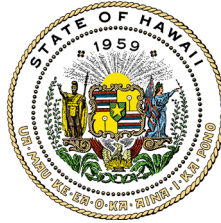


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII

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



CAROLINE CADIRAO
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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 HB2145
Relating to Kupuna Care Program**

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES, & 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: February 15, 2022
9:00 AM

Room Number: 329
Via Videoconference

1 **EOA's Position:** The Executive Office on Aging (EOA), an attached agency to the Department
2 of Health, strongly supports the Governor's administration bill HB2145, Relating to Kupuna
3 Care Program.

4 **Fiscal Implications:** \$1.5 million is being requested in the EOA budget for the Kupuna Care
5 Program to enable working caregivers maintain their employment. In previous years, the Kupuna
6 Caregivers Program had its own allocated budget, however for purposes of combining the two
7 programs, we are requesting the \$1.5 million allocation be appropriated in the Kupuna Care
8 Program budget.

9 **Purpose and Justification:** The purpose of this bill is to amend Chapter 349, part II, HRS, to
10 incorporate the kupuna caregivers program into the kupuna care program.
11 The Kupuna Care Program was developed in EOA in 2001 to provide long-term services and
12 supports to kupuna, and the Kupuna Caregivers Program was established in 2017 specifically to
13 provide support for working caregivers. However, EOA determined that having two programs

1 that offer the same services for the care recipient and the caregiver caused silos in the system and
 2 did not lend itself to a seamless system of supports for older adults and their caregivers.

3 The combined program model will streamline the administrative and programmatic burdens
 4 imposed by both programs while continuing to provide an array of seamless services and
 5 supports to meet the holistic and comprehensive needs of both older adults and their caregivers.

6 The Area Agencies on Aging in each county that implement both programs will be able to use
 7 their federal, state and county funds more efficiently and provide services in a timely manner.

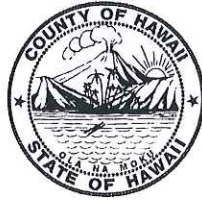
8 Additional highlights in the bill are:

- 9 • Added definitions for "caregiver", "caregiver support services", "employed
 10 caregiver", and "financial management service provider"
- 11 • Added caregiver support services to the list of Kupuna Care services to enhance
 12 and address the needs of caregivers.
- 13 • Simplified the process of delivering services through the Kupuna care program
 14 (i.e., traditional service delivery and participant-directed services)
- 15 • Specified that the kupuna care program shall award funds for services to the
 16 service provider or financial management service provider upon receipt of an
 17 invoice for services rendered

18 **Recommendation:** With this measure both programs, Kupuna Care and Kupuna Caregivers,
 19 will continue to serve the needs of Hawaii’s kupuna and caregivers, under a more efficient and
 20 streamlined administrative and programmatic system. EOA strongly supports HB 2145.

21 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Mitchell D. Roth
Mayor



William H. Farr
Executive on Aging

County of Hawai'i OFFICE OF AGING

Aging and Disability Resource Center, 1055 Kino'ole Street, Suite 101, Hilo, Hawai'i 96720-3872
Phone (808) 961-8600 ♦ Fax (808) 961-8603 ♦ Email: hcoa@hawaiiantel.net
West Hawai'i Civic Center, 74-5044 Ane Keohokālole Highway, Kailua-Kona 96740
Phone (808) 323-4390 ♦ Fax (808) 323-4398

February 11, 2022

Representative Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
Representative Adrian K. Tam, Vice-Chair
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

**Re: Support of HB2145, relating to KUPUNA CARE PROGRAM
9:00 A.M., FEBRUARY 15, 2022, Conference Room 329 VIA Videoconference**

Dear Representative Yamane and Members of the Committee on Health, Human Services, & Homelessness:

The Kupuna Care program is the backbone of services for our most frail and vulnerable Kupuna. Therefore, the Hawaii County Office of Aging (HCOA) fully supports HB2145, relating to Kupuna Care Program. The passage of this measure will provide clarity to the definition of the care recipient, caregiver, and the employed or "working caregiver."

