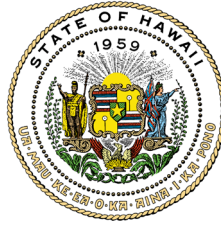


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII

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 COMMENTING on SB 838, SD1, HD2
Relating to Services for Kupuna**

COMMITTEE FINANCE
REPRESENTATIVE SYLVIA LUKE, CHAIR
REPRESENTATIVE TY J.K. CULLEN, VICE CHAIR

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

Hearing Date: April 1, 2021
2:30 p.m.

Room Number: 308
Via Videoconference

- 1 **EOA's Position:** The Executive Office on Aging (EOA), an attached agency of the Department
2 of Health (DOH), is commenting on Senate Bill 838, SD1, HD2 Relating to Services for Kupuna
3 and request necessary **amendments** to align with our federal law and reporting requirements.
4 This measure: 1) relaxes the work eligibility requirement during a state declared state of
5 emergency; 2) adds Kupuna Caregiver-Directed services as an option in the Kupuna Caregivers
6 program; 3) adds a financial management service provider who is responsible for financial
7 payments on behalf of participants enrolled in the Kupuna Caregiver-Directed program; 4)
8 requires the executive office on aging to submit an annual report of the kupuna caregivers
9 program to the legislature and 5) requires that the coach shall be a mandated reporter who has
10 received adult protective services training.
- 11 **Fiscal Implications:** The EOA is not requesting additional funds to implement and administer
12 the Kupuna Caregiver-Directed program.

1 **Purpose and Justification:** This bill will provide an additional option for caregivers to support
 2 their loved ones. For example, qualified caregivers are currently limited to only using service
 3 providers that are contracted by the AAAs. This measure adds Kupuna Caregiver-directed
 4 services allowing participants to direct their own services and address their needs with a monthly
 5 budgeted dollar amount instead of receiving services through a contracted provider.

6 The EOA proposes necessary amendments to 1) the proper naming of “Homemaker” and
 7 “Chore” services and, 2) the correct definition of the Person-Centered Support Plan or Support
 8 Plan.

9 1) For consistency with the services as delineated in the Older Americans Act, we respectfully
 10 request the following amendments to “Homemaker” and “Chore”:

11 a. **“Homemaker”**

- 12 ○ amend Page 3, line 3-8: By amending the definition of "**homemaker services**" to
 13 read: "~~Homemaker services~~ "Homemaking" "**Homemaker**" means services
 14 that provide assistance with preparing meals, shopping for personal items,
 15 managing money, using the telephone, or performing light housework."
- 16 ○ amend page 3, line 16: (5) [~~Homemaker services;~~ Homemaking; "**Homemaker**"],
- 17 ○ amend page 5, line 4-5: (1) In-home respite (personal care, [~~homemaker~~
 18 ~~services;~~ homemaking **homemaker**, and other in-home respite); and
- 19 ○ amend page 8, line 2: (6) [~~Homemaker services;~~ Homemaking; **Homemaker**

20 b. **“Chore”**

- 21 ○ On page 3, line 15 and page 7 line 21, we respectfully request to change
 22 "~~chore[s]~~" to "**Chore**".
- 23 ○ On page 7, line 21, change "Chore[s]" to "Chore"

24 2) The EOA also requests to amend the definition of Person-Centered Support Plan or Support
 25 Plan on page 4, line 4-13: "Person-centered support plan" or "support plan" means a plan

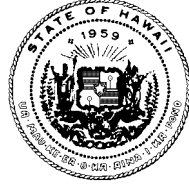
1 developed [~~by a~~ **with the** care recipient [~~with the assistance of a coach~~] and the recipient's
2 qualified caregiver that [allows] identifies the needs **and desired outcomes** of the care
3 recipient [to establish the goals, skills, and knowledge necessary to work toward the desired
4 outcomes and lays out practical steps toward the achievement of the goals; provided that
5 family members and friends may provide assistance in developing a care recipient's plan if
6 the care recipient chooses to include them.] and allows the caregiver to remain in the
7 workforce.”

- 8 **3)** Finally, on page 7, line 11-12, the measure requires the “coach shall be a mandatory reporter
9 who has received adult protective services training.” According to HRS Chapter 346, Part X,
10 all personnel working in social services are considered mandated reporters. Therefore, the
11 coaches at the social services agencies are already mandated reporters. Current language
12 states the Contractor shall “Provide verbal notification to EOA within twenty-four (24) hours
13 or one (1) working day of any suspected or alleged abuse, neglect, or exploitation involving a
14 participant and for which a report was made in accordance with HRS Chapter 346, part X.”
15 Additionally, the Department of Human Services has produced “Guidelines for Mandated
16 Reporters, Vulnerable Adult Abuse and Neglect,” which provides detailed information on the
17 requirements of being a mandated reporter; thus, **negating the need for training to coaches**
18 **by adult protective services.**

19 **Recommendations:** EOA humbly asks that our proposed changes are incorporated into the bill
20 as asked for throughout this legislative session. If these changes are not reflected, EOA is unable
21 to support the bill as written.

