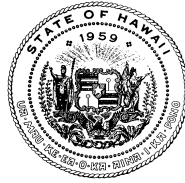


SB676

Measure Title: RELATING TO HEALTH
Report Title: Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia Services Coordinator; Appropriation
Description: Appropriates funds to establish one full-time equivalent Alzheimer's disease and related dementia services coordinator position in the Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Division of the Department of Health.
Companion:
Package: None
Current Referral: CPH, WAM
Introducer(s): IHARA, Harimoto, Inouye, K. Kahele, Kanuha, Kim, Ruderman, Taniguchi

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



CAROLINE CADIRAO
PSM MANAGER

BRUCE ANDERSON
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 COMMENTING on SB0676
Relating to Health

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH
SENATOR ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR
SENATOR STANLEY CHANG, VICE CHAIR

Testimony of Caroline Cadirao
PSM Manager, Executive Office on Aging
Attached Agency to the Department of Health

Hearing Date: January 30, 2019
9:00 am

Room Number: 229

- 1 **EOA's Position:** The Executive Office on Aging (EOA), an attached agency to the Department
2 of Health, would like to provide comments on SB0676. During the 2018 Hawaii State
3 Legislative Session, Governor Ige signed Act 146 Relating to Health which added a new section
4 to the EOA Statute, HRS349 designating EOA with the responsibility of coordinating and
5 implementing the State Plan on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia. We support the
6 intent of this measure provided that its enactment does not reduce or replace priorities within the
7 Administration's executive biennium budget.
- 8 **Fiscal Implications:** This measure appropriates unspecified funds for FY20 and FY21 to fund a
9 dedicated staff position to coordinate and implement the state plan on Alzheimer's Disease and
10 Related Dementia (ADRD) in the Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Division of
11 the Department of Health. However, during the 2018 Hawaii State Legislative Session,
12 Governor Ige signed Act 146 Relating to Health which added a new section to the EOA Statute,

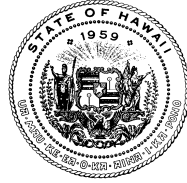
1 HRS349 designating EOA with the responsibility of coordinating and implementing the State
2 Plan on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia.

3 **Purpose and Justification:** Alzheimer's disease is the sixth leading cause of death in the
4 United States and it affects 27,000 Hawaii residents, a number that will increase to 35,000 by the
5 year 2025. In addition, an estimated 66,000 unpaid caregivers in Hawaii provide 74,000,000
6 hours of unpaid care each year. While the *Hawaii 2025: State Plan Alzheimer's Disease and*
7 *Related Dementias* identifies strategies in addressing the multifaceted issues in dealing with the
8 disease, the services and activities needed requires leadership and coordination at a systemic
9 level. Resources are needed to better facilitate and coordinate the collaborative activities to
10 implement and update the Alzheimer's disease and related dementias state plan as well as fulfill
11 the new reporting requirements.

12 During the 2018 Hawaii State Legislative Session, Governor Ige signed Act 146 Relating to
13 Health. This act added a new section to the EOA Statute, HRS349 to prepare an update of the
14 State Plan on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia. However, no funding was
15 appropriated to EOA for a dedicated position to address the ADRD and to carry out the mandate.

16 **Recommendation:** Funding for updating the Alzheimer's disease and related dementias state
17 plan is part of the Administration's budget request. We strongly support advancing this
18 measure.

19 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

Testimony COMMENTING on SB0676
RELATING TO HEALTH

SENATOR ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH
Hearing Date: January 30, 2019 Room Number: 229

1 **Fiscal Implications:** The Department of Health (DOH) defers to the priorities set forth in the
2 Governor's Executive Biennium Budget request. The bill appropriates out of the general
3 revenues an unspecified amount for fiscal year (FY) 2019-2020 and the same sum thereof as may
4 be necessary for FY 2020-2021.

5 **Department Testimony:** The DOH offers comments on Senate Bill 676 (S.B. 676) which
6 appropriates funds to establish one full-time equivalent (1.00 FTE) Alzheimer's disease and
7 related dementia services coordinator position in the DOH's Chronic Disease Prevention and
8 Health Promotion Division (CDPHPD).

