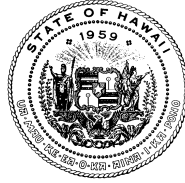


DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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 in SUPPORT of HB0467 HD1 SD1**  
**Relating to Kupuna Caregivers Program**

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
SENATOR DONOVAN DELA CRUZ, CHAIR  
SENATOR GILBERT S.C. KEITH-AGARAN, VICE CHAIR

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

Hearing Date: April 3, 2019  
10:20 am

Room Number: 211

- 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 base budget.
- 4 **Fiscal Implications:** This measure appropriates \$2 Million in FY2020 and the same sum in  
5 FY2021 for the Kupuna Caregivers Program. Governor Ige's budget request maintains a total  
6 base budget of \$1.2 million from SFY2019 through SFY2021.
- 7 **Purpose and Justification:** The purpose of this bill is to provide assistance to caregivers to  
8 allow them to remain in the workforce while their loved ones are provided with necessary  
9 support services. Hawaii's aging population continues to grow, and caregiver assistance is  
10 critical to supporting caregivers' own health as well as the health of Hawaii's kupuna. Act 102,  
11 HSL2017 appropriated \$600,000 for kupuna caregiver support services in SFY2018. In  
12 SFY2019, the Legislature appropriated \$1.2 million which will only maintain funding for those

1 being served. The Kupuna Caregiver Program is in its infancy as this month marks the one-year  
2 anniversary of the program serving caregivers. The program served 110 caregivers statewide as  
3 of the end of December 2018.

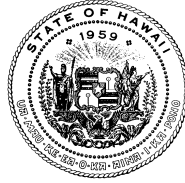
4 The current language for the Kupuna Caregivers Program Statute, HRS 349-18, specifies a  
5 maximum amount of \$70 a day for services which limits the number of individuals who received  
6 Kupuna Caregiver services. If the language was amended to a weekly amount such as \$350 per  
7 week, this would give the Area Agencies on Aging more flexibility on how the funds are used.

8 **Recommendations:** The Kupuna Caregivers Program is a part of the Administration's base  
9 budget request. 1) We support the appropriation amount of \$2 Million for each year of the 2019-  
10 2021 fiscal biennium provided that its enactment does not reduce or replace priorities in the  
11 Administration's base budget. 2) We support a weekly amount of \$350 to provide flexibility in  
12 addressing the caregivers' needs.

13

14 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

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  
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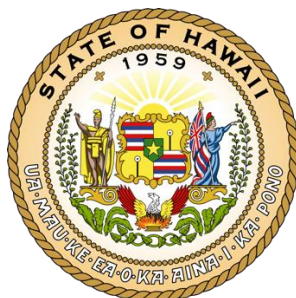
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Testimony on behalf of the  
Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women  
**Khara Jabola-Carolus, Executive Director**

Prepared for the S. Cmtee. on WAM

Comments re: HB467 HD1, SD1  
Wednesday, April 3, 2019, at 10:20 a.m. in Room 211

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Honorable Members,

The Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women wishes to mahalo you for the opportunity to provide comments on HB467 HD1, SD1, which would appropriate funds for the kupuna caregivers program.

More seniors in Hawai'i live past the age of 65 compared to anywhere else in the United States. Women over 65 and older are much more likely to be poor than men, regardless of race, educational background, and marital status. Thus, women face greater financial pressure to rely on friends and family care as they age. The soaring demand for affordable or free caregiving is predominantly met by women, who do not have the basic supports to allow them to take care of their families while they work. The value of the informal care that women in the United States provide ranges from \$148 billion to \$188 billion annually.<sup>1</sup> The quiet heroism of unpaid women caregivers alone cannot be the primary countervailing factor to our caregiving crisis.

A care agenda should be funded and normalized into Hawai'i's economic plan. Accordingly, the Commission requests that the Committees pass HB467 HD1, SD1.

Sincerely,

Khara Jabola-Carolus

---

<sup>1</sup> Family Caregiver Alliance, *Women and Caregiving: Facts and Figures*, 2003, <https://www.caregiver.org/women-and-caregiving-facts-and-figures>.



O'ahu County Democrats  
oahudemocrats.org



Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

**RE: H.B. 467 HD1 SD1, Relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program.**

The O'ahu County Democrats write in support of House Bill 467, House Draft 1, Senate Draft 1.

This measure changes sdaily disbursements for qualified caregivers from \$70 to \$350 per week. Futhermore, the provides funds to implement the kupuna caregivers program (SD1).

Hawai'i is an aging state with some of the largest densities of seniors in the country: our need for caregivers is acute, and we Democrats recognize that their work is too often undervalued. This measure provides greater flexibility in the use of the funds.

We thank Representative Takayama for introducing this measure. Members, please vote 'aye' on H.B. 467 HD1 SD1.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "DP Armstrong". A horizontal line is drawn below the signature.

DYLAN P. ARMSTRONG, VICE CHAIR  
O'AHU COUNTY COMMITTEE, O'AHU COUNTY DEMOCRATS

The Thirtieth Legislature  
Regular Session of 2019

THE SENATE

Committee on Ways and Means

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair

Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

State Capitol, Conference Room 211

Wednesday, April 3, 2019; 10:20 a.m.

**STATEMENT OF THE ILWU LOCAL 142 ON H.B. 467, HD1, SD1  
RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM**

The ILWU Local 142 **strongly supports** H.B. 467, HD1, SD1, which changes the Kupuna Caregivers Program allocation cap from \$70 a day to \$350 a week and appropriates funds for the continued implementation of the program.

We applaud the Hawaii State Legislature for establishing the Kupuna Caregivers Program in 2017 as the first of its kind in the nation. While services are provided to the kupuna, **the real “client” is the employed family caregiver**, who, with services provided to their loved one, is able to remain in the workforce, thereby protecting the caregiver’s own financial security now and into the future. Another beneficiary of this program is the **caregiver’s employer**, who is spared the upheaval of absenteeism and premature retirement or resignation due to an employee’s caregiving responsibilities.

Although a range of services are available, **adult day care** has been determined **the most cost-effective**. Kupuna can receive services at an **adult day care facility** from professional staff who provide meals and a **safe and healthful environment** but also facilitate **opportunities for socialization** during the day while the caregiver is at work. This is good for the kupuna but also affords the caregiver peace of mind that the kupuna is well cared for, thus allowing the caregiver to retain his or her own job. The relatively nominal cost of adult day care allows kupuna to remain in their own homes, as they prefer, and keeps them out of costly institutional care, which can run more than \$11,000 a month and usually requires kupuna to apply for Medicaid, half of which is funded by the State and taxpayers.

Other services can also provide a caregiver with some peace of mind while working. For example, **home-delivered meals** not only mean delivery of hot meals five days a week but **daily contact** with a person delivering the meal, usually a volunteer, who can spend some time with the kupuna and ensure that the kupuna is safe and well.

More, not less, is needed for programs such as Kupuna Caregivers. The problems of an aging population will continue to grow and efforts must be made to address these problems now.

The ILWU urges passage of H.B. 467, HD1, SD1, which offers funding that will realize the intent of the Kupuna Caregivers Program—which is to **assist kupuna to live in their own homes** while recognizing the **important role of family caregivers** and allowing them to retain their jobs while caring for their kupuna at home.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.



1132 Bishop Street, #1920 | Honolulu, HI 96813  
1-866-295-7282 | Fax: 808-537-2288 | TTY: 1-877-434-7598  
aarp.org/hi | hiaarp@aarp.org | twitter: @AARPHawaii  
facebook.com/AARPHawaii

Senate  
Committee on Ways and Means  
Wednesday, April 3, 2019  
10:20 a.m.  
Conference Room 211

To: Senator Dela Cruz; Chair  
RE: Support for HB467, HD1, SD1, Relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

My name is Jessica Wooley and I am the Advocacy Director for AARP Hawaii. AARP is a membership-based organization of people age fifty and over with about 150,000 members in Hawaii. AARP advocates for issues that matter to Hawaii families, including the high cost of long-term care, access to affordable, quality health care for all generations and serving as a reliable information source on issues critical to people over the age of fifty.

AARP Hawai'i supports full funding for the Kupuna Caregivers Program, a nationally recognized program operating for just over a year to help vulnerable kupuna and the working caregivers struggling to care for them and keep their job. The Kupuna Caregivers Program ensures our most vulnerable working caregivers and the kupuna they care for have access to basic services (e.g., adult day care, assisted transportation, attendant care, house-keeping/homemaker, respite and home-delivered meals).