22 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 31, 2021

TO: The Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
House Committee on Finance

FROM: Cathy Betts, Director

SUBJECT: **SB 838 SD1 HD2 – RELATING TO SERVICES FOR KUPUNA**

Hearing: April 1, 2021, 2:30 p.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.

The House Committee on Health, Human Services & Homelessness amended the measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that service providers and coaches are mandatory reporters who have received Adult Protective Services training;
- (2) Requiring, rather than permitting, the Director of the Executive Office on Aging to adopt administrative rules for the purposes of regulating the Kupuna Caregivers Program;

- (3) Requiring the Executive Office on Aging to submit an annual report to the Legislature on the status of the Kupuna Caregivers Program;
- (4) Amending the preamble for conciseness and to update its amended purpose;
- (5) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2060, to encourage further discussion; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

The House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce amended the measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this bill allows the executive office of aging to relax the thirty-hour employment requirement for qualified caregivers under the kupuna caregivers program during a governor-declared state of emergency. Allows the Kupuna Caregivers Program to be delivered through either traditional service delivery or kupuna caregiver directed services. Clarifies that coaches and service providers shall be mandated reporters who have received adult protective services training. Expands the duties of a coach to include assisting the care recipient and caregiver with the enrollment process. Allows funds under the kupuna caregivers program to be issued to the care recipient's financial management service provider. Requires the director of the executive office on aging to submit an annual report to the legislature and adopt administrative rules. Effective 7/1/2060. (HD2)

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.

The Adult Protective and Community Services Branch (APCSB) receives mandated reporter training requests via telephone, email, and in person at various networking events. The number of mandatory reporter trainings provided by APCSB ranges from approximately 12 to 36 trainings statewide per year. The tracking of trainings by agency or group and the names of individuals trained is the responsibility of the requesting agency or group.

In State Fiscal Year 2020, the APCSB investigated 806 reports of alleged abuse of vulnerable adults. Adult Protective Services assists vulnerable adults to stop and prevent

March 31, 2021

Page 2

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.

SB-838-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/31/2021 10:44:49 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2021 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
HMS APCS (Lisa Amador)	DHS APCS	Support	No

Comments:

Available to testify and answer any questions. Written testimony submitted separately.

Hawaii Alliance for Retired Americans (HARA)
An Affiliate of Alliance for Retired Americans
c/o Hawaii Education Association
1953 Beretania Street, #5C
Honolulu, HI 96826

**Statement of the Hawaii Alliance For Retired Americans (HARA) on
S.B. 838, SD1, HD1, HD2 -- Relating to Services for Kupuna**

Hearing: Thursday, April 1, 2021; 2:30 p.m.
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 308
(via video conference)

TO: House Committee on Finance
Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Representative Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair

The Hawaii Alliance for Retired Americans (HARA) **supports** S.B. 838, SD1, HD1, HD2, which amends the Kupuna Caregivers Program to: (1) allow EOA to relax the employment requirement during a declared state of emergency for qualified caregivers; (2) allow services to be delivered either through traditional service delivery or kupuna caregiver-directed services; (3) clarify that coaches and service providers shall be mandatory reporters who have received adult protective services training; (4) expand the duties of a coach to include assisting the care recipient and caregiver in the enrollment process; (5) allow funds to be issued to the care recipient's financial management service provider; and (6) require the EOA director to submit an annual report to the Legislature and promulgate administrative rules.

HARA is an organization of senior organizations that represents some 21,000 retirees in Hawaii. HARA's affiliates include retirees of HGEA, HSTA, ILWU, UPW, AFT, IAM, Kokua Council, and the Hawaii Caregivers Coalition.

HARA fully supports the Kupuna Caregivers Program, which has been a godsend for caregivers trying to hold onto their own employment while caring for frail, elderly or disabled family members. However, due to very limited funding, only a few caregivers and their care recipients may be assisted.

It is our understanding that the coach and financial service provider are primarily (or only) needed if caregiver-directed services are allowed. Caregiver- and client-directed services are theoretically preferred because they allow for decisions to be made by the caregiver and client about the services needed and who will provide them. However, given limited funding, especially given severe pandemic-related budget constraints, perhaps **now is not the time to consider caregiver-directed services**. Then, if caregiver-directed services are eliminated from S.B. 838, there would be **no need for a coach or a financial service provider or even a**

contract with Acumen. Savings can then be applied to serving more caregivers and care recipients.

