support

My name is Michael Robinson, Vice President, Government Relations and Community Affairs at Hawai'i Pacific Health (HPH). Hawai'i Pacific Health is a not-for-profit health care system with over 70 locations statewide including medical centers, clinics, physicians and other caregivers serving Hawai'i and the Pacific Region with high quality, compassionate care. Its four medical centers – Kapi'olani, Pali Momi, Straub and Wilcox – specialize in innovative programs in women's health, pediatric care, cardiovascular services, cancer care, bone and joint services and more. Hawai'i Pacific Health is recognized nationally for its excellence in patient care and the use of electronic health records to improve quality and patient safety.

I am writing in support of SB 534 SD2 which authorizes the executive office on aging to develop and establish the Kupuna Caregivers Program to assist community members who are providing care for elders.

Family caregivers play a major role in the State's health care system by providing long-term care to the elderly. According to the AARP, there are 154,000 unpaid family caregivers in Hawai'i. Numerous studies show that caregivers report higher levels of psychological distress and that caring for elderly family members over extended periods of time without compensation can lead to chronic stress. While family caregivers play a critical role in health care delivery, it is of equal importance that they take care of themselves and have necessary supports and services to sustain their own health as well as the health of the family member for which they are providing.

Hawai'i Pacific Health supports SB 534 SD2 which begins the process of establishing a program to provide resources to a workforce of caregivers who provide critical health care to so many elders in Hawai'i. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

The Twenty-Ninth Legislature
Regular Session of 2017

LATE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Committee on Human Services

Rep. Dee Morikawa, Chair

Rep. Chris Todd, Vice Chair

Committee on Health

Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair

Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

State Capitol, Conference Room 329

Friday, March 17, 2017; 9:30 a.m.

**STATEMENT OF THE ILWU LOCAL 142 ON S.B. 534, SD2
RELATING TO KUPUNA CARE**

The ILWU Local 142 **supports** S.B. 534, SD2, which requires the Executive Office on Aging to establish the Kupuna Caregivers program to assist community members, who are providing care for elders, to stay in the workforce and clarifies the kupuna service and support options provided by Area Agencies on Aging within the Kupuna Care program. Appropriates funds for establishing and implementing the Kupuna Caregivers program.

S.B. 534, SD2 is an attempt to provide respite and financial assistance to family caregivers by establishing a Kupuna Caregivers program that will allow family caregivers and kupuna themselves to access funds to pay for certain services—e.g., transportation, personal care services, respite care, adult day care, chore and homemaker services. The funds, available through an appropriation, may be expended only through a voucher issued directly to a service provider, not to a family caregiver. Nevertheless, the funding will support family caregivers to access services (like adult day care) to allow caregivers to continue at their jobs and remain in the workforce. Providing care to elderly relatives in order to keep them at home, as they prefer, rather than institutionalized involves great personal sacrifice to the caregivers' own financial well-being now and into the future.

S.B. 534, SD2 is far different than the bill introduced last year to establish a fund with a half percent surcharge on the general excise tax (GET) that would be used to pay benefits to family caregivers. That proposal would have assured greater sustainability of funds, particularly since at least one-third of the GET is paid by visitors who will never claim a benefit from the fund.

We supported last year's bill—and still do. However, we also support S.B. 534, SD2 with the hope that it is but a first step toward a program that eventually will provide meaningful help to those struggling with the costs of providing in-home care to loved ones needing long-term services and supports.

The ILWU urges passage of S.B. 534, SD2. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

todd2 - Chloe

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 2:53 AM
To: HUSstestimony
Cc: annsfreed@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB534 on Mar 17, 2017 09:30AM

SB534

Submitted on: 3/17/2017

Testimony for HUS on Mar 17, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ann S Freed	Hawaii Women's Coalition	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Belatti, Chair Morikawa and Members, The Coalition supports the Kupuna Caucus for advancing a bill to address the need of caregivers, many of whom are women. Caregiving for a loved one can be overwhelming and streeeful to the point of impairing the health of the caregiver. Please pass this bill, Mahalo, Ann S. Freed, Co-Chair, Hawaii women's Coalition

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



Chair of the Senate Committee on Human Services

Rep. Josh Green

Rep. Stanley Chang

Friday, March 17, 2017

9:30AM

Room 329

Strong Support for SB534 SD2- Kupuna Caregivers Assistance

Aloha Chair Green, Vice Chair Chang, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Patrick Drake and I am a student at the University of Hawaii at Manoa and a volunteer with the Care For Our Kupuna project. I am providing my testimony in support of SB534, the Kupuna Caregivers bill.