9 The DOH's Executive Office on Aging (EOA) is the designated lead agency in the
10 coordination of a statewide system of aging and caregiver support services in the State. The
11 EOA has a position dedicated to Alzheimer's disease and related dementia, as well as an existing
12 network of partners that helped develop the *Hawaii 2025: State Plan on Alzheimer's Disease and*
13 *Related Dementias*. Presently, the CDPHPD does not have an Alzheimer's disease and related
14 dementia services specific program, but recognizes it as an important public health issue. The
15 CDPHPD will support the EOA to enhance public awareness and engagement, link the EOA
16 with community-based resources and health system partners to improve diagnosis, and increase
17 coordination and collaboration on streamlined data collection and analysis related to Alzheimer's
18 disease.

1 Alzheimer's disease is the most common type of dementia and the sixth leading cause of
2 death in the United States.¹ Approximately 27,000 Hawaii residents were diagnosed with
3 Alzheimer's in 2010; a greater number are estimated to meet the diagnosis criteria, but not
4 actually be diagnosed. Age is the most important risk factor for Alzheimer's disease. Given the
5 size of Hawaii's population over 65, the prevalence of Alzheimer's is expected to rise even
6 more, along with associated costs for treatment, medications, nursing home care, and caregiver
7 support resources.²

8 Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.

¹ 2018 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures, 2018. Available at <https://www.alz.org/media/HomeOffice/Facts%20and%20Figures/facts-and-figures.pdf>

² Hawaii 2025: State Plan on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias. Available at https://www.hawaiidrc.org/Portals/_AgencySite/docs/ADRD_rev.pdf.

alzheimer's association®

ALOHA CHAPTER

1130 N. Nimitz Highway Suite A-265, Honolulu, Hawaii 96817
Phone: 808.591.2771 Fax: 808.591.9071 www.alz.org/hawaii

LATE

January 30, 2019

Honorable Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 229
415 South Berentania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: SB676 RELATING TO HEALTH

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang, and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Alzheimer's Association, Aloha Chapter, I am pleased to extend our **support** for Senate Bill 676, with amendments. This bill establishes and appropriates funding for one full-time equivalent position within the Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Division of the Department of Health.

Alzheimer's disease is a growing epidemic and is now the nation's sixth leading cause of death. Here in Hawaii, more than 28,000 individuals live with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia. Despite the belief of many, Alzheimer's disease is not a normal part of aging. Modest memory deficits may occur with age, but memory loss that disrupts daily life is not a typical part of aging, and is often attributable to Alzheimer's or another form of dementia. The lack of awareness and understanding of the disease often results in minimal to no reporting of memory issues to one's physician, and often leads to a failure to obtain an early and appropriate diagnosis. Furthermore, Alzheimer's and dementia are still heavily stigmatized and not well understood. Early detection and diagnosis are essential to providing the best medical care and outcomes for those at any stage of this chronic disease. Even without a way to cure or slow the progression of dementia, an early formal diagnosis offers the best opportunities for intervention and better outcomes.

Alzheimer's is now viewed as a midlife disease, in that it occurs along a continuum typically beginning in midlife or earlier and results in dementia later in life. Research now demonstrates that there are ways to improve brain health and reduce risk of cognitive decline. The Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Division works to promote health and reduce the burden of chronic disease for the people of Hawaii by empowering the community, influencing social norms and supporting and encouraging healthy lifestyle choices. Programs under the Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Division utilize public health strategies including: strategic partnership development and community linkages; awareness and education; surveillance; evidence-based best practices; evaluation; and promoting health equity. Since the year 2000, there has been a 258% increase in Alzheimer's deaths in Hawaii. Due to the urgency of the disease and the aims of the Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Division, we believe it is important that a position focused on Alzheimer's and related dementias be added.



ALOHA CHAPTER

1130 N. Nimitz Highway Suite A-265, Honolulu, Hawaii 96817
Phone: 808.591.2771 Fax: 808.591.9071 www.alz.org/hawaii

Additionally, we humbly recommend that this measure be amended to change the title of the proposed position from "Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia Services Coordinator" to "Program Specialist IV." The present title already exists within the Executive Office on Aging and is not directly related to the purpose of this measure, while Program Specialist IV is consistent with related positions within the Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Division.

I appreciate the opportunity to testify in **support with amendments** on this legislation and applaud your leadership in bringing it forward.

Sincerely,

Ian Ross
Public Policy and Advocacy Manager
iaross@alz.org
Phone: (808) 591-2771 x1333

LATE

The Thirtieth Legislature
Regular Session of 2019

THE SENATE

Committee on Commerce, and Consumer Protection, and Health
Senator Rosalyn H, Baker, Chair
Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair
State Capitol, Conference Room 229
Wednesday, January 30, 2019; 9:00 a.m.