We are, however, fully in **support of** requiring the Executive Office on Aging to provide the Legislature with an **annual report** and **promulgate administrative rules** as provided in S.B. 838, SD1, HD1, HD2. These rules could include a provision to ensure that **caregivers most in need of support** (i.e., low-wage caregivers without paid leave or job flexibility) **are prioritized for services** with Kupuna Caregiver funding.

In addition, administrative rules could address the need to publicize the program. To reach a diverse and broader audience, the **Kupuna Caregiver and Kupuna Care programs should be widely publicized to encourage more diverse participation**. Publicity could include bus posters and information in multiple languages at ethnic churches and health clinics frequented by QUEST/Medicaid patients. Limited funding may raise the concern that outreach would give false hope to those needing services, but **data collected** on waitlists will help to identify and quantify unmet needs and be **crucial for lawmakers to make good policy and prioritize funding**. Furthermore, information about all government-funded programs should be widely available to the public, especially to those who have a clear need but lack resources to access information on the programs or the programs themselves.

The Hawaii Alliance for Retired Americans urges passage of S.B. 838, SD1, HD1, HD2. However, HARA sincerely hopes the Committee will consider our recommendation to eliminate caregiver-directed services—at least for now—in order to serve more kupuna and their caregivers. HARA will also provide testimony in public hearings on administrative rules for the Kupuna Caregivers Program.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our views on this measure.

SB-838-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/30/2021 2:06:04 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2021 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
GARY SIMON	Hawaii Family Caregiver Coalition	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Honorable Members of the House Committee on Finance:

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 HD 2.

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 HD2.

We thank you for seriously considering the bill.

Very sincerely,

Gary Simon

President

Hawaii Family Caregiver Coalition

SB-838-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/30/2021 3:17:14 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2021 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mike Golojuch, Sr.	Rainbow Family 808	Support	No

Comments:

Rainbow Family 808 is in support of SB838. We need to do all that we can to protect and help our kupuna. Thank you for hearing this bill. Please pass.

Mike Golojuch, Sr., Secretary/Board Member, Rainbow Family 808



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1-866-295-7282 | Fax: 808-536-2882
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facebook.com/AARPHawaii

**The State Legislature
House of Representatives
Committee on Finance
Thursday, April 1, 2021
2:30 p.m.**

TO: The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair

RE: S.B. 838, SD1, HD2 Relating to Services for Kūpuna

Aloha Chair Luke 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, HD2 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.

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, HD2.

Sincerely,

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

Keali'i Lopez, AARP Hawai'i

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

April 1, 2021

Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke
Chair, House Committee on Finance
Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 308, 2:30 P.M.
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: SB838 HD 2 RELATING TO SERVICES FOR KUPUNA.

Dear Chair Sylvia Luke, Vice Chair Ty J.K. Cullen, and members of the Committee:

The Alzheimer's Association **supports** Senate Bill 838 HD2 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. We believe that addressing this problem is important and that the current language is a direct and effective way of doing so.

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.

Here in Hawaii, an estimated 51,000 caregivers assist the more than 29,000 individuals who live with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia and that number is estimated to grow to 35,000 by 2025. This growing number of kupuna with dementia 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.

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

I appreciate the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 838 HD2.

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

LATE

SB-838-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/31/2021 2:35:38 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2021 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lawrence M.G. Enomoto	Aloha Chapter, Alzheimer's Association	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Sylvia Luke, Vice Chair Ty J.K. Cullen, 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 pre-crisis work hours 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, including myself, 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 nui loa,

SB-838-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/30/2021 1:10:23 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2021 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John D. Smith	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this to be passed through legislature.

March 30, 2021

TO: Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee

FROM: Community Member

SUBJECT: SB838 SD1 HD2 Relating to: Services for Kupuna

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT

I, a community member, am in support of bill SB838 SD1 HD2. This bill recognizes the importance of our kupuna caregivers, and that the need for the Executive Office of Aging to relax the thirty-hour employment requirement for caregivers during this pandemic, is critical to our Kupuna and community. Passing this will allow our kupuna caregivers to be supported and not have to anticipate financial burdens. More than a community member, I am also a social work student attaining my master's degree while specializing in gerontology at UH Manoa. For my practicum placement I work directly with older aged adults and their family members/caregivers. I foresee this bill, once passed, having an immediate positive impact, not only for our kupuna but for our community as a whole. With the pandemic causing so much financial stress, due to loss of jobs and uncertainty, much of our community I serve cannot afford the limitation of having to choose between working a full-time job or caring for our Kupuna. The passing of this bill will relieve caregiver stress and burnout – in turn, allowing caregivers to be relieved from financial burden and produce quality services to our kupuna. I ask that you please consider **our caregivers, our kupuna, our community, our Hawai'i**, in your decision-making process. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Warm Regards,

