

SR94

Measure Title: REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII CENTER ON AGING TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO REVIEW IN-HOME CARE SERVICES AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF CARE.

Report Title: Working Group; In-Home Care Services

Description:

Companion:

Package: None

Current Referral: LBR/HRE/HMS, CPH

Introducer(s): TOKUDA, BAKER, S. CHANG, KEITH-AGARAN, Dela Cruz, English, Gabbard, Galuteria, K. Kahele, Nishihara, Taniguchi, Wakai

SR-94

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 8:22:03 AM

Testimony for CPH on 4/3/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for Oahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

To the Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair; the Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Vice-Chair and the Members of the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health:

Good afternoon, my name is Melodie Aduja. I serve as Chair of the Oahu County Committee ("OCC") on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on **SCR149 / SR 94** relating to a Working Group; and In-Home Care Services.

The OCC on Legislative Priorities is in favor of **SCR149 / SR 94** and supports its passage.

SCR149 / SR 94 is in alignment with the Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i ("DPH"), 2016, as it requests the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR) and the University of Hawaii (UH) Center on Aging to convene a working group to: (1) Review the provision of in-home care services in Hawaii; (2) Make recommendations that will improve the quality of care; and (3) Include its review and recommendations in a report to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the Regular Session of 2019.

Specifically, the Platform of the DPH provides that "Access to health care is a basic human need. Our citizens and visitors have an inherent right to high quality, high standard health care. The state legislature and the federal government should take all appropriate steps to create and support a health care system of public, for-profit, and nonprofit hospitals and other medical facilities that follow best practices to enhance and protect and preserve life.

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

Given that **SCR149 / SR 94** requests the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR) and the University of Hawaii (UH) Center on Aging to convene a

working group to: (1) Review the provision of in-home care services in Hawaii; (2) Make recommendations that will improve the quality of care; and (3) Include its review and recommendations in a report to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the Regular Session of 2019, it is the position of the OCC on Legislative Priorities to support this measure.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Melodie Aduja

Melodie Aduja, Chair, OCC on Legislative Priorities of the DPH

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

SR-94

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 9:08:41 AM

Testimony for CPH on 4/3/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cynthia J. Goto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I testify in strong support for this much needed service. As a caregiver for my parents living at home, we are often dependent upon agencies and services to help us. Please help us keep our families safe.

Mahalo,

Cynthia J. Goto, M.D.

From: [Steven Costa](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Sb2988
Date: Sunday, April 1, 2018 6:05:22 PM

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, and HEALTH
Senator Roz Baker, Chair
Senator Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair

Tuesday, April 3, 2018, 10:00 a.m., Conference Room 229

Re: Testimony in Support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 149 / Senate Resolution 94

We are in strong support of SCR 149/SR 94, which requests the Department of Labour and Industrial Relations, along with the University of Hawaii Center on Aging, convene a working group to review the state of the homecare force in Hawaii and make recommendations to improve the quality of care and the quality of caregiving jobs.

Homecare workers provide elderly adults and those with disabilities with the care and assistance that allows people with care needs to live at home. They are responsible for a myriad number of tasks and activities of daily living including managing medication, providing transportation, assisting with mobility, preparing meals, and providing personal hygiene care. By providing these services, homecare workers are saving the state of Hawaii millions of dollars by allowing seniors to remain at home, where care is less expensive than in a facility. Studies also show that a person who is cared for and able to rehabilitate at home surrounded by family, friends and personalized attention from home care workers heal more quickly than they do in a facility.

The home care and direct care workforce is one of the fastest growing service industries in America, and homecare workers do the valuable and vital work of caring for the needs of elderly and people with disabilities. With the life expectancy in Hawaii longer than any other state, and the projected population of those 65 and over reaching 30 percent of the overall population in Hawaii by 2030, the need for home care and qualified home care workers is growing. As it grows, so too does the need to understand the complexities of the homecare workforce, including the demographics of the care workforce, reasons surrounding care workforce shortages, the ways in which families rely upon and receive services, and ways that the quality of care can be substantially improved.

The creation of a taskforce that will study, collect pertinent data and report back on its findings in regards to the ability of families to access and finance home care, the explanation of skills and training that home care workers require, as well as the relationship between the quality of care provided by home care workers and the wages and benefits they receive are key aspects in preparing a care infrastructure that better helps our kupuna and people with disabilities receive the high quality of care they deserve.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely, Rev Steven Costa+ 741-0564

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, and HEALTH
Senator Roz Baker, Chair
Senator Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair

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The creation of a taskforce that will study, collect pertinent data and report back on its findings related to homecare workforce is very much needed.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

Clementina D. Ceria-Ulep

Clementina D. Ceria-Ulep

211 Hoomalu Street; Pearl City, HI 96782