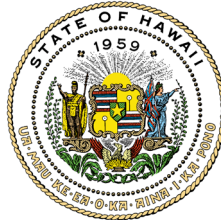


DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII

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



CAROLINE CADIRAO  
DIRECTOR

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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 SB3113  
Relating to Kupuna Care Program**

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES  
SENATOR JOY A. SAN BUENAVENTURA, CHAIR  
SENATOR LES IHARA, JR., VICE CHAIR

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

Hearing Date: February 10, 2022  
3:45 p.m.

Room Number: 225  
Via Videoconference

1 **EOA's Position:** The Executive Office on Aging (EOA), an attached agency to the Department  
2 of Health, supports SB3113, Relating to Kupuna Care Program.

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

8 **Purpose and Justification:** The purpose of this bill is to amend Chapter 349, part II, HRS, to  
9 incorporate the kupuna caregivers program into the kupuna care program.

10 The Kupuna Care Program was developed in EOA in 2001 to provide long-term services and  
11 supports to kupuna, and the Kupuna Caregivers Program was established in 2017 specifically to  
12 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.

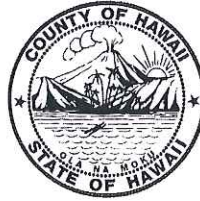
8 Additional highlights in the bill are:

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

17 **Recommendation:** EOA strongly supports this measure.

18 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@hawaiiintel.net  
West Hawai'i Civic Center, 74-5044 Ane Keohokālole Highway, Kailua-Kona 96740  
Phone (808) 323-4390 ♦ Fax (808) 323-4398

February 9, 2022

The Honorable Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair  
The Honorable Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice-Chair  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

**Re: Support of SB3113, relating to KUPUNA CARE PROGRAM  
3:45 P.M., FEBRUARY 10, 2022, Conference Room 225 and Videoconference**

Dear Senator San Buenaventura and Members of the Committee on Human Services:

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 SB3113, 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.

**SB-3113**

Submitted on: 2/7/2022 2:51:54 PM

Testimony for HMS on 2/10/2022 3:45:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Vicki R. Belluomini	Testifying for Maui County Office on Aging	Support	No

Comments:

Maui County Office on Aging strongly supports incorporating the kupuna caregivers program into the kupuna care program. This will allow for much more flexibility in our person centered delivery of services to our community. Mahalo!



Senate Committee On Human Services Hearing

DATE: Thursday, February 10, 2022 TIME: 3:45pm PLACE: Conference Room 225 & Videoconference

To: Chair, Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair, Committee On Human Services

February 6, 2022

**RE: Zonta Club of Hilo SUPPORTS SB 3113, Relating To The Kupuna Care Program**

The Zonta Club of Hilo is part of an international organization supporting and empowering women and girls internationally and locally. We support the Kupuna Care and Kupuna Care Givers funding, along with the Aging and Disabilities Resource Centers statewide. The effective and efficient administration of these programs funding are required. As a community member on the Legislative Committee for Policy Advisory Board Of Elder Affairs, we recognize the need for reducing administrative burdens and provide consolidated funding sources to serve the needs of our Kupuna and Kupuna Caregivers.

Dr. Mason at a recent Kupuna Caucus Presentation on November 4, 2022, clearly presented the need for Kupuna and Kupuna Caregiver Funding grows for the next couple of decades. He specifically pointed out the women are disproportionately impacted. Women live longer and will need more kupuna services longer. Additionally, women are generally the caregivers, even when they work and are raising their own families. Many ALICE (Asset Limited Income Constrained Employed) women, unfortunately, are single moms and kupuna caregivers at the same time.

Having been a kupuna care giver while working and raising a family when I was in my 30s, when there were fewer kupuna services, I personally experienced the stresses of tube-feeding my mom, finding adult care, balancing the needs of my children and mother. I continue to support Kupuna Care and Kupuna Care giver strategies that reduce the economic, emotional and social burdens on women helping their kupuna. The "Silver Tsunami" is here and will be in full-force for another decade or two. Our strategic actions to fund and support the orderly administration of kupuna caregiving is critical now.

For those on the Neighbor Islands, the lack of services and distances to deliver services create more challenges to our "super rural communities."

Others will provide more details on the need and positive effects of consolidating and provide adequate funding for kupuna needing care, their caregivers, both employed and retired.

The Zonta Club of Hilo supports **SB 3113** and thanks you for your consideration of this testimony.

Mahalo,  
Zonta Club of Hilo Legislative Advocacy Committee

Charlene Iboshi

Zonta International is a leading global organization of professionals empowering women worldwide through service and advocacy. Zonta International envisions a world in which women's rights are recognized as human rights and every woman is able to achieve her full potential. In such a world, women have access to all resources and are represented in decision making positions on an equal basis with men. Our membership includes both current and former small business owners in Hilo.



