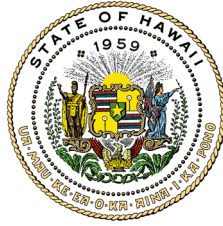


DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII

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 in SUPPORT of SB 838, SD1  
Relating to Services for Kupuna**

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES, AND HOMELESSNESS  
REPRESENTATIVE RYAN I. YAMANE, CHAIR  
REPRESENTATIVE ADRIAN K. TAM, VICE CHAIR

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

Hearing Date: March 16, 2021  
9:30 a.m.

Room Number: 329  
Via Videoconference

1 **EOA's Position:** The Executive Office on Aging (EOA), an attached agency of the Department  
2 of Health (DOH), is in strong support of Senate Bill 838, SD1, Relating to Services for Kupuna  
3 and request technical, non-substantive amendments. This measure: 1) relaxes the work eligibility  
4 requirement during a state declared state of emergency; 2) adds Kupuna Caregiver-Directed  
5 services as an option in the Kupuna Caregivers program; and 3) adds a financial management  
6 service provider who is responsible for financial payments on behalf of participants enrolled in  
7 the Kupuna Caregiver-Directed program.

8 **Fiscal Implications:** The EOA is not requesting additional funds to implement and administer  
9 the Kupuna Caregiver-Directed program.

10 **Purpose and Justification:** This bill will provide an additional option for caregivers to support  
11 their loved ones. For example, qualified caregivers are currently limited to only using service  
12 providers that are contracted by the AAAs. This measure adds Kupuna Caregiver-directed

1 services allowing participants to direct their own services and address their needs with a monthly  
 2 budgeted dollar amount instead of receiving services through a contracted provider.

3 The EOA would like to propose technical, non-substantive amendments regarding 1) the naming  
 4 of “Homemaker” services and, 2) the definition of the Person-Centered Support Plan or Support  
 5 Plan.

6 1) For consistency with the services listed under the Older Americans Act we respectfully  
 7 request the following amendments to “Homemaker”:

8 • amend Page 4, line 14-16: By amending the definition of "**homemaker services**" to  
 9 read: "[~~Homemaker services~~] "Homemaking" "**Homemaker**" means services that  
 10 provide assistance with preparing meals, shopping for personal items, managing money,  
 11 using the telephone, or performing light housework."

12 • amend page 5, line 6: (5) [~~Homemaker services;~~] Homemaking; "**Homemaker**",

13 • amend page 6, line 16-17: (1) In-home respite (personal care, [~~homemaker~~  
 14 ~~services;~~] homemaking **homemaker**, and other in-home respite); and

15 • amend page 9, line 11: (6) [~~Homemaker services;~~] Homemaking; **Homemaker**

16 2) The EOA also requests to amend the definition of Person-Centered Support Plan or Support

17 Plan on page 5, line 13-20 and page 6, lines 1 thru 2: "Person-centered support plan" or

18 "support plan" means a plan developed [~~by a~~] **with the** care recipient [~~with the assistance of a~~  
 19 ~~coach~~] and the recipient's qualified caregiver that [allows] identifies the needs **and desired**

20 **outcomes** of the care recipient [~~to establish the goals, skills, and knowledge necessary to~~

21 ~~work toward the desired outcomes and lays out practical steps toward the achievement of the~~  
 22 ~~goals; provided that family members and friends may provide assistance in developing a care~~

23 ~~recipient's plan if the care recipient chooses to include them.] and allows the caregiver to~~

24 remain in the workforce."

