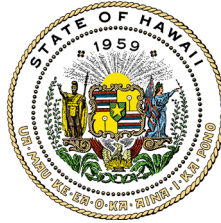


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII

ELIZABETH A. CHAR, M.D.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH



CAROLINE CADIRAO
DIRECTOR

Telephone
(808) 586-0100

Fax
(808) 586-0185

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

Testimony COMMENTING on HB 1283 HD1
Relating to Health

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES
SENATOR JOY SAN BUENAVENTURA, CHAIR
SENATOR LES IHARA, VICE-CHAIR

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

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

Hearing Date: April 7, 2021
9:45 a.m.

Conference Rm. 211
Via Videoconference

- 1 **EOA's Position:** The Executive Office on Aging (EOA), an attached agency of the Department
- 2 of Health (DOH), provides comments on House Bill 1283 HD1, Relating to Health.
- 3 **Fiscal Implications:** As currently written, there are no fiscal implications to the EOA.
- 4 **Purpose and Justification:** This measure authorizes EOA to set standards, frequency and
- 5 coordination for dementia training to first responders. EOA agrees that first responders can
- 6 benefit from training and awareness about Alzheimer's and dementia and met with the
- 7 Alzheimer's Association and the Honolulu Police Department on potential amendments to the
- 8 bill. EOA is committed to collaborating with other government and nonprofit agencies to ensure
- 9 that dementia trainings align with the ADRD State Plan.
- 10 Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

COUNTY COUNCIL

Arryl Kaneshiro, Chair
Mason K. Chock, Vice Chair
Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr.
Felicia Cowden
Bill DeCosta
Luke A. Evslin
KipuKai Kualii



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK

Jade K. Fountain-Tanigawa, County Clerk
Scott K. Sato, Deputy County Clerk

Telephone: (808) 241-4188
Facsimile: (808) 241-6349
E-mail: cokcouncil@kauai.gov

Council Services Division
4396 Rice Street, Suite 209
Lihu'e, Kaua'i, Hawaii 96766

April 5, 2021

TESTIMONY OF BERNARD P. CARVALHO, JR.
COUNCILMEMBER, KAUAI COUNTY COUNCIL
ON

HB 1283, HD1, RELATING TO HEALTH

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Wednesday, April 7, 2021

9:45 a.m.

Via Videoconference
Conference Room 211

Dear Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in SUPPORT of HB 1283, HD1, Relating to Health. My testimony is submitted in my individual capacity as a Member of the Kaua'i County Council.

HB 1283, HD1, proposes to establish dementia training standards for first responders. As a former Mayor, I know well the depth of professionalism, talent, and dedication that is on display each day by Hawai'i's EMTs, firefighters, and police officers. I ask you to support this legislation so that we can ensure that their training keeps up with the changing demographics of our state.

Hawai'i's population is aging, and age is the number one risk factor for dementia. Today 29,000 individuals live with dementia and that number is anticipated to grow to 35,000 by 2025. With many of our kupuna aging in place and younger family members that could have been caregivers often moving to the mainland, I anticipate that the need for dementia training for our first responders will only grow.

As someone with family that has been affected by dementia, this topic is one that is close to my heart. And I am not alone.

First responders can oftentimes be the first to interact with someone with Alzheimer's disease who is confused and wandering. An estimated 6 in 10 people with dementia will wander. A person with Alzheimer's may not remember his or her name or address and may become disoriented, even in familiar places.

Senate Committee on Ways and Means
RE: HB 1283, HD1, Relating to Health
April 5, 2021
Page 2

When individuals with dementia are lost, they may show signs of anxiety, fear, or hostility all of which can escalate to more aggressive behaviors. People with Alzheimer's may present as uncooperative, disruptive, and combative when they have difficulty communicating and understanding what is happening.

Education of the disease and training in de-escalation tactics can often effectively address the situation and ensure the safety of individuals with dementia.

Thank you again for this opportunity to provide testimony. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Council Services Staff at (808) 241-4188 or via E-mail to cokcouncil@kauai.gov.