Please provide full funding for this critically-needed Kupuna Caregivers program, which is in its infancy, full of potential, saves the state money and benefits the most vulnerable.

Mahalo for your work to create and maintain this innovative program and for providing the opportunity to testify in support of HB467, HD1, SD1.



**Chair Donovan M. Dela Cruz  
Vice Chair Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means**



**CARING  
ACROSS  
GENERATIONS**

**Wednesday, April 3, 2019**

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB467, HD1, SD1  
RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM**

My name is Pedro Haro, and I wish to testify on behalf of Caring Across Generations in strong support of House Bill 467, HD1, SD1.

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 to support the caregiving infrastructure that the Kupuna Caregivers provides.

HB 467, HD1, SD1 will continue the funding for the Kupuna Caregivers program, appropriating \$2 Million per year for the next two fiscal years. This will provide the needed respite care that our kūpuna caregivers deserve and the support our working families and businesses need. It will also change the statute to provide up to \$350 per week in services. Even though this is equal to the current amount provided of up to \$70 per day in services for up to five days a week, this change allows the Executive Office on Aging to negotiate more freely with vendors and be able to provide more services.



CARING  
ACROSS  
GENERATIONS

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 House Bill 467, HD1, SD1 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**  
**Advocacy Director, Hawaii**  
**Caring Across Generations**  
**pedro@caringacross.org**



**ACOG**  
The American College of  
Obstetricians and Gynecologists

*American College of  
Obstetricians and Gynecologists  
District VIII, Hawai'i (Guam & American  
Samoa) Section*

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

DATE: Wednesday, March 20, 2019, 10:20 AM  
PLACE: State Capitol Conference Room 211

FROM: Hawaii Section, ACOG  
Dr. Chrystie Fujimoto, MD, FACOG, Chair  
Dr. Reni Soon, MD, MPH, FACOG, Vice Chair  
Lauren Zirbel, Community and Government Relations

**RE: HB467\_HD1\_SD1 – Relating to the Kūpuna Caregivers Program**  
**Position: SUPPORT**

The Hawai'i Section of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (HI ACOG), representing over 200 of Hawaii's obstetrician-gynecologists, supports HB467\_HD1\_SD1 which would continue funding for this valuable program and changes the program allocation cap from \$70 per day to \$350 per week.

In 2017, the Hawai'i State Legislature honored our tradition in Hawai'i of caring for our kūpuna by establishing the Kūpuna Caregivers Program. Within just a few weeks of launch, the Executive Office on Aging documented over 500 requests for services. By 2020, nearly 300,000 people will be age 65 or older in Hawai'i.<sup>1</sup> Many of our diverse cultures in Hawai'i honor our elders who wish to age at home, but the burden on caregivers can be significant and can include financial and emotional stress. Much of that burden disproportionately falls on women. 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. Many women may leave the workforce altogether, which can affect their insurance and access to health care.

Our organization calls for access to 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.<sup>2</sup> Kūpuna Caregivers provides critical support to families so that caregivers do not have to choose between caring for a loved one and stable employment and healthcare access. HI ACOG is committed to both facilitating access to and supporting high quality women's health care, including for caregivers and our kūpuna.

Each year the Hawai'i Legislature has shown leadership on this issue by creating and continuing to fund the Kūpuna Caregivers program. We hope this year you will once again step up and continue to fund this valuable program.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

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<sup>1</sup> Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, Population and Economic Projections for the State of Hawaii to 2040.

<sup>2</sup> The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, Access to Women's Health Care, Statement of Policy, Reaffirmed July 2016

**HB-467-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 2:01:15 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2019 10:20:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ann S Freed	Testifying for Hawaii Women's Coalition	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-467-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/1/2019 8:11:33 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2019 10:20:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Midwives Alliance of Hawaii	Testifying for Midwives Alliance of Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

We strongly support this bill and request FIN to pass SB1025 SD1 HD1.

**HB-467-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/1/2019 6:36:52 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2019 10:20:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
GARY SIMON	Testifying for Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs (PABEA)	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

I am Gary Simon, Chair of the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs (PABEA), which is an appointed board tasked with advising the Executive Office on Aging (EOA).

I am testifying as an individual who has worked in healthcare for over thirty years, and I am offering testimony on behalf of PABEA.

My testimony does not represent the views of the EOA but of PABEA.

***PABEA wholeheartedly supports HB 467 HD 1 SD 1.***

Changing the Kupuna Caregivers Program allocation cap from \$70 per day to \$350 per week allows the Area Agencies on Aging more flexibility in using the funds to meet the needs of the working family caregivers and their care recipients.

Funding for the Kupuna Caregiver Program protects working caregivers who are struggling to remain employed while providing caregiving services for a frail or elderly family member.

Without this funding, eligible working caregivers can lose income and their employment.

We urge you to support HB 467 HD 1 SD 1 and to recommend its passage.

We thank you for seriously considering the bill.

Very sincerely,

Gary Simon

Chair, Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs (PABEA)



**Testimony in Support by Zonta Club Of Hilo for Kupuna Caucus Bills (HB 465, HD 1, SD 1; HB 467, HD 1, SD 1; HB 468, HD1, SD 1**  
Hearings Before the Ways and Means Committee

**April 3, 2019; Wed; 10:20 a.m; State Capitol Conference Room 211**

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz; Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran Vice-Chair, and Committee Members

**The Zonta Club of Hilo supports** the requested appropriation to fund fully the Kupuna Care, Kupuna Caregivers without the daily cap, Healthy Aging, which bills are being heard together on April 3, 2019. We support the Aging and Disability Resource Centers Network HB 466, HD1; and the Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias Coordinator bills, as well. Zonta is an international organization of business and professional women whose mission advances the status of women and girls worldwide.

The Zonta Club **voted recently to support Kupuna Caucus bills relating to Aging**, including Kupuna Care, Kupuna Caregivers Support, Healthy Aging, Alzheimer and Dementia Coordinator, and a "one-stop resource center" for aging and disability services (ADRC),). As an organization, we realize that aging issues disproportionately impact women for two main reasons; 1) greater social, medical and economic costs associated with longer life-expectancies for women; and 2) women still bear most of the responsibilities of elder caregiving. Many Zontians are "Baby Boomers" who understand the challenges of being an "elder."

To reduce economic and social costs facing the elders, disabled, and their care-givers, we need collaborative, comprehensive implementation of "best practices." The practices must include a government and community "support net" through adequate funding and user-friendly access.

The Kupuna Caucus funding proposals would reduce the overall societal and economic costs by allowing the elders to age-in-place, surrounded by social supports, and avoiding costly institutional care and caregivers' burnout.

The funding will be helpful for Hawaii County, which has the challenge of being the largest county with strained infrastructure. Our super-rurality makes any delivery of services for elders and disabled more challenging. We continue to have the unfortunate status of being the county with the most "challenging" economic and social negative social indicators, including inadequate public transportation and insufficient primary health care services. Hawaii County's growing elder and disabled population is outpacing the current resources. Over 21% of the population is over 60. The Kupuna Caucus funding bills give us hope.

Thank you for your expected support and opportunity to testify. Charlene Iboshi





# HAWAII APPLESEED

## CENTER FOR LAW & ECONOMIC JUSTICE

Testimony of Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice  
In Support of HB 467 HD1 SD1 – Relating to the Kūpuna Caregivers Program  
Senate Committees on Ways and Means  
Wednesday, April 3, 2019, 10:20 AM, conference room 211

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Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **SUPPORT** of **HB 467 HD1 SD1**, which would change the Kūpuna Caregivers Program allocation cap from \$70 per day to \$350 per week as well as appropriate \$2 million per year for two fiscal years for implementation of the program.

According to a MetLife survey, the cost of home health aide and homemaker services are significantly higher in Hawai'i than the national average. Ninety percent of people over age 65 say they 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.

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.

We commend you for creating the Kūpuna Caregivers Program, the first of its kind in the nation. This groundbreaking program is a crucial way to both provide a safety net for Hawai'i's family caregivers and invest in our paid care workforce.

It is essential that the program continue to be funded adequately in order to help many of our working families, who are in desperate need of the financial support that the program can provide.

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.

Please pass this bill. We appreciate your consideration of this testimony.