25 Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



CATHY BETTS  
DIRECTOR

JOSEPH CAMPOS II  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII  
**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

P. O. Box 339  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

March 14, 2021

TO: The Honorable Representative, Chair Ryan I. Yamane, Chair  
House Committee on Health, Human Services, & Homelessness

FROM: Cathy Betts, Director

SUBJECT: **SB 838 SD1 – RELATING TO SERVICES FOR KUPUNA.**

Hearing: March 16, 2021, 9:30 a.m.  
Via Videoconference, State Capitol

**DEPARTMENT'S POSITION:** The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports this measure. DHS defers to the Executive Office on Aging. The Senate Committee on Human Services amended the measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have given the Executive Office on Aging the authority to eliminate the work hour requirement for a "qualified caregiver", as requested by the Office;
- (2) Inserting an effective date of May 1, 2029, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

The Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection passed the measure unamended.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of the bill allows the executive office of aging to relax the thirty-hour employment requirement for qualified caregivers under the Kupuna Caregivers Program during a state-declared state of emergency. Adds the option of kupuna caregiver-directed services to the kupuna caregivers program. Includes assisting the care recipient and caregiver with the enrollment process as the duty of a coach. Allows funds under the Kupuna Caregivers

Program to be issued to the care recipient's financial management service provider. Takes effect 5/1/2029. (SD1)

This bill adds the definition of a financial management service provider to existing laws so that a provider or a financial management service provider can be issued funds for the cost of services provided. By doing so, this should help prevent situations where vulnerable adults are at risk of being financially exploited. The services provided to caregivers and vulnerable adults through the kupuna caregivers program are invaluable in helping to ensure their safety and health during the current state of emergency.

In State Fiscal Year 2020, the Adult Protective and Community Services Branch (APCSB) investigated 806 reports of alleged abuse of vulnerable adults. Adult Protective Services assists vulnerable adults to stop and prevent further abuse, neglect, or exploitation. The COVID-19 pandemic has imposed additional stressors and increased isolation on vulnerable adults. Additionally, APCSB is noticing a trend in more reports involving possible financial exploitation.

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



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

**The State Legislature  
House of Representatives  
Committee on Health, Human Services and Homelessness  
Tuesday, March 16, 2021  
9:30 a.m.**

TO: The Honorable Ryan Yamane, Chair

RE: S.B. 838, SD1 Relating to Services for Kūpuna

Aloha Chair Yamane 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 S.B. 838, SD 1 which amends Chapter 349, Part II, to allow for qualified caregivers to work less than 30 hours a week or be unemployed during a declared state of emergency, adds the definition of a financial management services providers; and adds traditional services and kūpuna caregiver-directed services to the kūpuna care program. This bill is similar to S.B. 1142 SD2 which we support as well.

The Kūpuna Caregiver program is a vital resource for working caregivers to afford respite care for their older family members so that they continue to work and make a living. The recent economic shutdown has impacted Hawaii's workforce tremendously - forcing many to lose their jobs and/or reduce their work hours. Amending the kūpuna services rules will allow more flexibility to qualify working caregivers for these support services which will enable them to work or search for employment, while affording the care needed for their loved ones. The bill also provides more options of other respite services to serve Hawai'i's kūpuna and their caregivers.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to support S.B. 838, SD1.

Sincerely,

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

Keali'i Lopez, AARP Hawai'i

**SB-838-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/13/2021 1:25:33 PM

Testimony for HHH on 3/16/2021 9:30:00 AM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b>               | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| GARY SIMON          | Hawaii Family Caregiver Coalition | Support                   | No                        |

Comments:

Dear Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Tam, and Honorable Members of the House Committee on Health, Human Services, and Homelessness:

I am Gary Simon, President of the Hawaii Family Caregiver Coalition (HFCC).

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

***HFCC strongly supports Senate Bill 838 SD 1.***

The Kupuna Caregiver program is a vital resource for working family caregivers who need assistance in affording respite care for their kupuna so that they can continue to work. With the recent and continuing economic shutdown, many caregivers either have their lost jobs or have experienced a reduction in their work hours. To continue their eligibility as working caregivers, this bill provides program flexibility in reducing the minimum employment hours for caregivers to qualify for the program.

The bill also includes more options such the kupuna caregiver directed services to allow the caregiver more choices of care.

We urge you to support the Kupuna Caregivers Program and SB 838 SD 1.

We thank you for seriously considering the bill.

Very sincerely,

Gary Simon

President

Hawaii Family Caregiver Coalition

**SB-838-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2021 3:05:24 AM

Testimony for HHH on 3/16/2021 9:30:00 AM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b>                             | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Sarah Yuan          | Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs (PABEA) | Support                   | No                        |

Comments:

The Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs (PABEA) has a statutory obligation to advocate on behalf of the senior citizens of Hawaii. While we advise the Executive Office on Aging (EOA), we do not speak on its behalf.