Sincerely,

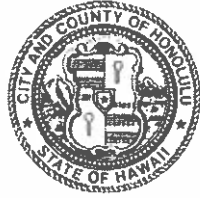
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bernard Carvalho, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

BERNARD P. CARVALHO, JR.
Councilmember, Kaua'i County Council

AMK:lc

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

801 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET · HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE: (808) 529-3111 · INTERNET: www.honolulu-pd.org



RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR

SUSAN BALLARD
CHIEF

JOHN D. MCCARTHY
AARON TAKASAKI-YOUNG
DEPUTY CHIEFS

OUR REFERENCE **ML-SK**

April 7, 2021

The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
and Members
Committee on Ways and Means
The Senate
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 211
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Dela Cruz and Members:

Subject: House Bill No. 1283, H.D. 1, Relating to Health

I am Mike Lambert, Major of the Training Division, of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD opposes the passage of House Bill No. 1283, H.D. 1. This bill would require specialty training by law and allow the Executive Office on Aging to set the standard and frequency of the training. The HPD feels that each agency should set the standard and frequency of training based on their ability to successfully train their staff so that it does not interfere with the other duties and services they provide to the community.

The HPD currently includes a module of instruction to acknowledge and recognize the symptoms of Alzheimer's disease and dementia through its Mental Health First Aid and Crisis Intervention Team certification.

The HPD urges you to oppose House Bill No. 1283, H.D. 1, Relating to Health.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

APPROVED:

Handwritten signature of Susan Ballard in black ink.

Susan Ballard
Chief of Police

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Mike Lambert in black ink.

Mike Lambert, Major
Training Division



1001 Bishop Street | Suite 625 | Honolulu, HI 96813-2830
1-866-295-7282 | Fax: 808-536-2882
aarp.org/hi | aarphi@aarp.org | twitter.com/AARPHawaii
facebook.com/AARPHawaii

**The State Legislature
Committee on Ways and Means
Wednesday, April 7, 2021
9:45 a.m.**

TO: The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair

RE: H.B. 1283, HD 1 Relating to Health

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Keali'i Lopez and I am the State Director for AARP Hawai'i. AARP is a membership organization of people age fifty and over, with nearly 145,000 members in Hawai'i.

AARP Hawai'i supports H.B. 1283, HD 1 which requires the employers of first responders to develop and provide dementia training to first responders. It permits the executive office on aging to set the standards, frequency and coordination of dementia training.

In 2019, there were 29,000 Hawaii residents 65 years and older, who were diagnosed with Alzheimer's and related dementia. The Alzheimer's Association projected that this figure would increase to 35,000 people by year 20215. These estimates do not reflect people who undiagnosed, or those with early onset who are under age 65. Most people prefer to receive care and services in their homes or the community, which places them at risk to wander away and not remember who they are and their home address. They may become disoriented, show signs of anxiety or fear, become hostile and aggressive, and have difficulty communicating with others who are trying to help them This bill will help develop and train the first responders (e.g. firefighters, emergency medical technicians, and police officers) to recognize the key signs of Alzheimer's and related dementia, appropriately interact with persons living with dementia, and how to best intervene in situations where these individuals may be lost, or disoriented and need assistance to return home safely.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of H.B. 1283, HD1.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Keali'i Lopez".

Keali'i Lopez, AARP Hawai'i

alzheimer's association®

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1670 Makaloa Street, Suite 204-316, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814
Phone: 808.591.2771 Fax: 808.591.9071 www.alz.org/hawaii

April 7, 2021

Honorable Senator Donovan Dela Cruz
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 211, 9:45 AM
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: HB1283 HD1 RELATING TO DEMENTIA TRAINING.

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

The Alzheimer's Association - Hawaii extends our **strong support** for House Bill 1283 HD1. We also support amendments that we believe address concerns that were expressed during previous hearings while retaining the intention of the bill.