I am not local to Hawaii, but I know the burden of elder care as it relates to my family and I know that elder care is an issue that affects many across the country. In Florida, where I come from, there exists little support for families that face the burden of providing care for an aging loved one. I saw firsthand the struggle that caring for my grandmother put upon my father; she required near 24/7 care and it was difficult and often impossible to find family members willing to spend a day or a night with her, let alone an affordable at-home assistant. Caring for our elderly--our grandparents, our parents, our friends and loved ones--is a difficult undertaking that many do not truly understand until they are faced with such an issue. We all want what is best, but without outside support it is difficult to provide an adequate level of care that many of us want for our elderly. I believe that the provisions provided by the Kupuna Caregivers bill will allow those facing the burden of sourcing that care some much needed support. I feel that if Florida had had such a program that provided \$70 a day towards families struggling with support and caring for their elders, my family might have been able to give my grandmother a better of care, a better quality of life.

I reiterate my support for SB534, the Kupuna Caregivers Assistance bill, and urge you to support its passage that we might finally, as a community, support our aging population and provide some measure of reprieve to those unsure of their ability to adequately care for their loved ones.

Sincerely,

- Patrick Drake

Testimony: Lawrence H. Nitz. SB534 —Relating to Kupuna Care

I am a professor of political science at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Over the past 27 years I have worked extensively on the problems of funding long-term care (or long-term services and supports). This bill is a first attempt to provide some of the most important support for Hawaii's working people who are providing care for their elders.

Kupuna Caregivers, the title of the program expansion sponsored by the bill, helps the most fragile of our caregivers—those who must give care and still maintain a full-time job. The goal is by providing a subsidy to secure a few extra hours of care, the full-time family worker can continue in his or her career, without the risk of performing poorly, having to leave work early, arrive for work late, or feel forced to take an early retirement. Of course, in fact, most of these folks who must reduce work hours or retire early. The proposed benefit, up to \$70 per day for additional services, directly addresses the full-time worker/caregiver's need to continue a career and still provide responsible care for a family member of other elder.

Who is eligible? This is a two-part question. First, the ultimate beneficiary is a Hawaii resident who meets the standards of care for Hawaii's Kupuna Care program: two ADL's, one ADL and IADLs, and so on. The second part is that the caregiver must be fully employed (Using a standard of 30 hours per week).

The program is a testbed—the average median number of days of home care used by American elders is about 89 days. (This is not a feature of the bill, just an estimate of how far the funding would reach if everyone used the median number of days of services.) At this level of usage, the program could initially accommodate about 900 users. A larger scale may be reasonable as the usage is established. The program is framed as an expansion of the services of Kupuna Care, using the same local counseling and administrative skills as those involved in delivering our existing Kupuna Care services.

Finally, this proposal follows the key discoveries by Johannes Geyer and Thorben Korfhage of the German Institute for Economics, a national research center. That supplying a block of “helper time” as a service, rather than a monetary payment creates a dramatic increase in the labor force participation of the caregiver. And, for German policy, as for ours in Hawaii, keeping people in the labor force is an economic benefit for the state, as well as the person using the assistance benefit. More work hours and lower risk of retiring early; protection of the caregiver's own retirement benefits.

The implications of informal caregiving not only involve burdensome financial costs but also include negative health effects on over-stressed caregivers. Studies show that caregiving for an older, disabled parent or parent-in-law negatively affects the mental and physical health of caregivers, especially among those caring for patients with cognitive or behavioral illnesses such as dementia and Alzheimer's disease. Many informal, unpaid caregivers struggle to manage multiple social roles such as work, family, and caregiving for elderly parents. The time constraints and physical strain of dealing with multiple roles results in “chronic stress” which increases levels of psychological distress and deteriorates caregivers' health over time (Kohl 2015).