**STATEMENT OF THE ILWU LOCAL 142 ON S.B. 676
RELATING TO HEALTH**

The ILWU Local 142 **supports** S.B. 676, which appropriates funds to establish one full-time equivalent Alzheimer's disease and related dementia services coordinator position in the Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Prevention Division of the Department of Health.

Alzheimer's and dementia are chronic diseases in every sense. A 2013 state plan called for a coordinator to assist the State with this growing and inevitable problem, but funding has yet to be provided. The fact is one coordinator is not enough, considering the scope and magnitude of the problem. However, one coordinator will be a good start.

Alzheimer's Disease and dementia are extremely costly. The cost of care for patients with Alzheimer's and dementia are astronomical in terms of dollars as well as emotional and physical costs for family caregivers. Hundreds of thousands of hours are spent each day by family caregivers, resulting in the likelihood of diminished economic security for their own retirement. And, as the number of patients with Alzheimer's Disease and dementia continues to grow, the likelihood of Medicaid dollars, half of which is funded by the State, being funneled to pay for such care will grow exponentially.

Although Alzheimer's and dementia may not be preventable in a true public health sense of the word, there may be ways to mitigate the impact of the growing number of patients with these conditions. Medical treatment and medication for the patient and education for the family are options that a dedicated coordinator can offer to families coping with the ongoing stress and strain of caring for patients with Alzheimer's and dementia.

The ILWU urges passage of S.B. 676 to address this huge public health need. Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony on this measure.

LATE

SB-676

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 11:43:13 AM
Testimony for CPH on 1/30/2019 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

SB-676

Submitted on: 1/26/2019 9:52:10 AM

Testimony for CPH on 1/30/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lois Crozer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

SB-676

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 9:49:29 AM

Testimony for CPH on 1/30/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tonya Tullis	Testifying for Alzheimer's Association, Aloha Chap	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

SB-676

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 10:31:43 AM

Testimony for CPH on 1/30/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Patrick Toal	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang, and Members of the Committee:

I am in strong support of Senate Bill 676.

As a healthcare provider and a former caregiver, I care deeply about addressing Alzheimer's Disease as a chronic disease. SB 676 establishes a position within the Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Division that would increase awareness and education, surveillance, evidence-based best practices, evaluation, health equity, and support public health policies for Alzheimer's Disease and related Dementias. I know first-hand how essential services like these can be.

Please support the passage of SB 676.

Mahalo in advance for your assistance.

Patrick Toal

LATE

SB-676

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 10:51:27 AM

Testimony for CPH on 1/30/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rosalie Char	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang, and Members of the Committee:

I am in **strong support** of Senate Bill 676. There are an estimated 28,000 people with Alzheimer's Disease in Hawaii and it is the 6th leading cause of death. In 2018, the Medicaid cost of caring for people with Alzheimer's was \$207 million and that figure is estimated to increase by 35.4% by 2025. Additionally, the per capita Medicare spending on people with dementia is \$17,617.

As someone who is aware of those that have been affected by Alzheimer's Disease, I care deeply about addressing Alzheimer's Disease as a chronic disease. SB 676 establishes a position within the Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Division that would increase awareness and education, surveillance, evidence-based best practices, evaluation, health equity, and support public health policies for Alzheimer's Disease and related Dementias. I know first-hand how essential services like these can be.

Please support the passage of SB 676.

Mahalo,

Rosalie Char

LATE

SB-676

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 11:01:55 AM

Testimony for CPH on 1/30/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rebecca Halloran	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang, and Members of the Committee:

I am in **strong support** of Senate Bill 676. There are an estimated 28,000 people with Alzheimer's Disease in Hawaii and it is the 6th leading cause of death. In 2018, the Medicaid cost of caring for people with Alzheimer's was \$207 million and that figure is estimated to increase by 35.4% by 2025. Additionally, the per capita Medicare spending on people with dementia is \$17,617.

As a caregiver of a person with Alzheimer's Disease, I care deeply about addressing Alzheimer's Disease as a chronic disease. SB 676 establishes a position within the Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Division that would increase awareness and education, surveillance, evidence-based best practices, evaluation, health equity, and support public health policies for Alzheimer's Disease and related Dementias. I know first-hand how essential services like these can be.

Please support the passage of SB 676.

Thank you very much,

Rebecca Halloran

LATE

SB-676

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 11:51:55 AM
Testimony for CPH on 1/30/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Victor K. Ramos	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Staggering statistics.