Our proposed amendments apply to Section 2 starting at Subsection (b). These changes primarily amend the Executive Office on Aging's role from setting standards for dementia training to recommending standards, enable the Executive Office on Aging to request documentation related to the dementia training that first responders receive, and require employers of first responders to transmit certifications of completion of attestations that dementia training was completed by their employees. Finally, as selection of the preferred first responder training will be the responsibility of employers, private contributions from non-profit organization may be permitted but would no longer be required.

I have included draft language related to the proposed amends below.

(b) The training required under this section shall be offered at no cost to the applicable first responders and may be funded by private contributions from relevant non-profit organizations.

(c) The executive office on aging may set recommendations for the standards (and), frequency (for) of the dementia training, and dementia training programs and certifications that fulfill subsection (a).

(d) The executive office on aging may coordinate as necessary with all public and private entities and agencies responsible for services provided by first responders to provide the training required under this section,

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including entering into agreements or memoranda of agreement with nonprofit organizations to provide funding pursuant to subsection (b).

~~(d)~~ (e) The executive office on aging may request documentation from the employers of first responder in order to ascertain the characteristics of first responder dementia training.

(f) The employers of first responders may utilize existing educational and training resources available in the public and private sectors when developing the training required under this section.

(g) The employers of first responders shall transmit certificates of completion or attestations that dementia training was completed pursuant to subsection (a).

~~(e)~~ (h) As used in this section, "first responders" includes firefighters, emergency medical technicians, mobile intensive care technicians, emergency management workers, police officers, and state law enforcement officers."

By 2025, the number of people living with Alzheimer's disease is expected to rise to 35,000. Dementia training requirements for first responders is necessary to meet the growing prevalence of the disease and make Hawaii more dementia capable so that we can better protect our state's kupuna.

A person with dementia may not remember their name or address—and can become disoriented, even in familiar places. This is a frequent problem; six in ten people with dementia will wander. When individuals with dementia are lost, they may show signs of anxiety, fear, or hostility—all of which can escalate to more aggressive behaviors. As the disease progresses and individuals with dementia forget family members and societal norms, there may be cases of false reports and victimization, indecent exposure, and shoplifting.

First responders may also interact with people with dementia while searching for a lost individual, stopping drivers who exhibit unsafe driving, rescuing people with dementia from abuse, and intervening in crisis or disaster situations. Individuals with Alzheimer's and other

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dementias can also be the victims of elder abuse but, they may be unaware they are victims and may not know how to—or be able to—report it. Complicating the situation, people with Alzheimer's may also present as uncooperative, disruptive, and combative when they have difficulty communicating and understanding what is happening. Dementia training for first responders will help these professionals effectively respond these situations and to ensure the safety of those with dementia.

Hawaii would not be alone in requiring this type of training. As of 2015, ten states have taken the step of passing laws requiring dementia training for first responders. It is also easier than ever to adopt these training standards. Dementia training for first responders and the accompanying certification can be received online for no cost to first responders or their employers.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **strong support** of this legislation and provide suggested amendments.

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

HB-1283-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/5/2021 2:22:27 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/7/2021 9:45:00 AM

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

Comments:

Chair Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Gilbert Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

I am submitting testimony in support of HB1283. This measure requires the employers of first responders to develop and provide dementia training to first responders. It also enables the Executive Office on Aging to set the standards and frequency for the dementia training.

First responders will often encounter individuals with dementia in a variety of settings. A person with dementia may not remember his or her name or address—and can become disoriented, even in familiar places. Six in ten people with dementia will wander at some point. When individuals with dementia are lost, they may show signs of anxiety, fear, or hostility—all of which can escalate to more aggressive behaviors. As the disease progresses and individuals with dementia forget family members and societal norms, there may be cases of false reports and victimization, indecent exposure, and shoplifting. Dementia training for first responders can help these professionals to effectively handle these situations and to ensure the safety of those with dementia.

My father lived with some form of dementia for 10-15 years. Sometimes he became violent and hurt his caregiver wife, and police and EMTs were involved. It would be nice to know that they understand that some instances of what is truly domestic violence are caused by very sick individuals suffering from dementia.