PABEA is in strong support of SB838 SD1, Relating to Services for Kupuna.

SB 838 addresses work eligibility requirements and service options of the Kupuna Caregivers program. The amendment to work eligibility requirement during a Governor proclaimed state of emergency would allow *working caregivers* whose work hours have been reduced to less than 30, continue to receive needed caregiving support in times of uncertainty, as demonstrated during this pandemic.

The addition of Kupuna Caregiver-Directed services as an option in the Kupuna Caregivers program would allow the participants to direct their services and address their needs with a monthly budgeted dollar amount, instead of receiving services through a contracted provider. The limited service-delivery options during the pandemic have added a sense of urgency to this change. EOA has years of experience administering the participant-directed program because this is the service model of its Community Living Program and Veteran-Directed Choice Program. The bill also defines a financial management service provider, the person who is responsible for financial payments on behalf of participants in the Kupuna Caregiver-Directed service option.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

# alzheimer's association®

## ALOHA CHAPTER

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

March 16, 2021

Honorable Representative Ryan Yamane  
Chair, House Committee on Health, Human Services, & Homelessness  
Hawaii State Capitol, House conference room 329, 9:30 A.M.  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

### **RE: SB838 RELATING TO SERVICES FOR KUPUNA.**

Dear Chair Ryan Yamane and members of the Committee:

The Alzheimer's Association **supports** Senate Bill 838 and is in strong support of allowing the Executive Office of Aging to relax the 30-hour employment requirement for qualified caregivers under the Kupuna Caregivers Program during a state-declared state of emergency. This change to the Kupuna Caregivers program ensures that caregiving will not be an impediment to getting back to work for those on this program during this pandemic and economic downturn. The Alzheimer's Association is concerned about individuals and families that require support from the Kupuna Caregivers program in order to work fulltime but now, due to no fault of their own, may dip below the 30-hour employment requirement in this economic downturn. They may find themselves caught in a predicament where they cannot accept fulltime work without support but cannot receive support until they are working fulltime.

Family caregivers are the most compassionate and dedicated people in our community. Family caregivers provide 70 percent of the care for frail elderly family members and thus bear the major burden and expense of care. Studies have shown that 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.

The growing number of kupuna in Hawaii increases the need for and pressure on family caregivers. Supporting working family caregivers ethically and economically is the right thing to do. Not only do we have a kuleana to support our kupuna, it also makes financial sense to keep family caregivers working, advancing their careers, and paying taxes, and not seeking more costly support from the state.

Here in Hawaii, an estimated 65,000 caregivers assist the more than 29,000 individuals who live with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia. The Kupuna Caregiver program is especially important for them, as caregivers of people with dementia are twice as likely to report substantial emotional, financial, and physical difficulties as caregivers of people without dementia.



# alzheimer's association®

## ALOHA CHAPTER

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

I appreciate this opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 838.

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

**SB-838-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2021 11:08:14 PM

Testimony for HHH on 3/16/2021 9:30:00 AM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Christy MacPherson  | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments:

I strongly support SB838, SD1 and those who care for our kupuna.

**SB-838-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/12/2021 11:51:36 AM

Testimony for HHH on 3/16/2021 9:30:00 AM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Dan Gardner         | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments:

This is critical legislation for our Kupuna and their family members who provide them the support to continue our Kapuna to live at home. The Pandemic has severely impacted the employment status of many of our Kapuna Caregivers. This Bill will help enable these caring family members to continue to either stay employed or to seek new job opportunities if unemployed. Please continue to support this critical legislation which is cost effective and ultimately supports us all.

**SB-838-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2021 2:30:34 AM

Testimony for HHH on 3/16/2021 9:30:00 AM

| <b>Submitted By</b>           | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Margaret A. Perkinson,<br>PhD | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments:

I voice my strong support of SB838 SD1 as a private citizen and gerontologist who has actively engaged in research on family caregiving of older adults for over 30 years.