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*The Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice 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.*

**HB-467-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/1/2019 3:40:24 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2019 10:20:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
William Caron	Testifying for Young Progressives Demanding Action	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-467-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/1/2019 2:43:41 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2019 10:20:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mike Golojuch	Testifying for Palehua Townhouse Association	Support	No

Comments:

We strongly support HB467. The funds are need for the continued implementation of the kupuna caregivers program. Please pass HB467.

Mike Golojuch, President

Palehua Townhouse Association



**CGPTA**  
**Chinatown Gateway Plaza**  
**Tenant Association**  
**Since 2006**

**To: Committee on Ways and Means (WAM)**  
**From: Chinatown Gateway Plaza Tenant Association (CGPTA)**  
Date: Wednesday, April 3, 2019, 10:20 AM  
Place: Conference Room 211, State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street

**Re: Strong Support for HB467 HD1 SD1, Relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program.**

Aloha e Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee on WAM,

My name is Steve Lohse, I'm a resident of Chinatown Gateway Plaza (CGP), a city-owned affordable housing community in Chinatown. I'm also chair of the CGP Tenant Association (CGPTA), organized by residents in 2006 to keep ourselves informed and engaged in matters of concern to our community. On behalf of the CGPTA, thank you for this opportunity to submit written testimony in **Strong Support of HB467 HD1 SD1**.

We know that working families need help making ends meet while caring for kupuna daily needs. The CGPTA strongly supports a Kupuna Caregivers Program with adequate weekly help for kupuna caregivers and with funds to include as many participants as possible.

If your family is like mine, then you have seen family and community elders grow frail and in need of care, and you know that working families often struggle to sustain kupuna caregiving. How can we deny the help they need to Hawaii's working-family kupuna caregivers?

We need a Kupuna Caregivers Program that provides adequate weekly support for caregivers as well as provides services to caregivers on the waiting list. **Please, pass HB467 HD1 SD1** in its current form and fund the Kupuna Caregivers Program generously. Thank you!

Aloha no,  
Steve Lohse, Chair  
Chinatown Gateway Plaza Tenant Association (CGPTA)  
[CGP.Tenant.Association@gmail.com](mailto:CGP.Tenant.Association@gmail.com)



Testimony of Church of the Crossroads  
Supporting HB 467 HD1 SD1  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
April 3, 2019 at 10:20 a.m. in Conference Room 211

*The Church of the Crossroads was founded in 1922 and is Hawaii's first intentionally multicultural church.*

The Church of the Crossroads supports the bill. The Hawaii Kupuna Caregivers Program was established by the Hawaii Legislature in 2017 and is an important step in creating needed supports to family caregivers. By 2020, nearly 300,000 people in Hawaii will be 65 years of age or older, and the number persons needing some assistance with everyday activities continues to increase.

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 benefits 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 the demands of caring.

The Kupuna Caregivers Program is designed to enable family caregivers to continue to participate in the labor force by providing assistance with care for their elder family member. The program currently offers in-home and community-based services, such as day care, transportation, homemaker services, meals, and personal care services, up to \$70 per day for 5 days a week. Elder persons needing assistance with at least 2 activities of daily living may qualify for the program.

Within a few weeks of the launch of the program, more than 500 persons inquired about it. The program's relatively small budget, however, limited the services to a relatively small number of clients. The current level of funding, unfortunately, is still woefully inadequate to serve the existing need. Legislators, as well as persons in the community, have expressed a strong desire to expand the number of persons being served.

The bill appropriately allows \$350 to be spent per case per week to increase flexibility for caregivers. The bill also appropriates \$2 million, which will allow it to serve a more significant and meaningful number of employed caregivers. This appropriation is still not enough to satisfy the great need, but it is a step forward.

For the foregoing reasons, the Church of the Crossroads supports the bill.



## CATHOLIC CHARITIES HAWAII

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

FROM: Betty Lou Larson, Legislative Liaison

DATE: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 (10:20 a.m., Room 211)

RE: **SUPPORT for HB 467, HD1, SD1 Relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program**

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 older persons each year.

**CCH SUPPORTS the allocation of \$2M to continue the program and the amendment of the allocation cap from a daily (\$70 per day) to a weekly \$350 per week) rate.**

**CCH would also like to offer the following RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- Recommendation to consider taking an additional step toward greater flexibility by **amending the allocation cap from a daily rate to a monthly rate.** The more flexibility that can be provided in how the funding may be used, the better the program can serve the diverse needs of working caregivers. While a weekly rate is definitely better than a daily rate for caregivers who need ongoing help, a monthly rate allows more flexibility for caregivers who may need short term, emergency or intermittent help.
- Recommendation that the funds be **administered like an Emergency Financial Assistance Program.** The contracted “emergency assistance” agencies would be responsible to assess for initial eligibility, could be required to get authorization through the State or County, and pay directly to vetted providers of eligible services who would then deliver the service to the elder/caregiver. This would limit the amount of contracts that the State or Counties would have to procure and monitor and may also **ensure that caregivers have the greatest access to ALL eligible services.**

*Providing relief to caregivers should be a system that ENCOURAGES working caregivers to apply, giving them hope of relief. It should not to cause working caregivers to screen themselves OUT because the benefit is too restrictive to support them in meeting their significant caregiver responsibilities.*

For more information or if there are questions, please feel free to email Diane Terada, Division Administrator, at [diane.terada@catholiccharitieshawaii.org](mailto:diane.terada@catholiccharitieshawaii.org) or call her via phone at 527-4702.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony.





**Evelyn Hao**  
President

Chair Donovan M. Dela Cruz  
Vice Chair Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

**Rev. Won-Seok Yuh**  
Vice President-  
Clergy

Wednesday, April 3, 2019

**William Bekemeier**  
Vice President-  
Laity

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 467, HD1, SD1 RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM**

**Jon Davidann**  
Treasurer

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committees,

**Deanna Espinas**  
Secretary

My name is Evelyn Aczon Hao and I am the President of Faith Action for Community Equity. Faith Action (*formerly known as FACE*) has been working on long-term care issues since 1996. As an organization that really pushed for the passage of the Kupuna Caregivers Program, we strongly SUPPORT House Bill 467, HD1, SD1.

**Christy MacPherson**  
Executive  
Director

The Executive Office on Aging reported that thousands of new calls came into its lines when the program was first launched. And we know why they are calling. The cost of professional caregiving continues to rise and our families simply cannot afford to take care of a loved one and remain fully employed. This program helps those in the gap group who are not eligible for Medicaid or Medicare to help with the costs, but are still barely making it, at times at risk of losing their jobs or having to reduce hours at work because the duties at home are too great.

**Soo San Schake**  
Organizing  
Assistant

This bill will provide the needed \$2 million in funding, which will help cover those people who are still on the waiting list. It also asks the Executive Office on Aging to provide a detailed report on the program's outcomes and a plan to reach more people with the Kupuna Caregiver funds, which we support.

We strongly urge you to amend this measure by removing the once per week limit on services so that the Executive Office on Aging is able to negotiate more freely with vendors and be able to provide effective services that will have more of a supportive impact on caregiving families.

We hope this year you will once again step up and continue funding this critical program.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

Evelyn Aczon Hao  
President  
Faith Action for Community Equity

**TO :** SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith – Agaran, Vice Chair

**FROM:** Eldon L. Wegner, Ph.D.  
Board Member, Hawaii Family Caregiver Coalition

**SUBJECT:** HB 467 HD1 SD1 Relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program

**HEARING:** Wednesday, March 13, 2019, 9:00 am  
Conference Room 229, Hawaii State Capitol

**POSITION:** The Hawaii Family Caregiver Coalition strongly supports HB 467 HD1 SD1 to continue to fund the Kupuna Caregiver Program. We also strongly support the SD1 draft which establishes the cap as up to \$350 per week to allow flexibility based level of need to enable caregivers to remain in the workforce. The Executive Office on Aging has worked with the ADRC's to develop assessments of client and caregiver needs and resources and that the level of services should be appropriate to the results of these assessments.

**THE NEED:**

The Hawaii Kupuna Caregivers Program was established by the 2017 Legislative Session and is an important step in creating needed supports to family caregivers. The number of persons needing some assistance with everyday activities continues to increase. The majority are able to manage without any assistance, but 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 the demands of caring.