By incorporating the Kupuna Caregiver Program into the Kupuna Care Program allows for the development of a more comprehensive care plan by the case manager. Under this measure the consumer and service definitions have been brought into much closer alignment to the assessed needs of the intended consumer. The needs and services of the care recipient, are very different from that of the caregiver and working caregiver. This measure aligns those services much more clearly.

As an Area Agency on Aging, the passage of this measure will enable us to better fulfill our goal and mission of helping our Kupuna to remain living independently and with dignity in their homes and communities for as long as possible.

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

William "Horace" Farr
Executive on Aging
Hawaii County Office of Aging



An Area Agency on Aging
Hawai'i County is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

AGENCY ON ELDERLY AFFAIRS
KEALOHA TAKAHASHI, EXECUTIVE



DEREK S.K. KAWAKAMI, MAYOR
MICHAEL A. DAHLIG, MANAGING DIRECTOR

Testimony in SUPPORT of HB2145
Relating to Kupuna Care Program

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

Testimony of Kealoha Takahashi
County Executive on Aging
County of Kauai, Agency on Elderly Affairs

Hearing Date: February 15, 2022
9:00 AM

Room Number: 329
Via Videoconference

The Agency on Elderly Affairs strongly supports the Governor's administration bill HB2145, Relating to Kupuna Care Program.

\$1.5 million is being requested in the Executive Office on Aging (EOA) budget for the Kupuna Care Program to enable working caregivers to maintain their employment. In previous years, the Kupuna Caregivers Program had its own allocated budget, however for purposes of combining the two programs, we are requesting the \$1.5 million allocation be appropriated in the Kupuna Care Program budget.

The purpose of this bill is to amend Chapter 349, part II, HRS, to combine two programs, the Kupuna Caregivers Program and Kupuna Care Program into one, the Kupuna Care Program.

The Kupuna Care Program was developed in EOA in 2001 to provide long-term services and supports to kupuna. The Kupuna Caregivers Program was established in 2017 specifically to provide support for working caregivers. The combined program model will streamline the administrative and programmatic burdens imposed by both programs while continuing to provide an array of seamless services and supports to meet the holistic and comprehensive needs of both older adults and their caregivers. Our agency which implements both programs will be able to use the federal, state and county funds more efficiently and provide services in a timely manner.

The passing of HB2145 will allow us to continue to serve the needs of Kauai's elders and their caregivers.

Thank you for your support and consideration.



**2022 Hawaii
Leadership Board**

February 14, 2022

Dr. Pokii Balaz, Chair
*Lunalilo Home
Kokua Kalihi Valley*

Representative Ryan Yamane, Chair
House Committee on Health, Human Services, and Homelessness
Hawaii State Capitol
Conference Room 329

Tricia Medeiros, Immediate
Past Chair
*Chief Operating Officer
The Plaza Assisted Living*

RE: HB2145 – Relating to Kupuna Care Program

Gina Fujikami, MD
*The Queen's Medical
Center*

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

Stafford Kiguchi
*Executive Vice President
Bank of Hawaii
retired*

On behalf of the Alzheimer's Association, I am pleased to extend our support for HB2145, which incorporates the kupuna caregivers' program into the kupuna care program. This update will improve government efficiency and add services for care recipients, caregivers, and working caregivers.

Lori McCarney
*Executive Director
Hawaii Bicycling League*

Although the Alzheimer's Association and other community agencies provide numerous services to family caregivers and care recipients, there are many services that are needed beyond what we can provide. These programs are a lifeline for many Hawaii caregivers, especially for those who are working and providing care for a loved one.

Kai Ohashi
*Financial Advisor
Edward Jones*

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me by email at ljudenas@alz.org, or by phone at 808.495.4122.

Michael Robinson
*Vice President
Hawaii Pacific Health*

Sincerely,

Kimberly Soares
*Vice President
Atlas Insurance*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "LJ Duenas".

Gordon Takaki
*Past President
Hawaii Island Chamber of
Commerce*

Caroline Witherspoon
*President
Becker Communications*

LJ Duenas
Executive Director
Alzheimer's Association

LJ R. Duenas
*Executive Director
Alzheimer's Association*