Due to the current pandemic, many family caregivers of older adults have lost their jobs. In addition, contracted service providers have either closed or decreased their services. These developments impose significant burden to the already demanding role of family caregiving and potentially disqualify now unemployed family caregivers from Hawaii's kupuna caregivers program. SB838 SD1 allows for qualified caregivers to work less than 30 hours a week or be unemployed during a declared state of emergency. It also adds kupuna caregiver-directed services to the kupuna caregivers program, a welcome option and growing trend in long-term care services and supports.

I strongly endorse SB838 SD1, because it provides the flexibility necessary for the kupuna caregivers program to continue to address the needs of caregivers during these extreme times.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my support of SB838 SD1.

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES, &  
HOMELESSNESS**

**Rep. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair**

**Rep. Adrian K. Tam, Vice Chair**

**Hearing Date: Tuesday, March 16, 2021, 9:30AM**

**Re: SB1142 - RELATING TO SERVICES FOR KUPUNA.**

**And**

**SB838 - RELATING TO SERVICES FOR KUPUNA**

**Aloha Chair Yamane and Members of the Committee,**

**My name is Linda Dorset, a citizen of Wailuku, Maui, and a member of AARP. I thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony regarding the above referenced legislation.**

**SB1142 amending the rules of the Kūpuna Caregiver program during this recent economic shutdown, which has caused many to lose their jobs and/or reduce their work hours, to work less than 30 hours, would enable them to either work or search for employment, while still being able to provide the care needed for their loved ones.**

**It also provides for adding a financial management service provider that can be issued funds for the cost of services provided, which could help prevent situations where vulnerable adults are at risk of being financially exploited.**

**SB838 adds Kupuna Caregiver-Directed services as an option in the Kupuna Caregivers program. Allowing the participants to direct their services to meet their needs with a monthly budgeted dollar amount, instead of receiving services through a contracted provider is important because service-delivery options have been cut back during the pandemic.**

**Both bills would make it possible for family caregivers to care for their loved ones and themselves. 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.**

**Neither bill is requesting an increase in funding.**

**Thank you for your attention**

**Linda Dorset**

To: House Committee on Health, Human Services and Homelessness  
Representative Ryan I. Yamane, Chair  
Representative Adrian K. Tam, Vice-Chair

Date: Tuesday, March 16, 2021

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Location: Conference Room 329

Re: SB 838 S.D. 1 Relating to Services for Kupuna

Chair Yamane, Vice-Chair Tam and Members of the Committee:

My name is Esther Ueda, and I am writing in SUPPORT of SB 838, S.D.1 which amends Chapter 349, Part II and allows the Executive Office of Aging to relax the requirements for qualified caregivers under the Kupuna Caregivers Program and other proposed amendments.

The Kupuna Caregivers program is an important resource for working family caregivers who need assistance in getting respite care for their Kupuna. With the recent economic situation where so many persons who are caregivers have lost jobs or had a reduction in work hours, these proposed amendments are needed to continue their eligibility as working caregivers. The bill provides flexibility in reducing minimum employment hours to qualify and also includes options to allow the caregiver more choices of care.

Please support SB838, S.D.1.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

Sincerely,

Esther Ueda  
Pearl City, Hawaii

**SB-838-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2021 9:09:17 PM

Testimony for HHH on 3/16/2021 9:30:00 AM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Kathy Jaycox        | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments:

Aloha and thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB 838, SD1.

Several of us fought very hard a few years ago for the creation of the Kupuna Caregivers Act, the first of its kind in the nation. I believe none of us could have anticipated, at that time, the type of economic catastrophe that befell our country in 2020. I applaud the members of the Legislature for recognizing the need for flexibility during a state of emergency. I encourage your passage of this bill.