As of 2015, 10 states have taken the step of passing laws requiring dementia training for first responders/law enforcement personnel. Now is time for Hawaii to take the step of mandating dementia training standards so that we can better protect our kupuna.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this legislation.

HB-1283-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/5/2021 3:17:07 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/7/2021 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Elaine Aotaki	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Gilbert Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

I am submitting testimony in support of HB1283. This measure requires the employers of first responders to develop and provide dementia training to first responders. It also enables the Executive Office on Aging to set the standards and frequency for the dementia training.

First responders will often encounter individuals with dementia in a variety of settings with a complicated range of mental abilities and behaviors. Dementia training for first responders can help these professionals to effectively handle these situations and to ensure the safety of those with dementia.

As of 2015, 10 states have taken the step of passing laws requiring dementia training for first responders/law enforcement personnel. Now is the time for Hawaii to take the step of mandating dementia training standards so that we can better protect our elders.

I appreciate very much the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this legislation.

Mahalo, Elaine Aotaki

HB-1283-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/5/2021 9:56:16 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/7/2021 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chuck Taylor	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Chair Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Gilbert Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

I am submitting testimony in support of HB1283. This measure requires the employers of first responders to develop and provide dementia training to first responders. It also enables the Executive Office on Aging to set the standards and frequency for the dementia training.

First responders will often encounter individuals with dementia in a variety of settings. A person with dementia may not remember his or her name or address—and can become disoriented, even in familiar places. Six in ten people with dementia will wander at some point. When individuals with dementia are lost, they may show signs of anxiety, fear, or hostility—all of which can escalate to more aggressive behaviors. As the disease progresses and individuals with dementia forget family members and societal norms, there may be cases of false reports and victimization, indecent exposure, and shoplifting. Dementia training for first responders can help these professionals to effectively handle these situations and to ensure the safety of those with dementia.

As of 2015, 10 states have taken the step of passing laws requiring dementia training for first responders/law enforcement personnel. Now is time for Hawaii to take the step of mandating dementia training standards so that we can better protect our kupuna.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this legislation.

HB-1283-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2021 1:23:38 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/7/2021 9:45:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Gilbert Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

I am writing in support of HB1283. This measure requires the employers of first responders to develop and provide dementia training to first responders. It also enables the Executive Office on Aging to set the standards and frequency for the dementia training.

Increasingly, first responders are encountering people living with dementia in the course of their work and need concrete strategies to understand and effectively respond to persons with dementia. Dementia training can help these professionals learn best practices and how to handle these often challenging and nuanced situations. A person with dementia may not remember his or her name or address—and can become disoriented, even in familiar places. Six in ten people with dementia will wander at some point. When individuals with dementia are lost, they may show signs of anxiety, fear, or hostility—all of which can escalate to more aggressive behaviors. As the disease progresses and individuals with dementia forget family members and societal norms, there may be cases of false reports and victimization, indecent exposure, and shoplifting. Dementia training can help our first responders effectively handle these situations and ensure the safety of those with dementia.

As of 2015, 10 states have taken the step of passing laws requiring dementia training for first responders/law enforcement personnel. Now is time for Hawaii to take the step of mandating dementia training standards so that we can better protect our kupuna.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this legislation.

Ivy Castellanos

HB-1283-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2021 1:46:25 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/7/2021 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Poki'i Balaz	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Chair Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Gilbert Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

I am submitting testimony in support of HB1283. This measure requires the employers of first responders to develop and provide dementia training to first responders. It also enables the Executive Office on Aging to set the standards and frequency for the dementia training.

First responders will often encounter individuals with dementia in a variety of settings. A person with dementia may not remember his or her name or address—and can become disoriented, even in familiar places. Six in ten people with dementia will wander at some point. When individuals with dementia are lost, they may show signs of anxiety, fear, or hostility—all of which can escalate to more aggressive behaviors. As the disease progresses and individuals with dementia forget family members and societal norms, there may be cases of false reports and victimization, indecent exposure, and shoplifting. Dementia training for first responders can help these professionals to effectively handle these situations and to ensure the safety of those with dementia.