LATE

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang, and Members of the Committee:

I am in **strong support** of Senate Bill 676. There are an estimated 28,000 people with Alzheimer's Disease in Hawaii and it is the 6th leading cause of death. In 2018, the Medicaid cost of caring for people with Alzheimer's was \$207 million and that figure is estimated to increase by 35.4% by 2025. Additionally, the per capita Medicare spending on people with dementia is \$17,617.

As an advocate for families that have been affect by Alzheimer's Disease, I care deeply about addressing Alzheimer's Disease as a chronic disease. SB 676 establishes a position within the Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Division that would increase awareness and education, surveillance, evidence-based best practices, evaluation, health equity, and support public health policies for Alzheimer's Disease and related Dementias. I know first-hand how essential services like these can be.

Please support the passage of SB 676.

Mahalo,

Humberto Blanco

LATE

SB-676

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 1:46:02 PM

Testimony for CPH on 1/30/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeanne Yagi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang, and Members of the Committee:

We are in **strong support** of Senate Bill 676. There are an estimated 28,000 people with Alzheimer's Disease in Hawaii and it is the 6th leading cause of death. In 2018, the Medicaid cost of caring for people with Alzheimer's was \$207 million and that figure is estimated to increase by 35.4% by 2025. Additionally, the per capita Medicare spending on people with dementia is \$17,617.

As citizens in a community affected by Alzheimer's Disease, we care deeply about addressing Alzheimer's Disease as a chronic disease. SB 676 establishes a position within the Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Division that would increase awareness and education, surveillance, evidence-based best practices, evaluation, health equity, and support public health policies for Alzheimer's Disease and related Dementias. We know first-hand how essential services like these can be.

Please support the passage of SB 676.

Mahalo,

Jimmy and Jeanne Yagi

LATE

SB-676

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 9:44:33 AM

Testimony for CPH on 1/30/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Fernandez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in **strong support** of Senate Bill 676. There are an estimated 28,000 people with Alzheimer's Disease in Hawaii and it is the 6th leading cause of death. In 2018, the Medicaid cost of caring for people with Alzheimer's was \$2017 million and that figure is estimated to increase by 35.4% by 2025. Additionally, the per capita Medicare spending on people with dementia is \$17,617.

As someone with a family that has been affected by Alzheimer's Disease, I care deeply about addressing Alzheimer's Disease as a chronic Division that would increase awareness and education, surveillance, evidence-based best practices, evaluation, health equity, and support public health policies for Alzheimer's Disease and related Dementias. I know first-hand how essential services like these can be.

Please support the passage of SB 676.

Thank you,

Jennifer Fernandes

LATE

SB-676

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 1:57:55 PM

Testimony for CPH on 1/30/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ivy Castellanos	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang, and Members of the Committee:

RE: SB676– RELATING TO HEALTH

Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 676.

As you may be aware, more than 28,000 individuals live with Alzheimer’s disease or a related dementia here in Hawaii, and 1 in 3 kupuna will die from the disease. In addition to such, there are over 67,000 unpaid family caregivers – like my mother, my mother-in-law, and myself – within our state. In 2018, the Medicaid cost of caring for people with Alzheimer’s was \$207 million and that figure is estimated to increase by 35.4% by 2025. Additionally, the per capita Medicare spending on people with dementia is \$17,617.

My grandmother suffered from vascular dementia, and my family and I cared for her at home for 11 years prior to her passing. My husband’s grandmother was later diagnosed with Alzheimer’s, and as a family we watched the disease progress relentlessly. I care deeply about addressing Alzheimer’s disease as a chronic disease. SB 676 establishes a position within the Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Division that would increase awareness and education, surveillance, evidence-based best practices, evaluation, health equity, and support public health policies for Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias. I know first-hand how essential services like these can be.

I ask that you please support the passage of SB 676.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Ivy Castellanos

SB-676

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 1:59:57 PM

Testimony for CPH on 1/30/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Amy Truong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Rosalyn H. Baker and Members of the Committee:

I am in **strong support** of Senate Bill 676. My mother has early onset Alzheimer's. She is 63 now but we think she got it around age 50. If there was more awareness and education about the disease, we would have been able to recognize the signs and symptoms earlier and get her diagnosed earlier. NO FAMILY should have to go through what my family and I are going through right now.

Besides the estimated 28,000 people with Alzheimer's Disease in Hawaii and it is the 6th leading cause of death, the Medicaid cost of caring for people with Alzheimer's was \$207 million and that figure is estimated to increase by 35.4% by 2025. Additionally, the per capita Medicare spending on people with dementia is \$17,617.