For the society, reducing work hours or leaving the labor force has negative effects on tax revenues (no income tax on money not earned), lost retirement benefits and lower Social Security contributions. Leaving the labor force or retiring early creates higher risks of having to make transfer payments to these caregivers when they are older (increased welfare expenditures of various kinds for those who left careers for caregiving.) Providing a few hours of extra care, however, reduces these losses by keeping caregivers in the labor force, earning and building their own retirement support.

At this point, the Germans have already laid the foundation so that Hawaii can move forward.

Citations:

Johannes Geyer; Thorben Korfhage (2015): Long-term care reform and the labor supply of household members: Evidence from a quasi-experiment. DIW Discussion Papers, No. 1500.

Johannes Geyer; Peter Haan; Thorben Korfhage (2015): Indirect fiscal effects of long-term care insurance. DIW Discussion Papers, No. 1520.

Kohl, Noreen. 2015. Policy Note. "The Need for Formal Long-Term Care Supports and Services: Implications of Informal Caregiving." Long-Term Services and Supports Feasibility Study, Department of Political Science, University of Hawai'i at Manoa.

From: Priscila Rayray <pdrayray@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 6:13 PM
To: HUSTestimony
Subject: Testimony+for+SB+534+hearing+on+March+17+at+9:30pm+in+Room+329

Chair Dee Morikawa
Vice-Chair Chris Todd
House Committee on Human Services

March 17, 2016, 9:30 AM, Room 329
TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 534, SD2 RELATING TO KUPUNA CARE

My name is Priscila Rayray and I am writing to express my support for **SB 534, Senate Draft 2** and the creation of the Kupuna Caregivers program. This bill will provide the needed respite care that our kupuna caregivers deserve and the support our working families and businesses need.

This legislation would create a long-term kupuna caregivers program, which would provide support for working caregivers who also take care of their aging loved ones. Unlike other programs, this bill focuses on providing respite care for working caregivers who typically have no other financial or emotional support. As so many of us know, the desire to spend time caring for our aging parents and grandparents is often in competition with our need to continue participating in the workforce to be able to provide for our families.

I believe that all of us know at least one person who has needed long-term care. As legislators, we have elected you to be

leaders to the people of Hawaii, and we are asking you, now, to lead on helping us provide the care our families need.

Thank you for considering my testimony. Have a wonderful day!

Sincerely,

Priscila Rayray

(808)2954219

pdrayray@yahoo.com

91-1012 Makaike St

Ewa Beach. Hi 96706

Sent from my iPhone

todd2 - Chloe

LATE

From: Dawn Webster <dmoraiswebster@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 4:57 PM
To: HUS testimony
Subject: Testimony for SB 534 hearing on March 17 at 9:30pm in Room 329

Chair Morikawa, Vice Chair Todd, Committee members:

I write in heartfelt SUPPORT of SB534. Now more than ever, as the Trump administration unveils one policy after another that really exacerbates the pain of the most vulnerable amongst us, leadership at the state level is critical.

We are all grateful that the Kupuna Caregivers Assistance bill continues to make progress through the legislature.

We ask that you stay resolved to pass this bill this session. We have little time to waste.

Our response as a state has lagged the growth in the need among seniors and their families for some relief from the crushing weight of reduced income and the escalating cost of care. The demographics tell us that the need for a solution to the numbers of elderly people needing help at home with some of the activities of daily living is only growing.

This bill does not attempt to address the entire challenge of taking care of our kupuna in a manner consistent with our values. But it is a good faith step towards acknowledging the enormous contribution of unpaid family caregivers and gives them some relief.

We respectfully ask that your actions as our representatives speak clearly for the values we share as a community.

Gratefully,

Dawn

DAWN MORAIS
WEBSTER Ph.D.

1, Keahole Place, #3501, Honolulu, HI 96825
www.dawnmorais.com

808-383-7581