The Kupuna Caregivers Program is designed to enable family caregivers to continue to participate in the labor force by providing assistance with care for their elder family member. The program offers in-home and community-based services, such as day care, transportation, homemaker services, meals, and personal care services, up to 5 days a week. Elder persons needing assistance with at least 2 activities of daily living may qualify for the program.

Within a few weeks of when the program was launched, over 500 persons submitted an inquiry for the program. The program budget (\$600,000), however, limited the services to a relatively small number of clients. As of the end of December 2018, a total of 110 caregivers and 112 care recipients have been served by the program.

Legislators as well as persons in the community have expressed a strong desire to see this program expand the number of persons being served. This goal requires that the additional funds be available for the program. We request that funding be increased to \$2 million per year to enable the program to serve a more significant number of clients.

Thank you  
Eldon L. Wegner, Ph.D



**HB-467-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/31/2019 10:17:25 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2019 10:20:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Katrina Obleada	Testifying for Hawaii Psychological Association	Support	No

Comments:

The Hawai'i Psychological Association (HPA) supports the Kapuna Caregiver Program measure with designated amendments which changes the program funding allocation cap, and includes activities of daily living under the scope of services qualified caregivers can receive program funding for.

**HB-467-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/31/2019 4:23:27 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2019 10:20:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Concetta DiLeo	Testifying for Church of the Crossroads	Support	No

Comments:

Hawaii has a great number of older, disabled residents. Many of them need care nurses and most families don't have the resources to hire care nurses. I would like to see that we pass a bill that would give families who take care of these residents pay.

**HB-467-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2019 1:59:03 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2019 10:20:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
noel kent	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

At a time when Hawai'i is aging rapidly and a startling number of our elderly citizens are requiring caregiving assistance, this bill will provide greater benefits for the caretakers and allow more of the elderly to receive support. This will reduce stresses for both parties and make our state a more humane and kindly place for our residents. Please pass HB 467 and keep our society humane and civiized. Mahalo. Noel Kent

Testimony Supporting HB467  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
April 3, 2019 at 10:20 in Conference Room 211

Aloha:

My name is Rev. David Baumgart Turner, and I am the pastor of Church of the Crossroads, Hawaii's first intentional multi-ethnic congregation, founded in 1923. I testify in support of HB467 for the following reasons:

Hawaii's elder population continues to grow faster than younger populations. Many of the elderly are or will be in need of long-term care in one form or another. Most people cannot afford the cost of institutional care but, more importantly, they prefer to remain in their own homes.

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 because their employment is necessary to support their families and to assure that they will have enough to support themselves in retirement.

There are an estimated 150,000 unpaid family caregivers in Hawaii, with the average caregiver being a 62-year-old married woman who cares for an elderly parent or husband while still working. 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 must limit their work hours or drop out of the workforce due the demands of caring.

In 2017, Hawaii created the Kupuna Caregivers Program, which helps family caregivers who work at jobs outside the home by providing a \$70/day benefit in services to care for disabled elderly people. These services include adult day care, chore services, personal care, respite care, and transportation.

The goal of Kupuna Caregivers is twofold: to support families in Hawaii in their desire to care for their loved ones, and to do it in an innovative, systematic manner that saves the State money in the long run. Without Kupuna Caregivers, the disabled elderly may have to be institutionalized, and the average cost of nursing home care in Hawaii exceeds \$130,000 per year. As a result, many nursing home residents deplete their savings and qualify for Medicaid, which is a State program.

The Kupuna Caregivers program has proven to be effective. However, the need is much greater than the current funding. I urge the committee to pass the bill.

Aloha, Rev. David Baumgart Turner  
Pastor, Church of the Crossroads – 1212 University Ave. / Honolulu, HI 96826



April 1, 2019

To : Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith Aragan, Vice Chair

**RE: HB467 HD1 SD1 - Relating to Kupuna Care Givers Program**

Hearing: April 3, 2019 – 10:20AM – Conference Room 211

Most Honorable Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Aragan and Committee Members:

**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB467 HD1 SD1, Hawaii's Kupuna CareGivers Program.**

- ✓ Please vote to support the full funding request of \$2 Million for the next fiscal year, as stated in the bill, as well as the same amount for the following year.
- ✓ Please vote to support the use of up to \$350 of funds per week for the most judicious use of caregiver support funds...funds used to care for the most urgent needs of the frailest kupuna in our community.

This very-needed program, overseen by the Executive Office on Aging ADRC (Hawaii Aging and Disability Resource Center), serves the most frail kupuna in Hawaii.

It allows caregivers to be gainfully employed while their loved ones are cared for in a respectful manner at home.

I am in full support of this bill.  
Please continue your support of this measure.

Respectfully submitted,  
Christine Olah  
Honolulu Resident

Date: Monday, April 1, 2019

To: The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: Meghan Kenney, Social Work Student

Re: Strong Support for HB467, RELATING TO THE KŪPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM.

Hrg: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 at 10:20am at Conference Room 211

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in SUPPORT of HB467, which allows for continued funding for the kūpuna caregivers program and changes the kūpuna caregivers program allocation cap from \$70 per day to \$350 per week.

As a student social worker, I am grateful to have had the opportunity to work with not only kūpuna, but their caregivers as well. Caregiving is one of the most rewarding and challenging tasks, and given it's unpredictable nature, requires a great amount of flexibility. That is why I support changing the program allocation cap from \$70 per day to \$350 per week.

Funding kūpuna caregiver initiatives is important to me, as I have benefited greatly, both personally and professionally from working with this population. I am a strong proponent of programs that benefit our kūpuna and those who provide care for them. It is critical that we care for those who care for others, which is why the Kūpuna Caregivers Program is so necessary.

I support the continued efforts that support kūpuna and caregivers and humbly request that this measure be passed out of this committee. Mahalo for your support of HB467.

**HB-467-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/1/2019 3:23:31 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2019 10:20:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Susan J. Wurtzburg	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



**HB-467-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/1/2019 3:29:27 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2019 10:20:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mark K.Wilson III	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

The Kupuna Caregivers Program was meant to meet an increasing need, but the current level of funding is not enough to meet that need. The proposed increase to \$2 million per year will allow support for a more significant number of employed caregivers.

Mark Wilson

**HB-467-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/1/2019 3:10:51 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2019 10:20:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Larry Geller	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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

DATE: Wednesday, April 3, 2019

TIME: 10:20 AM

PLACE: Conference Room 211

**Re: HB 467, HD1, SD1 Relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program**

**Position: Support**

Dear Senator Dela Cruz, Senator Keith-Agaran, and Committee Members,

HB 467, HD1, SD1 provides continued funding for the Kupuna Caregivers program. The need for this program is demonstrated by those currently receiving services as well as the long waiting list of families who need the assistance.

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 experienced 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 J. Goto, M.D.

**HB-467-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/1/2019 11:27:04 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2019 10:20:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Francis Nakamoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

TESTIMONY RELATING TO HB 467 SD1 HD1

Chair Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Gilbert Keith-Agaran and members of the Committee on Ways and Means, my name is Francis Nakamoto, speaking as a private citizen, in support of HB467 HD1, SD1.

Caregiver is an innovative way to encourage and enable working caregivers to stay in their jobs while taking care of their loved ones.

It has gained nation-wide attention. In the recent issue of Time Magazine, this law was highlighted as one of very few credible efforts nationally to address the real needs of working caregivers and their loved ones by allowing caregivers \$350 a week for Kupuna Care service. Notably, the article did not mention the current effort by the House of Representatives to limit the daily benefit to only once a week.

HB467 HD1, SD1 retains the \$350 per week benefit.

Working caregivers need help—real help—to allow them to continue to work while arranging care for their stay-at-home loved ones who choose to remain at home and not in an institution. By allowing working caregivers the ability to provide needed services and care to their loved ones while they continue to work, it helps both while helping society in general since the caregiver continues to pay taxes, maintain their health and sanity and, hopefully, save for retirement.

By limiting daily benefits to only one use a week--as the House would--the purpose of the law, to keep working caregivers working, would be undermined. Some, like transporting a loved one to the doctor, can be provided in a day. Realistically, however, most care is needed every day or more than once a week. The maximum \$350 a week limit allowed by the Senate amendment is a reasonable limitation, allowing the Executive Office on Aging the flexibility negotiate with vendors for the best and most effective services to allow caregivers to maintain their work schedules while caring for their kupuna.