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aarp.org/hi | [aarphi@aarp.org](mailto:aarphi@aarp.org) | [twitter.com/AARPHawaii](https://twitter.com/AARPHawaii)  
[facebook.com/AARPHawaii](https://facebook.com/AARPHawaii)

**Hawaii State Legislature  
The Senate  
Committee on Human Services  
Thursday, February 10, 2022  
3:45 p.m.**

TO: The Honorable Joy San Buenaventura, Chair

RE: SB 3113, Relating to Kupuna Care Program

Aloha Chair San Buenaventura and Members of the Committee:

My name is Keali'i Lopez and I am the State Director for AARP Hawai'i. AARP is a nonpartisan, social mission organization that advocates for individuals age 50 and older. We have a membership of nearly 38 million nationwide and over 140,000 in Hawai'i.

AARP Hawai'i supports SB 3113 which incorporates the kupuna caregivers program into the kupuna care program. Combining the two programs eliminates confusion with similar names and overlapping scope of services, and enables more efficient use of federal, state and county funds. Kupuna Care has been a long-standing program that provides an array of home and community-based services such as home/chore services, transportation and offers respite to family members. The Kūpuna Caregiver program designed specifically for working caregivers, affords families to send their loved ones to adult day care centers and receive additional in-home help during the day so that they continue to work and make a living.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to support SB 3113.

Sincerely,

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

Keali'i Lopez, AARP Hawai'i

**2022 Hawaii  
Leadership Board**

February 9, 2022

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

Senator Joy San Buenaventura, Chair  
Senate Committee on Human Services  
Hawaii State Capitol  
Conference Room 225

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

**RE: SB3113 – Relating to Kupuna Care Program**

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

Aloha Chair San Buenaventura, Vice-Chair Ihara, 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 SB3113, 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 [ljduenas@alz.org](mailto:ljudenas@alz.org), or by phone at 808.495.4122.

Michael Robinson  
*Vice President  
Hawaii Pacific Health*

Sincerely,

Kimberly Soares  
*Vice President  
Atlas Insurance*



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*





**LATE**

To: Senate Committee on Human Services  
Hearing Date/Time: February 10, 2022 at 3:45PM  
Place: Hawaii State Capitol, Room 225  
Re: Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of SB3113

Dear Chair Buenaventura, Vice Chair Ihara, and Members of the Committee,

Members of AAUW of Hawaii thank you for this opportunity to testify in strong support of SB3113 which would incorporate the kupuna caregivers program into the kupuna care program and add services for care recipients, caregivers, and employed caregivers. This action is needed to guarantee care, independence and dignity for the many kupuna and dedicated caregivers in our communities.

Women shoulder a disproportionate burden of elder care responsibilities: About 25% of women aged 45-64 care for an older relative according to a 2019 survey from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Being forced to leave the labor force to do unpaid care work limits women's advancement and corresponding pay increases, contributing to the gender pay gap. On average, women spend 12 years less in the workforce than men. By offering support services to care recipients, caregivers, and employed caregivers, SB3113 allows caregivers to remain in the workforce so they can support their families while ensuring care for older relatives.

Many kupuna find a shortfall in dollars spent for basic care and assistance, this is simply an unacceptable standard after one dedicates a lifetime of hard work for society. The gender pay gap also continues into retirement, with the 2019 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey showing a nearly 30% difference in total retirement income between men and women. There are serious and disproportionate financial barriers to seniors aging in place and avoiding institutionalization. Providing the support services outlined in SB3113 for the kupuna care program will greatly assist all older adults who wish to continue residing in their homes.

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) of Hawaii is an all volunteer, statewide chapter of a national organization and is made up of six branches: Hilo, Honolulu, Kaua'i, Kona, Maui, and Windward O'ahu. UH Hilo, UH Mānoa, UH Maui College, and Windward Community College are also AAUW partners. AAUW's mission is



to advance gender equity for equal opportunities in education, at workplace and for economic security, and in leadership.

with Aloha,

Anna Nalani Ezzy

Public Policy Committee, AAUW of Hawaii

[publicpolicy-hi@aauw.net](mailto:publicpolicy-hi@aauw.net)

**SB-3113**

Submitted on: 2/8/2022 2:48:46 PM

Testimony for HMS on 2/10/2022 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
John A. H. Tomoso	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

02-08-22

RE: SB3113 (Companion Bill: HB2145)

.Aloha kakou,

I understand that this Bill incorporates the kupuna caregivers program into the kupuna care program and adds services for care recipients, caregivers, and employed caregivers.. There is a comprehensivness and "efficiency factor" in this Bill, that lends itself effectively to the building up of a **Statewide** Aging Network. I support this Bill, if only to empahsize the fact that **statewide and coordinated delivery of services** is important to how all these services need to be and can be leveraged by other resources; programmatically and fiscally, so as to nurture a continuum of care, with seamlessness.

Mahalo for your considerations.

John A. H. Tomoso+, MSW, ACSW

51 Ku'ula St., Kahului, Maui, HI 96732-2906

808-280-1749, john.a.h.tomoso@gmail.com

cc: Maui County Council on Aging