Mahalo--



**SB-838-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/14/2021 10:15:56 PM

Testimony for HHH on 3/16/2021 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Naomi Hokama | Individual   | Support            | No                 |

Comments:

*Dear Chair Ryan Yamane and members of the Committee:*

*I am writing in support of this bill, which strengthens the Kupuna Caregivers program by empowering the Executive Office of Aging to relax the thirty-hour employment requirement for caregivers during a state-declared state of emergency. This change to the Kupuna Caregivers program ensures that enrolled caregivers will not have to choose between getting back to work and caregiving during this on-going crisis. Passing this bill can give caregivers the support they need to not be left out of Hawaii's economic recovery.*

*In Hawaii, 51,000 caregivers assist the more than 29,000 individuals who live with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia. The Kupuna Caregiver program is especially important for them as caregivers of people with dementia are twice as likely to report substantial emotional, financial, and physical difficulties as caregivers of people without dementia.*

*Family caregivers are the most compassionate and dedicated people in our community. Family caregivers provide seventy-percent of the care for frail elderly family members and thus bear the major burden and expense of care. I humbly ask that you remember those who balance work and caregiving as you move towards balancing the budget and rebuilding our state's economy this legislative session*

Please support our caregivers! Don't let them fall through the cracks because of the circumstances beyond their control in covid times!

*Thank you,*

Naomi Hokama

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES, & HOMELESSNESS

**Hearing:** Tuesday, March 16, 2021, 9:30 a.m.  
Conference Room 329, Via Video Conference  
State Capitol

**TESTIMONEY IN SUPPORT OF SB 838  
RELATING TO SERVICES FOR KUPUNA**

**To:** Rep. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair; Rep. Adrian K. Tam, Vice Chair; and Members of the  
Committee on Health, Human Services, & Homelessness

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in **strong support** of SB 838 Relating to Services for Kupuna. My name is Anna Filler and I retired six years ago at the age of 75. The passage of this bill is important to allow qualified caregivers to work less than 30 hours a week or be unemployed during a declared state of emergency, adds the definition of a financial management services provider; and adds traditional services and kūpuna caregiver-directed services to the Kūpuna Care Program.

**The Kūpuna Caregiver Program** is a vital resource for working caregivers to afford respite care for their older family members so that they continue to work and make a living. The recent economic shutdown has impacted Hawaii's workforce causing many to lose their jobs and/or reduce their work hours. This program is a cost effective way to prevent the majority of seniors from being placed in a nursing home and allows them to age in place at home with their loved ones.

I urge you to support Hawaii's growing senior population by supporting SB 838.

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

**Chair Sylvia Luke  
Vice Chair Ty Cullen  
House Committee on Finance  
Monday, March 15, 2021**

**Thursday, February 21, 2019**

**COMMENTS ON SB 838, and SB1142 HB 467, HD1, RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM**

Dear HHH Chair and Committee Members: ~~Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee on Finance,~~

Our names are: Fredrich J. Burian, and Chalintorn N. Burian. We are supporting the bills SB838, and SB1142: ~~R~~My name is \_\_\_\_\_, and I am writing to express my comments for **House Bill 467, HD1, relating to Services for the Kupuna Caregivers program.**

Formatted: Font: Bold

SB838 allows the executive office of aging to relax the thirty-hour employment requirement for qualified caregivers under the Kupuna Caregivers Program during a state-declared state of emergency. Adds the option of kupuna caregiver-directed services to the Kupuna caregivers program. Includes assisting the care recipient and caregiver with the enrollment process as the duty of a coach. Allows funds under the Kupuna Caregivers Program to be issued to the care recipient's financial management service provider. It's very important to provide caregivers with flexibilities during a state-declared state of emergency.

SB1142 includes in the kupuna caregivers program kupuna caregiver-directed services. Includes financial management service provider and additional duties for the coach. Allows for qualified caregivers to work less than 30 hours per week during a declared state of emergency. Effective 7/1/2050. We support the flexibility for qualified caregivers to work less than 30 hours.

~~This bill continues the needed funding for the Kupuna Caregivers program, a critical part of the infrastructure to help our kupuna and their caregivers, and it also mandates that the Executive Office on Aging create a report on the outcomes of the program and a plan as to how to reach more people.~~

~~**While I am supportive of the program, I am not supportive of capping services to once per week.** This defeats the intent of the original program to help caregivers who are working outside the home to stay employed. Instead, I support allowing the Executive Office on Aging create a proposed plan to reach more people and allowing them the flexibility to create a plan that works best for families.~~

~~By now we know that the need is for the program 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.~~

Thank you for considering our testimony.