Community Member

SB-838-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/31/2021 12:23:22 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2021 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kimberly Puente	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

February 30, 2021

House Committee on Finance

Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair

Representative Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair

Hawaii State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Support of SB 838, SD1, HD2

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Finance Committee:

I appreciate the opportunity to submit testimony in **support of SB 838, SD1, HD2**. I am a resident of Oahu and a Master of Social Work (MSW) student. I have the privilege of working with kupuna and caregivers in the community.

Relaxing the 30-hour work requirement for caregivers during states of emergency is important. The current state of emergency has limited or eliminated the number of hours caregivers work to meet this requirement. This may also limit the income of caregivers further increasing their need for assistance.

Expanding program delivery to include either traditional or kupuna caregiver-directed services is highly beneficial to the participant. It gives kupuna the opportunity to direct their care base on their own identified needs.

Lastly, clarifying that coaches and service providers shall be mandated reporters who are trained, is a vital component to this program's service delivery. Kupuna face unique challenges that make them vulnerable to abuse and neglect. Clarification will ensure that coaches and providers are trained and able to serve program participants appropriately.

The Kupuna Caregivers Program has been a vital resource to the community it should be strengthened and changed to continue meeting the needs of the people it serves. Thank you for your consideration. Please pass SB 838.

Respectfully,

Kimberly Puente

March 31, 2021

Senate Committee Finance
Hawaii State Capitol
415 S. Beretania St.
Honolulu, HI 96813

LATE

Re: **SB 838 - SUPPORT**

Dear Chair Sylvia Luke, Vice Chair Ty J.K. Cullen, and members of the Committee:

I am supporting SB 838 because this bill directly helps kupuna and caregivers thru the Kupuna Caregivers program. The Executive Office of Aging can better serve kupuna and caregivers with the reduced hours.

This bill will especially help 29,000 of Hawai'i's people with Alzheimers and other dementia. The 51,000 caregiver as well will appreciate the change to better meet care and personal financial needs.

Your support of this bill is critical to the well being of many people.

Please support SB 838.

Sincerely,



Calvin M. Hara

LATE

SB-838-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/31/2021 3:05:41 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2021 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
KALAE PEARCE	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Sylvia Luke, Vice Chair Ty J.K. Cullen, 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 pre-crisis work hours 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

Thank you, Kalae Pearce

SB-838-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/31/2021 3:35:43 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2021 2:30:00 PM

LATE

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

Comments:

Dear Chair Sylvia Luke, Vice Chair Ty J.K. Cullen, 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 pre-crisis work hours 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.

Please do not let Hawai'i's caregivers fall through the cracks because of covid related problems beyond their control! Do not let the kupuna they care for fall by the wayside because their caregivers have become vulnerable and overwhelmed!

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

Thank you,

Naomi Hokama

LATE

SB-838-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/31/2021 3:36:55 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2021 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lori McCarney	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Sylvia Luke, Vice Chair Ty J.K. Cullen, and members of the Committee:

I am in strong support of SB838 to better prepare first responders and set standards for caring for people with dementia. My father suffered with Alzheimer's, a form of dementia, for over 8 years until he passed. During that time, he went through various stages of mental function including paranoia, anger, the inability to function, and hostility. Sometimes I would find him in very horrible situations--like standing with his pants dropped to the floor at his ankles, or grabbing a person. It wasn't him--it was the disease.

Many people think of dementia only as forgetfulness, and perhaps even find it amusing. Not until they better understand the disease, and how to interact with people with the disease, can they possibly be of assistance.

Dementia training for first responders can help ensure the safety of and respect for 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 hope you will pass this important legislation to help people like my dad.

Sincerely, Lori McCarney

SB-838-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/31/2021 4:19:18 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2021 2:30:00 PM



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

Comments:

Aloha Chair Sylvia Luke, Vice-Chair Ty J.K. Cullen, and members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of this measure, 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 pre-crisis work hours 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.

During these challenging and unprecedented times, we must safeguard the resources and supports that family caregivers rely on. As a caregiver for my late grandmother who suffered from dementia for 11 years, and as a professional who currently serves families affected by dementia, I can attest to the inherent challenge of balancing work and caregiving. With the additional weight and complexity of maintaining this balance during an ongoing global pandemic, these resources and supports become lifelines for family caregivers who are exhausted, depleted, and trying their best simply to get through the day.