As a caregiver I have had an experience with my father and first responder who is in the end stage of Alzheimer's. First responders are put in many different situations daily and do a wonderful job in delivering care. Unfortunately, during this situation it seemed that there was a lack of understanding how the diagnosis would affect the situation. As a clinician, increasing education and awareness throughout out our healthcare team will help us all deliver effective care.

As of 2015, 10 states have taken the step of passing laws requiring dementia training for first responders/law enforcement personnel. Now is time for Hawaii to take the step of mandating dementia training standards so that we can better protect our kupuna.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this legislation.

Dr. Poki'i Balaz

HB-1283-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2021 8:47:21 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/7/2021 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gina Fujikami	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Gilbert Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

I am submitting testimony in support of HB1283. This measure requires employers of first responders to develop and provide dementia training to first responders. It also enables the Executive Office on Aging to set the standards and frequency for the dementia training.

First responders will often encounter individuals with dementia in a variety of settings. A person with dementia may not remember his or her name or address—and can become disoriented, even in familiar places. Six in ten people with dementia will wander at some point. When individuals with dementia are lost, they may show signs of anxiety, fear, or hostility—all of which can escalate to more aggressive behaviors. As the disease progresses and individuals with dementia forget family members and societal norms, there may be cases of false reports and victimization, indecent exposure, and shoplifting. Dementia training for first responders can help these professionals to effectively handle these situations and to ensure the safety of those with dementia.

As of 2015, 10 states have taken the step of passing laws requiring dementia training for first responders/law enforcement personnel. Now is time for Hawaii to take the step of mandating dementia training standards so that we can better protect our kupuna.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this legislation.

Sincerely,

Gina Fujikami, MD

96821

LATE

HB-1283-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2021 4:28:35 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/7/2021 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Peggy Oyama	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Chair Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Gilbert Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

I am submitting testimony in support of HB1283. This measure requires the employers of first responders to develop and provide dementia training to first responders. It also enables the Executive Office on Aging to set the standards and frequency for the dementia training.

First responders will often encounter individuals with dementia in a variety of settings. A person with dementia may not remember his or her name or address—and can become disoriented, even in familiar places. Six in ten people with dementia will wander at some point. When individuals with dementia are lost, they may show signs of anxiety, fear, or hostility—all of which can escalate to more aggressive behaviors. As the disease progresses and individuals with dementia forget family members and societal norms, there may be cases of false reports and victimization, indecent exposure, and shoplifting. Dementia training for first responders can help these professionals to effectively handle these situations and to ensure the safety of those with dementia.

As of 2015, 10 states have taken the step of passing laws requiring dementia training for first responders/law enforcement personnel. Now is time for Hawaii to take the step of mandating dementia training standards so that we can better protect our kupuna.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this legislation.

Peggy Oyama
1072 Kaumoku Street
Honolulu, HI 96825

HB-1283-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2021 8:28:43 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/7/2021 9:45:00 AM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rick Tabor	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To: Chair Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Gilbert Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

I am submitting testimony in support of HB1283. This measure requires the employers of first responders to develop and provide dementia training to first responders. It also enables the Executive Office on Aging to set the standards and frequency for the dementia training.

First responders will often encounter individuals with dementia in a variety of settings. A person with dementia may not remember his or her name or address—and can become disoriented, even in familiar places. Six in ten people with dementia will wander at some point. When individuals with dementia are lost, they may show signs of anxiety, fear, or hostility—all of which can escalate to more aggressive behaviors. As the disease progresses and individuals with dementia forget family members and societal norms, there may be cases of false reports and victimization, indecent exposure, and shoplifting. Dementia training for first responders can help these professionals to effectively handle these situations and to ensure the safety of those with dementia.

As of 2015, 10 states have taken the step of passing laws requiring dementia training for first responders/law enforcement personnel. Now is time for Hawaii to take the step of mandating dementia training standards so that we can better protect our kupuna.

I've noted in previous testimony my part in helping implement a Crisis Intervention mental health training for first responders in King County (Seattle Washington). Our program has been very successful and a model for other departments. I not only support this bill, I was a part of something similar for several years.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this legislation.