The House version is short-sighted. I'm afraid that if benefits are unrealistically limited to once a week, Hawai'i will draw national attention again, but for less complimentary reasons.

**HB-467-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/1/2019 8:12:43 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2019 10:20:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lea Minton	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support this bill and request WAM to pass HB467 HD1 SD1.

**HB-467-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 7:48:33 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2019 10:20:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sara Harris	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support continued funding for this valuable program that supports our kupuna.

Sincerely,

Sara C. Harris, MD

**HB-467-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 8:57:22 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2019 10:20:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Colleen Inouye	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Chair Dela Cruz and Vice-Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

I support HB467 HD1 SD1. This bill appropriates funds for the Kapuna Caregivers Program.

Please allowed continued support for this valuable program with the necessary and appropriate funding.

Sincerely,

Colleen F Inouye MD MMM FACOG



Date: 4/3/2019

Time: 10:20 am

Committee: Senate Ways & Means

Title of Bill: HB 467, HD1, SD1 Relating To The Kupuna Caregivers Program

My name is Iris Nakamatsu and I reside in Kaneohe, Hawaii. As the sole caregiver of my 86 year old mother, I strongly support HB 467, HD1, SD1. When she was diagnosed with Alzheimer's in late 2016, I was so sad and scared. In order to keep her active for as long as possible, I searched for and thankfully found a wonderful day care for her to attend, Windward Senior Day Care Center. Although working full-time, I still could only afford to send Mom just one day a week.

Then a miracle happened – The Kupuna Caregivers Program. Mom and I are blessed to have been approved for this amazing program. I am truly grateful that Mom is now receiving even more of the excellent care that she needs and that I am still able to work full-time. Mom is doing well and I have hope!

I humbly ask that you fully support and pass HB 467, HD1, SD1 so that even more caregivers and kupuna may benefit from this program.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this very important and needed bill.

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

**Wednesday, April 3, 2019**  
**10:20AM**  
**Conference Room 211**

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF:**  
**HB467, HD1, SD1, RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM**  
**HB465, HD1, SD1, RELATING THE KUPUNA CARE PROGRAM**  
**HB468,HD1, SD1, RELATING TO THE HEALTHY AGING PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM**

**Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means,**

**My name is Linda Dorset, and I am writing to express my support all of the above-mentioned bills. I'm sure you've already heard ad nauseum everything I would say at this point. This is just to show that those in favor are still watching hopefully.**

**The Kupuna Caregivers program needs you to support the language of #350.00 per week so that the Executive Office on Aging is able to negotiate more freely with vendors and be able to provide more services.**

**Kupuna Care needs funding to continue to take of our parents and grandparents.**

**Healthy Aging Partnership is needed to help Seniors remain healthy and off public assistance as long as possible.**

**Just think, at some point most of us will either be caregivers or need care.**

MICHAEL P. VICTORINO  
Mayor



DEBORAH STONE-WALLS  
Executive on Aging

PHONE (808) 270-7755

FAX (808) 270-7935

E-MAIL: [mcoa.adrc@mauicounty.gov](mailto:mcoa.adrc@mauicounty.gov)

LORI TSUHAKO  
Acting Director  
Housing & Human Concerns

LINDA R. MUNSELL  
Deputy Director  
Housing & Human Concerns

**COUNTY OF MAUI**  
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND HUMAN CONCERNS  
**MAUI COUNTY OFFICE ON AGING**  
*AN AREA AGENCY ON AGING*

J. WALTER CAMERON CENTER  
95 MAHALANI STREET, ROOM 20  
WAILUKU, HAWAII 96793

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

**HB467 HD1 SD1, RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM**

Testimony of Deborah Stone-Walls  
Executive on Aging, Maui County Office on Aging (MCOA)

**Hearing Date: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 at 10:20 a.m.**  
**Room Number: Conf. Room 211**

**MCOA's Position:** Maui County Office on Aging (MCOA) is in **strong support** of  
**HB467 HD1 SD1, RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM.**

**Purpose and Justification:** The State of Hawaii has long demonstrated commitment to supporting caregivers and recognizing the critical ways family and informal caregivers contribute to allowing those most frail and vulnerable to remain living in the community as long as is desired and possible.

A past Director of the State of Hawaii Executive Office on Aging (EOA), Jeanette Takamura, PhD, served as the second Assistant Secretary for Aging at the Administration on Aging within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. As Assistant Secretary, Dr. Takamura built upon Hawaii's cultural values of Ohana and

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To promote and protect the well-being of the Older Americans in Maui County.

respect for Kupuna to lead the effort to establish the National Family Caregiver Support Program (NFCSP). Established in 2000 in the Older Americans Act (OAA) during Dr. Takamura's tenure as Assistant Secretary, the NFCSP provides funding for a range of supports that assist family and informal caregivers to care for their loved ones at home for as long as possible. *(Note: Authorizing legislation is Section 371 of the Older Americans Act of 1965, as amended, Title III E)*

Since that time, the Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) throughout the state have served family and informal caregivers with the following five types of services:

- Information to caregivers about available services and community resources
- Assistance to caregivers in accessing those services
- Counseling, Support Groups, and Caregiver Training
- Respite Care that can include services such as Adult Day Care, Personal Care, Homemaker; and
- Supplemental services that can include home modifications, assistive technology, emergency alarm response systems, consumable supplies, or any service or service option as defined by EOA

In addition to the services listed above, the Older Americans Act of 1965, as amended in 2016 allows caregivers that meet eligibility requirements to receive a home delivered meal. Funding provided for caregiver services through the OAA has been limited; therefore, MCOA employees have worked diligently to ensure that assistance is provided to those caregivers **most in need and most at risk** for burnout. Our goal has been to support caregivers in such a way that helps them avoid burnout so that they can function longer in the caregiver role in order to **help delay or mitigate the need for costly institutional care**. Please see the chart below for estimated monthly costs of institutional care in Maui.

**Monthly Costs: Kahului Area<sup>1</sup>, HI (2017)<sup>2</sup>**

Home Health Care	Adult Day Health Care <sup>1</sup>	Assisted Living Facility <sup>2</sup>	Nursing Home Care
<b>Homemaker Services<sup>1</sup></b> 2017 Cost <b>\$5,148</b>	<b>Adult Day Health Care<sup>1</sup></b> 2017 Cost <b>\$1,300</b>	<b>Assisted Living Facility<sup>2</sup></b> 2017 Cost <b>\$3,500</b>	<b>Semi-Private Room<sup>1</sup></b> 2017 Cost <b>\$10,266</b>
<b>Home Health Aide<sup>1</sup></b> 2017 Cost <b>\$5,148</b>			<b>Private Room<sup>1</sup></b> 2017 Cost <b>\$10,874</b>

Genworth 2017 Cost of Care Survey, conducted by CareScout®, June 2017  
 1 Based on annual rate divided by 12 months  
 2 As reported, private, one bedroom

[Key findings and methodology](#)

The Kupuna Caregivers Program (KCG) has allowed MCOA to provide an additional level of support that not only helps caregivers reduce the daily stress of providing care but also helps caregivers to **remain employed**. The caregivers enrolled in KCG have demonstrated the need for such assistance.

In considering the full continuum of care available through current service delivery options, KCG meets a critical need. The AAAs offer a spectrum of services to caregivers including:

- Level One\*—Newsletters, informational publications, outreach events, and information and referral
- Level Two\*—Support Groups, caregiver training, options counseling
- Level Three\*—Counseling, Case Management, Caregiver Meals
- Level Four\*—In-Home Respite, Adult Day Care Respite, Personal Care, Homemaker

***\*\*These are NOT formal levels; they are labeled as such in this testimony to demonstrate a progressive continuum. Caregivers may receive services from any or all levels simultaneously as they need.***

Funding for these services has allowed MCOA to provide relief from the daily burden of caregiving for MOST caregivers. There remained, however, a group of caregivers that needed an added level of support that was not feasible with the available level of funding.

Services provided to caregivers could be compared to general categories of hospital services. MCOA provides “outpatient services” through levels One and Two above and “acute care” through levels Three and Four above. However, prior to the implementation of Kupuna Caregivers Program, MCOA had no service option that would resemble the Intensive Care Unit of a hospital. This is the level of care at which intervention is critical and more costly per person. It is also the unit of the hospital that has the fewest beds because the level of care needs of most individuals simply do not rise to this level of need. It therefore, makes sense that Kupuna Caregivers serves fewer individuals at a higher cost. The level of service to help caregivers in danger of losing employment is higher than the level required by 95% of our caregivers who are not facing the loss of employment due to caregiving responsibilities.