Sincerely,

Fredrich J. Burian & Chalintorn N. Burian, Ph.D.  
44-4766 Waikaalulu Road, Paauilo, HI 96776  
Phone: (808)775-1064

**SB-838-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2021 9:27:46 AM

Testimony for HHH on 3/16/2021 9:30:00 AM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Calvin Hara         | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments:

Dear Chair Representative Ryan Yamane, Vice Chair Representative Adrian Tam and members of the Committee:

I support SB 838 because this bill calls for the strengthening Kupuna Caregivers Program. More so during our community's difficulties this past year, kupuna and caregivers (quite often struggling family members) need the support of the Kupuna Caregivers Program. I applaud the legislature for addressing kupuna needs with the SB 838 measures for enhancement.

Our elders are well deserved to be provided compassion and care thru this legislation.

Sincerely,

Calvin M. Hara

**SB-838-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2021 11:43:10 AM

Testimony for HHH on 3/16/2021 9:30:00 AM

| <b>Submitted By</b>     | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Midori Marcia Sue Trent | Individual          | Oppose                    | No                        |

Comments:

Oppose

**SB-838-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2021 2:37:43 PM

Testimony for HHH on 3/16/2021 9:30:00 AM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| LJ Duenas           | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments:

Dear Chair Ryan Yamane and members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of this bill, which strengthens the Kupuna Caregivers program by empowering the Executive Office of Aging to relax the thirty-hour employment requirement for caregivers during a state-declared state of emergency. This change to the Kupuna Caregivers program ensures that enrolled caregivers will not have to choose between getting back to work and caregiving during this on-going crisis. Passing this bill can give caregivers the support they need to not be left out of Hawaii's economic recovery.

In Hawaii, 51,000 caregivers assist more than 29,000 individuals who live with Alzheimer's disease or related dementia. The Kupuna Caregiver program is especially important for them as caregivers of people with dementia are twice as likely to report substantial emotional, financial, and physical difficulties as caregivers of people without dementia.

Family caregivers are the most compassionate and dedicated people in our community. Family caregivers provide seventy-percent of the care for frail elderly family members and thus bear the major burden and expense of care. I humbly ask that you remember those who balance work and caregiving as you move towards balancing the budget and rebuilding our state's economy this legislative session

Mahalo for your time,

LJ Duenas

Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

**SB-838-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2021 5:50:36 PM

Testimony for HHH on 3/16/2021 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By    | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|-----------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Humberto Blanco | Individual   | Support            | No                 |

Comments:

*Dear Chair Ryan Yamane and members of the Committee:*

*I am writing in support of this bill, which strengthens the Kupuna Caregivers program by empowering the Executive Office of Aging to relax the thirty-hour employment requirement for caregivers during a state-declared state of emergency. This change to the Kupuna Caregivers program ensures that enrolled caregivers will not have to choose between getting back to work and caregiving during this on-going crisis. Passing this bill can give caregivers the support they need to not be left out of Hawaii's economic recovery.*

*In Hawaii, 51,000 caregivers assist the more than 29,000 individuals who live with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia. The Kupuna Caregiver program is especially important for them as caregivers of people with dementia are twice as likely to report substantial emotional, financial, and physical difficulties as caregivers of people without dementia.*

*Family caregivers are the most compassionate and dedicated people in our community. Family caregivers provide seventy-percent of the care for frail elderly family members and thus bear the major burden and expense of care. I humbly ask that you remember those who balance work and caregiving as you move towards balancing the budget and rebuilding our state's economy this legislative session*

*Thank you,*



**SB-838-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2021 11:36:53 PM

Testimony for HHH on 3/16/2021 9:30:00 AM

| <b>Submitted By</b>         | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Jennifer Azuma<br>Chrupalyk | Individual          | Oppose                    | No                        |

Comments:

You don't cut the kupuna caregiver hours during a state of emergency. It is unethical and immoral.