In Hawaii, 51,000 family 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 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 and consideration.

Ivy Castellanos

SB-838-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/31/2021 5:03:04 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2021 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alvina L. Lutu	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Sylvia Luke, Vice-Chair Ty J.K. Cullen, 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 pre-crisis work hours 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 nui,

SB-838-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/31/2021 5:17:52 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2021 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rebecca Halloran	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Sylvia Luke, Vice-Chair Ty J.K. Cullen, 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 pre-crisis work hours 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

Thank you,

Rebecca

SB-838-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/31/2021 5:26:20 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2021 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gordon takaki	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Sylvia Luke, Vice-Chair Ty J.K. Cullen, 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 pre-crisis work hours 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

Thank you,

Mahalo once more for your support!

LATE

SB-838-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/31/2021 5:53:02 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2021 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Emily Bustard	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Sylvia Luke, Vice-Chair Ty J.K. Cullen, 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 pre-crisis work hours 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

Thank you,

Emily Bustard

LATE

SB-838-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/31/2021 6:39:50 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2021 2:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

Dear Chair Sylvia Luke, Vice-Chair Ty J.K. Cullen, and members of the Committee:

*I'm writing in support of SB83 in hopes of strengthening the Kāʻāpuna Caregivers program by empowering EOA to lower the number of hours employees work to access care services for their loved ones during the pandemic. **This change to the Kupuna Caregivers program ensures that enrolled caregivers will not have to choose between getting back to pre-crisis work hours 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.***

There are currently more than 51,000 caregivers assisting more than 29,000 individuals who live with dementia. The Kāʻāpuna Caregiver program is especially important as persons 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,

Rick Tabor

LATE

SB-838-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/31/2021 8:03:49 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2021 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ashley Curry	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Sylvia Luke, Vice-Chair Ty J.K. Cullen, 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 pre-crisis work hours 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

Thank you,

Ashley Curry

LATE

SB-838-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/31/2021 8:54:13 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2021 2:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

Dear Chair Sylvia Luke, Vice-Chair Ty J.K. Cullen, 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 pre-crisis work hours 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.

My father had dementia and passed away at the age of 98 years old in January 2020. Luckily, my three sisters and I were fortunate enough to have him placed in an assisted living facility, and we took turns caring for and visiting him while there. It was a difficult and emotional time for all of us! I am actually thankful that my dad passed before COVID was full-blown in North America! I can only imagine how difficult it must be for those who cannot afford to have their loved one in an assisted living facility, and have to drop work constantly to ensure their parent is cared for, and that every emergency involving their loved one is being handled! And what about families where the spouse is the caregiver who is still working, as well? Often, the caregiver dies even before the kupuna being cared for, because the caregiver is exhausted, but must continue working to help pay the medical bills! Relaxing the thirty-hour employment requirement for caregivers during a state-declared state of emergency (such as COVID-19), is clearly what we must do to assist caregivers, which in the end, assists those kupuna for whom they are caretakers.

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!

Peggy Oyama

SB-838-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/31/2021 8:57:53 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2021 2:30:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Linda Nuland-Ames	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Sylvia Luke, Vice-Chair Ty J.K. Cullen, 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 pre-crisis work hours and caregiving during this on-going crisis. It also will help caregivers by giving them time to find new employment as the economy slowly improves - time that they won't have if they are full time caregivers for their family member. Passing this bill will give caregivers the support they need to not be left out of Hawaii's economic recovery.

Family caregivers for frail elderly family members provide the major burden and expense of care. Kindly remember and assist these compassionate caregivers who balance work and care-giving as you work towards balancing the budget and rebuilding our state's economy this legislative session.

Mahalo,

Linda Nuland-Ames

SB-838-HD-2

Submitted on: 4/1/2021 9:15:49 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2021 2:30:00 PM

LATE

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

Comments:

Dear Chair Sylvia Luke, Vice-Chair Ty J.K. Cullen, 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 pre-crisis work hours 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. This program directly will help to keep caregivers in the workforce and allow them to care for their care recipient. Without relaxing the restrictions this could inhibit caregivers from joining the workforce and lead to further financial crisis.

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,

Dr. Poki'i Balaz

SB-838-HD-2

Submitted on: 4/1/2021 10:16:27 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2021 2:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

Dear Chair Sylvia Luke, Vice-Chair Ty J.K. Cullen, 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 pre-crisis work hours 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.

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Thank you,

Gina Fujikami, MD