***Caregivers enrolled in Kupuna Caregivers Program accounted for only 5% of MCOA’s total number of caregivers served in FY18. 95% of all caregivers received an adequate level of services through less intense service provision levels.***

If we limit the scope of service provision of the Kupuna Caregivers Program to only one day per week as some versions of bills to support Kupuna Caregivers Program have put forth, we will be, in effect, denying assistance to those caregivers who truly require this higher level of help. By providing assistance that substantiates a caregiver’s ability to remain in the workforce, we still remain able to meet the needs of the other 95% of caregivers.

In its current form, **HB 467, HD1, SD1** allows the AAAs to provide varying levels of service according to verified individual caregiver needs as determined by standardized assessment tools, targeting criteria, and documentation of caregiver burden. As is evidenced by service delivery patterns throughout the initial calendar year of the Kupuna Caregiver pilot demonstration, on average caregivers received an average of **three days per week**. Please note that this level of service occurred without an external restriction that limited the number of days of service available.

In FY2018 MCOA provided a wide service array to **537** unduplicated caregivers. Of those, **410** caregivers received direct services such as caregiver meals, counseling, and respite. Another **23** caregivers received a substantially higher level of assistance through the KCG Program. (Please see the charts below.)

Services Provided to **410** Unduplicated Caregivers **Not** Enrolled in Kupuna Caregivers Program:

<b>Service</b>	<b># of Caregivers Served</b>	<b>FY18 Total Units</b>	<b>Average per year</b>	<b>Average Investment/year/ Caregiver</b>
Home Delivered Meals	226	29,202 meals	130 meals (2.5 per week)	\$910
Family Caregiver Counseling	60	135.75 hours	2.25 hours	\$90
Adult Day Care Respite	109	1518 days	14 days	\$700
In-Home Respite	89	3,667 hours	41 hours	\$1,025
<b>Average Investment per year per Caregiver</b>			<b>\$915</b>	
<b>Approximate MCOA Caregiver Expenditures</b>			<b>\$375,150</b>	

Services Provided to **23** Caregivers Enrolled in the Kupuna Caregivers Program (KCG):  
**Note:** Services indicated occurred in the calendar year of 2018 during the first full year of the program. Calendar year totals were chosen rather than fiscal year totals as in the table above in order to have a full twelve months for comparison with the general caregiver services provided to those not enrolled in KCG.

Service	# of Caregivers Served	Calendar Year 2018 Total Units	Average per year	Average Investment/year/ Caregiver
Home Delivered Meals	1*	313 meals	313 meals	\$4,930
Personal Care	8*	958 hours	120 hours	\$2,284
Adult Day Care Respite	23	3,124 days	135 days	\$6,750
In-Home Respite	3	159 hours	53 hours	\$1,325
<b>Average Investment per year per Caregiver</b>			<b>\$8,058**</b>	
<b>Approximate MCOA KCG Program Expenditures</b>			<b>\$185,334</b>	

Notes: \*The frail elder receives the meal and personal care as a respite function for the caregiver.

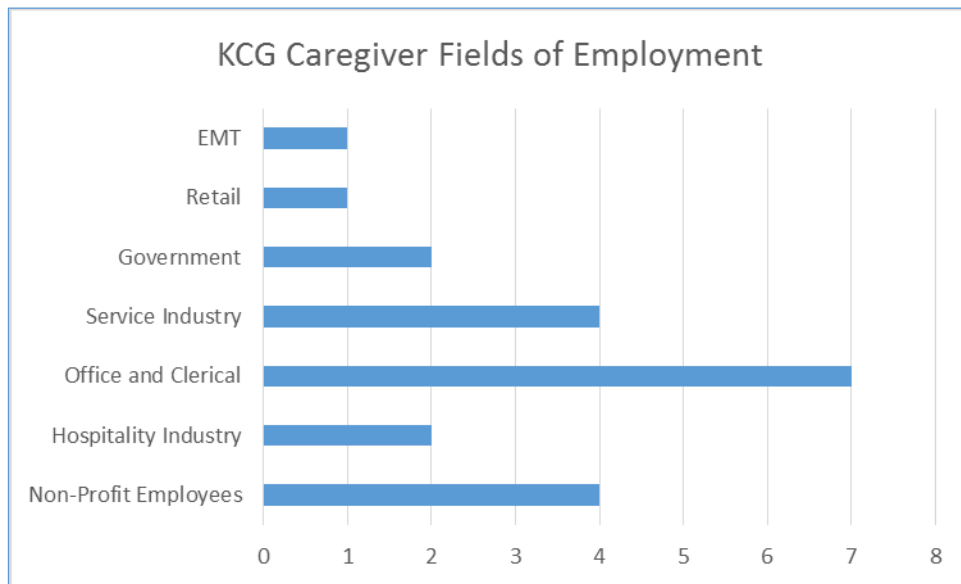
\*\*Average of three (3) days/week of service

So, while only a small number of caregivers are enrolled in the KCG Program, 95% of all caregivers served by MCOA are, nonetheless, receiving services. 226 of those caregivers received a meal on average 2.5 times each week.

While the MCOA provider contracts allow for all services to be accessed through KCG, most caregivers have chosen to access Adult Day Care Respite due to the \$70/day cap currently on the service. Rather than choosing only 2.25 hours of In-Home Respite or Homemaker services, for example, the families chose to receive 8 hours of Adult Day Care. **Removing this daily cap on services and utilizing a weekly cap allows caregivers more options of services from which to choose.** It is likely, therefore, that caregivers would opt to receive a wider variety of services if the \$70/day cap were removed.



MCOA consistently targets services to those most economically needy. In fact, this is the daily practice of MCOA. While KCG currently does not require verification of income of caregivers, the Employment Verification that occurs demonstrates, in fact, that caregivers participating in the KCG program largely represent lower income occupations. Please see the chart below as an illustration of this assertion.



It is likely that without a level of Kupuna Caregiver service delivery that is sufficient enough to assist caregivers to maintain employment, likely consequences will include that caregivers may need to either quit their jobs or place their loved ones in more costly institutional settings. As evidenced by the array of employment positions held by participating caregivers, the likelihood of subsequent enrollment into the Medicaid program to support institutional care is high. Caregivers will not only lose immediate income, but also are likely to suffer reduced retirement financial security thereby continuing a dependence on social assistance for themselves.

Potential loss of employment not only negatively impacts caregivers in the short- and long-terms, it also impacts consumer spending, State tax revenue, and total State costs of entitlement programs such as Medicaid.

MCOA supports the efforts of the legislature to ensure that this pilot program moves forward in such a manner that is transparent, accountable and effective. In order to ensure that current needs are met by KCG program, we request that \$2,000,000 be appropriated in the base budget for the biennium of FY20-21 and FY21-22. We also request that the number of days each caregiver receives would be determined by the comprehensive assessment measures rather than by the actual law itself. The fact that the average participant receives fewer than three days per week demonstrates that the ADRCs have authorized services according to assessment results and individual unmet need rather than according to a pre-set formula.

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

**LATE**

**HB-467-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 10:40:29 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2019 10:20:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kevin Dusenbury	Testifying for Maui County Office on Aging	Support	No

Comments:

The Maui County Office on Aging strongly supports HB467 HD1 SD1.

Thank you for your time and consideration regarding this proposed bill.

## Helping Hawai'i Live Well

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

From: Trisha Kajimura, Executive Director

**Re: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 467 HD1 SD1 RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM**

**Hearing: April 3, 2019, 10:20 am, CR 211**

Thank you for hearing **House Bill 467 HD1 SD1**, which will provide funds to continue the Kupuna Caregivers program. Through the Kupuna Caregivers program, our dedicated family caregivers will receive the support that they need to help keep kupuna safe at home and their family stress level from becoming unmanageable.

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

By providing a care benefit of \$350 per week, Kupuna Caregivers establishes a revised level of funding per family that ensures working families have access to resources to provide care at home and so that the Executive Office on Aging can negotiate more freely with vendors and be able to provide more services.