Alzheimer's Disease is a chronic disease and is recognized as such by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. SB 676 establishes a position within the Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Division that would increase awareness and education, surveillance, evidence-based best practices, evaluation, health equity, and support public health policies for Alzheimer's Disease and related Dementias. Prevention, early detection, and health promotion will greatly help people with Alzheimer's Disease and their families while also reducing costs for the State of Hawaii.

Please support the passage of SB 676.

LATE

SB-676

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 3:54:46 PM

Testimony for CPH on 1/30/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Gadam	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Rosalyn H. Baker and Members of the Committee:

I am in **strong support** of Senate Bill 676. There are an estimated 28,000 people with Alzheimer's Disease in Hawaii and it is the 6th leading cause of death. In 2018, the Medicaid cost of caring for people with Alzheimer's was \$207 million and that figure is estimated to increase by 35.4% by 2025. Additionally, the per capita Medicare spending on people with dementia is \$17,617.

Alzheimer's Disease is a chronic disease and is recognized as such by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. SB 676 establishes a position within the Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Division that would increase awareness and education, surveillance, evidence-based best practices, evaluation, health equity, and support public health policies for Alzheimer's Disease and related Dementias. Prevention, early detection, and health promotion will greatly help people with Alzheimer's Disease and their families while also reducing costs for the State of Hawaii.

Please support the passage of SB 676."

LATE

SB-676

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 4:33:47 PM

Testimony for CPH on 1/30/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy Rose	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Rosalyn H. Baker and Members of the Committee:

I am in **strong support** of Senate Bill 676. There are an estimated 28,000 people with Alzheimer's Disease in Hawaii and it is the 6th leading cause of death. In 2018, the Medicaid cost of caring for people with Alzheimer's was \$207 million and that figure is estimated to increase by 35.4% by 2025. Additionally, the per capita Medicare spending on people with dementia is \$17,617.

My father suffered a lengthy decline into dementia. It is my hope that we can take steps like this bill to improve the outlook for people with dementia and their caregivers.

Alzheimer's Disease is a chronic disease and is recognized as such by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. SB 676 establishes a position within the Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Division that would increase awareness and education, surveillance, evidence-based best practices, evaluation, health equity, and support public health policies for Alzheimer's Disease and related Dementias. Prevention, early detection, and health promotion will greatly help people with Alzheimer's Disease and their families while also reducing costs for the State of Hawaii.

Please support the passage of SB 676.

LATE

SB-676

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 9:10:20 PM
Testimony for CPH on 1/30/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jomel Duldulao	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rosalyn H. Baker and Members of the Committee:

I am in **strong support** of Senate Bill 676. There are an estimated 28,000 people with Alzheimer’s Disease in Hawaii and it is the 6th leading cause of death. In 2018, the Medicaid cost of caring for people with Alzheimer’s was \$207 million and that figure is estimated to increase by 35.4% by 2025. Additionally, the per capita Medicare spending on people with dementia is \$17,617.

Alzheimer’s Disease is a chronic disease and is recognized as such by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. SB 676 establishes a position within the Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Division that would increase awareness and education, surveillance, evidence-based best practices, evaluation, health equity, and support public health policies for Alzheimer’s Disease and related Dementias. Prevention, early detection, and health promotion will greatly help people with Alzheimer’s Disease and their families while also reducing costs for the State of Hawaii.

Please support the passage of SB 676."

Mahalo for your support!

Jomel Duldulao

Dear Chair Rosalyn H. Baker and Members of the Committee:

As a caregiver and a provider, I am in strong support of Senate Bill 676. There are an estimated 28,000 people with Alzheimer's Disease in Hawaii and it is the 6th leading cause of death. In 2018, the Medicaid cost of caring for people with Alzheimer's was \$207 million and that figure is estimated to increase by 35.4% by 2025. Additionally, the per capita Medicare spending on people with dementia is \$17,617.

Alzheimer's Disease is a chronic disease and is recognized as such by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. SB 676 establishes a position within the Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Division that would increase awareness and education, surveillance, evidence-based best practices, evaluation, health equity, and support public health policies for Alzheimer's Disease and related Dementias. Prevention, early detection, and health promotion will greatly help people with Alzheimer's Disease and their families while also reducing costs for the State of Hawaii.

Please support the passage of SB 676."

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Poki'i Balaz', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Dr. Poki'i Balaz