Mental Health America of Hawaii is a 501(c)3 organization founded in Hawai'i 77 years ago, that serves the community by promoting mental health through advocacy, education and service. Kupuna and caregivers are both at-risk for mental health issues due to aging and high levels of stress. The Kupuna Caregivers program supports the mental health of our working and caregiving families.

Thank you for considering my **testimony in support of HB 467 HD1 SD1**. Please contact me at [trisha.kajimura@mentalhealthhawaii.org](mailto:trisha.kajimura@mentalhealthhawaii.org) or (808)521-1846 if you have any questions.

**LATE**

**HB-467-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 3:36:16 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2019 10:20:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Chrystie Fujimoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**HB-467-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 4:28:35 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2019 10:20:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jennifer Chin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support continued funding for this valuable program that supports our kupuna.

**From:** [erik.c.chang](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in Support of HB467, HD1, SD1 for the WAM hearing on April 3, 2019 at 10:20 A.M., Room 211.  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 2, 2019 6:57:25 PM

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**Chair Donovan M. Dela Cruz**  
**Vice Chair Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran**  
**Senate Committee on Ways and Means**

**Tuesday, April 02, 2019**

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB467, HD1, SD1, RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM**

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

My name is Erik Chang, and I am writing to express my support for **House Bill 467, HD1, SD1**, relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program. This bill continues the needed funding for the Kupuna Caregivers program, a critical part of the infrastructure to help our kupuna and their caregivers.

This bill will change the statute so instead of providing \$70 per day in services, it would instead be up to \$350 per week so that the Executive Office on Aging is able to negotiate more freely with vendors and be able to provide more services.

As a beneficiary of the Kapuna Caregiver Program, I can attest to the critically positive impact it has had on my family and me. I simply would not be able to continue working without this help. I appreciate the importance of acknowledging the testimonials of individuals, but may we also consider looking at the data available from this Kapuna Caregiver Program to assert in black and white the bottom-line positive impact and benefit of this incredible program? **Will you please allow the community to participate in this important process to help in this decision?**

Each year the Hawaii Legislature has shown leadership on this issue by creating and continuing to fund the program. We hope this year you will once again step up and continue to fund this critical program.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

**Erik Chang**  
**421 Olohana St. #1903**  
**Honolulu, HI 96815**

**From:** [Clementina Ceria-Ulep](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB467, HD1, SD1; 4/3/19 WAM Hearing, 10:20a, Rm211  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 2, 2019 5:45:24 PM

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Senate Committee on Chair Donovan M. Dela Cruz  
Vice Chair Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran  
Ways and Means

Wednesday, April 3, 2019

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB467, HD1, SD1, RELATING TO THE KUPUNA  
CAREGIVERS PROGRAM

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

My name is Clementina Ceria-Ulep, and I am writing to express my support for House Bill 467, HD1, SD1, relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program. This bill continues the needed funding for the Kupuna Caregivers program, a critical part of the infrastructure to help our kupuna and their caregivers.

The cost of professional caregiving continues to rise and our families simply cannot afford to take care of a loved one and remain fully employed. This program helps those in the gap group who are not eligible for medicaid or medicare to help with the costs, but are still barely making it, at times at risk of losing their jobs or having to reduce hours at work because the duties at home are too great. This reduces the income earning power of the caregivers, their social security benefits, at times risking their insurance coverage, and placing them closer and closer into poverty.

The Kupuna Caregivers program is a prevention program, helping people before crisis has struck. It also helps reduce costs to the state by possibly delaying the time that a family may become eligible for medicaid. Studies have also shown that people that age at home with family are more likely to have better health outcomes, reducing hospitalization and ER visits, which ends up saving our state of expensive medical procedures that could have been prevented with adequate care.

This bill will change the statute so instead of providing \$70 per day in services, it would instead be up to \$350 per week so that the Executive Office on Aging is able to negotiate more freely with vendors and be able to provide more services.

Each year the Hawaii Legislature has shown leadership on this issue by creating and continuing to fund the program. We hope this year you will once again step up and continue to fund this critical program.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

Clementina D. Ceria-Ulep

211 Hoomalu Street; Pearl City, HI 96782 [clem@hawaii.edu](mailto:clem@hawaii.edu)



**From:** [Karen Carlen](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB467, HD1, SD1; 4/3/19 WAM Hearing, 10:20a, Rm211  
**Date:** Monday, April 1, 2019 9:44:32 PM

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Chair Donovan M. Dela Cruz  
Vice Chair Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB467, HD1, SD1, RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

My name is Karen Carlen, and I am writing to express my support for House Bill 467, HD1, SD1, relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program. This bill continues the needed funding for the Kupuna Caregivers program, a critical part of the infrastructure to help our kupuna and their caregivers.

By now we know that the need is there. The Executive Office on Aging reported that thousands of new calls came into its lines when the program was first launched. And we know why they are calling. The cost of professional caregiving continues to rise and our families simply cannot afford to take care of a loved one and remain fully employed. This program helps those in the gap group who are not eligible for medicaid or medicare to help with the costs, but are still barely making it, at times at risk of losing their jobs or having to reduce hours at work because the duties at home are too great. This reduces the income earning power of the caregivers, their social security benefits, at times risking their insurance coverage, and placing them closer and closer into poverty.

The Kupuna Caregivers program is a prevention program, helping people before crisis has struck. It also helps reduce costs to the state by possibly delaying the time that a family may become eligible for medicaid. Studies have also shown that people that age at home with family are more likely to have better health outcomes, reducing hospitalization and ER visits, which ends up saving our state of expensive medical procedures that could have been prevented with adequate care.

This bill will change the statute so instead of providing \$70 per day in services, it would instead be up to \$350 per week so that the Executive Office on Aging is able to negotiate more freely with vendors and be able to provide more services.

Each year the Hawaii Legislature has shown leadership on this issue by creating and continuing to fund the program. We hope this year you will once again step up and continue to fund this critical program.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,  
Karen D Carlen  
888 Iwilei Road, Apt 1513 carlenk@hawaii.edu

**From:** [Alison Hayama](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB467, HD1, SD1; 4/3/19 WAM Hearing, 10:20a, Rm211  
**Date:** Monday, April 1, 2019 7:44:31 PM

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Chair Donovan M. Dela Cruz  
Vice Chair Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Wednesday, April 3, 2019

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB467, HD1, SD1, RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

My name is Alison Hayama, and I am writing to express my support for House Bill 467, HD1, SD1, relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program. This bill continues the needed funding for the Kupuna Caregivers program, a critical part of the infrastructure to help our kupuna and their caregivers.

By now we know that the need is there. The Executive Office on Aging reported that thousands of new calls came into its lines when the program was first launched. And we know why they are calling. The cost of professional caregiving continues to rise and our families simply cannot afford to take care of a loved one and remain fully employed. This program helps those in the gap group who are not eligible for medicaid or medicare to help with the costs, but are still barely making it, at times at risk of losing their jobs or having to reduce hours at work because the duties at home are too great. This reduces the income earning power of the caregivers, their social security benefits, at times risking their insurance coverage, and placing them closer and closer into poverty.

The Kupuna Caregivers program is a prevention program, helping people before crisis has struck. It also helps reduce costs to the state by possibly delaying the time that a family may become eligible for medicaid. Studies have also shown that people that age at home with family are more likely to have better health outcomes, reducing hospitalization and ER visits, which ends up saving our state of expensive medical procedures that could have been prevented with adequate care.

This bill will change the statute so instead of providing \$70 per day in services, it would instead be up to \$350 per week so that the Executive Office on Aging is able to negotiate more freely with vendors and be able to provide more services.

Each year the Hawaii Legislature has shown leadership on this issue by creating and continuing to fund the program. As a caregiver of my 96 year old mother and full time employee of the State of Hawaii, I hope this year you will once again step up and continue to fund this critical program.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,  
Alison Hayama  
45-656 Apapane Street [alisonhayama@gmail.com](mailto:alisonhayama@gmail.com)

**From:** [Wade Hayama](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in Support of HB467, HD1, SD1 for the WAM hearing on April 3, 2019 at 10:20 A.M., Room 211  
**Date:** Monday, April 1, 2019 5:22:13 PM

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**Chair Donovan M. Dela Cruz**  
**Vice Chair Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran**  
**Senate Committee on Ways and Means**

**Wednesday, March 20, 2019**

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB467, HD1, SD1, RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM**

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

My name is Wade Hayama, and I am writing to express my support for **House Bill 467, HD1, SD1**, relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program. This bill continues the needed funding for the Kupuna Caregivers program, a critical part of the infrastructure to help our kupuna and their caregivers.

By now we know that the need is there. The Executive Office on Aging reported that thousands of new calls came into its lines when the program was first launched. And we know why they are calling. The cost of professional caregiving continues to rise and our families simply cannot afford to take care of a loved one and remain fully employed. This program helps those in the gap group who are not eligible for medicaid or medicare to help with the costs, but are still barely making it, at times at risk of losing their jobs or having to reduce hours at work because the duties at home are too great. This reduces the income earning power of the caregivers, their social security benefits, at times risking their insurance coverage, and placing them closer and closer into poverty.

The Kupuna Caregivers program is a prevention program, helping people before crisis has struck. It also helps reduce costs to the state by possibly delaying the time that a family may become eligible for medicaid. Studies have also shown that people that age at home with family are more likely to have better health outcomes, reducing hospitalization and ER visits, which ends up saving our state of expensive medical procedures that could have been prevented with adequate care.

This bill will change the statute so instead of providing \$70 per day in services, it would instead be up to \$350 per week so that the Executive Office on Aging is able to negotiate more freely with vendors and be able to provide more services.

Each year the Hawaii Legislature has shown leadership on this issue by creating and continuing to fund the program. We hope this year you will once again step up and continue to fund this critical program.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

**Wade Hayama**  
**45-646 Apapane Street**  
**Kaneohe, HI 96744**

**From:** [Marissa Adachi](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB467, HD1, SD1; 4/3/19 WAM Hearing, 10:20a, Rm211  
**Date:** Monday, April 1, 2019 4:52:01 PM

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Chair Donovan M. Dela Cruz  
Vice Chair Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB467, HD1, SD1, RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

My name is Marissa Adachi, and I am writing to express my support for House Bill 467, HD1, SD1, relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program. This bill continues the needed funding for the Kupuna Caregivers program, a critical part of the infrastructure to help our kupuna and their caregivers.

By now we know that the need is there. The Executive Office on Aging reported that thousands of new calls came into its lines when the program was first launched. And we know why they are calling. The cost of professional caregiving continues to rise and our families simply cannot afford to take care of a loved one and remain fully employed. This program helps those in the gap group who are not eligible for medicaid or medicare to help with the costs, but are still barely making it, at times at risk of losing their jobs or having to reduce hours at work because the duties at home are too great. This reduces the income earning power of the caregivers, their social security benefits, at times risking their insurance coverage, and placing them closer and closer into poverty.

The Kupuna Caregivers program is a prevention program, helping people before crisis has struck. It also helps reduce costs to the state by possibly delaying the time that a family may become eligible for medicaid. Studies have also shown that people that age at home with family are more likely to have better health outcomes, reducing hospitalization and ER visits, which ends up saving our state of expensive medical procedures that could have been prevented with adequate care.

This bill will change the statute so instead of providing \$70 per day in services, it would instead be up to \$350 per week so that the Executive Office on Aging is able to negotiate more freely with vendors and be able to provide more services.

Each year the Hawaii Legislature has shown leadership on this issue by creating and continuing to fund the program. We hope this year you will once again step up and continue to fund this critical program.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

Marissa Adachi  
45-656 Apapane St. Kaneohe, HI 96744 United States  
[marissa.triple2@gmail.com](mailto:marissa.triple2@gmail.com)

**From:** [Kathleen Jaycox](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB467, HD1, SD1; 4/3/19 WAM Hearing, 10:20a, Rm211  
**Date:** Monday, April 1, 2019 3:12:37 PM

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Chair Donovan M. Dela Cruz  
Vice Chair Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB467, HD1, SD1, RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

My name is Kathleen Jaycox, and I am writing to express my support for House Bill 467, HD1, SD1, relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program. This bill continues the needed funding for the Kupuna Caregivers program, a critical part of the infrastructure to help our kupuna and their caregivers.

By now we know that the need is there. The Executive Office on Aging reported that thousands of new calls came into its lines when the program was first launched. And we know why they are calling. The cost of professional caregiving continues to rise and our families simply cannot afford to take care of a loved one and remain fully employed. This program helps those in the gap group who are not eligible for medicaid or medicare to help with the costs, but are still barely making it, at times at risk of losing their jobs or having to reduce hours at work because the duties at home are too great. This reduces the income earning power of the caregivers, their social security benefits, at times risking their insurance coverage, and placing them closer and closer into poverty.

The Kupuna Caregivers program is a prevention program, helping people before crisis has struck. It also helps reduce costs to the state by possibly delaying the time that a family may become eligible for medicaid. Studies have also shown that people that age at home with family are more likely to have better health outcomes, reducing hospitalization and ER visits, which ends up saving our state of expensive medical procedures that could have been prevented with adequate care.

This bill will change the statute so instead of providing \$70 per day in services, it would instead be up to \$350 per week so that the Executive Office on Aging is able to negotiate more freely with vendors and be able to provide more services.

Each year the Hawaii Legislature has shown leadership on this issue by creating and continuing to fund the program. We hope this year you will once again step up and continue to fund this critical program.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Jaycox 559 Pauku Street Kailua, HI 96734 United States  
[jaycox@hawaii.edu](mailto:jaycox@hawaii.edu)

**From:** [Troy Siruno](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB467, HD1, SD1; 4/3/19 WAM Hearing, 10:20a, Rm211  
**Date:** Monday, April 1, 2019 2:32:01 PM

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Chair Donovan M. Dela Cruz  
Vice Chair Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB467, HD1, SD1, RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

My name is Troy Siruno, and I am writing to express my support for House Bill 467, HD1, SD1, relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program. This bill continues the needed funding for the Kupuna Caregivers program, a critical part of the infrastructure to help our kupuna and their caregivers.

By now we know that the need is there. The Executive Office on Aging reported that thousands of new calls came into its lines when the program was first launched. And we know why they are calling. The cost of professional caregiving continues to rise and our families simply cannot afford to take care of a loved one and remain fully employed. This program helps those in the gap group who are not eligible for medicaid or medicare to help with the costs, but are still barely making it, at times at risk of losing their jobs or having to reduce hours at work because the duties at home are too great. This reduces the income earning power of the caregivers, their social security benefits, at times risking their insurance coverage, and placing them closer and closer into poverty.

The Kupuna Caregivers program is a prevention program, helping people before crisis has struck. It also helps reduce costs to the state by possibly delaying the time that a family may become eligible for medicaid. Studies have also shown that people that age at home with family are more likely to have better health outcomes, reducing hospitalization and ER visits, which ends up saving our state of expensive medical procedures that could have been prevented with adequate care.

This bill will change the statute so instead of providing \$70 per day in services, it would instead be up to \$350 per week so that the Executive Office on Aging is able to negotiate more freely with vendors and be able to provide more services.

Each year the Hawaii Legislature has shown leadership on this issue by creating and continuing to fund the program. We hope this year you will once again step up and continue to fund this critical program.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

Troy Siruno  
4300 Waialae Avenue, #B1101 Honolulu, HI 96816  
United States  
[tsiruno@gmail.com](mailto:tsiruno@gmail.com)

**LATE**

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 467, HD1, SD1, RELATING TO THE KUPUNA  
CAREGIVERS PROGRAM**

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

RE: Support for HB467, HD1, SD1, Wednesday, April 3, 2019

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

My name is Anna Filler, and I am writing to express my support for **House Bill 467, HD1, SD1**, relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program. This bill continues the needed funding for the Kupuna Caregivers program, a critical part of the infrastructure to help our kupuna and their caregivers.

The Kupuna Caregivers program is a prevention program, helping people before crisis has struck. It also helps reduce costs to the state by possibly delaying the time that a family may become eligible for medicaid. Studies have also shown that people that age at home with family are more likely to have better health outcomes, reducing hospitalization and ER visits, which ends up saving our state of expensive medical procedures that could have been prevented with adequate care.

This bill will change the statute so instead of providing \$70 per day in services, it would instead be up to \$350 per week so that the Executive Office on Aging is able to negotiate more freely with vendors and be able to provide more services.

Each year the Hawaii Legislature has shown leadership on this issue by creating and continuing to fund the program. We hope this year you will once again step up and continue to fund this critical program.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Anna Filler  
Email: [afiller@twc.com](mailto:afiller@twc.com)  
Kakaako, District 12