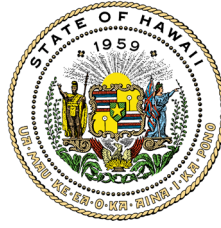


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Testimony in SUPPORT of SB 1372
Relating to the Executive Office on Aging

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
SENATOR JOY A. SAN BUENAVENTURA, CHAIR
SENATOR HENRY J.C. AQUINO, VICE CHAIR

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

Hearing Date: February 13, 2023
1:00 p.m.

Room Number: 225
Via Videoconference

EOA's Position: The Executive Office on Aging (EOA), an attached agency to the Department of Health, strongly supports the SB1372, Relating to the Executive Office on Aging Kupuna Care Program.

Purpose and Justification: The purpose of this bill is to clarify the definitions of "caregiver support services", "kupuna care services", and "respite care" in section 349-16 HRS.

In 2022, Act 160 combined the Kupuna Care and Kupuna Caregiver programs. Currently, as written, the definitions for "caregiver support services" and "respite care" only apply to employed caregivers. This measure will allow for all caregivers (employed and not employed) to receive caregiver support services and respite care. Additionally, the definition for "Kupuna care services" will be amended to be available to all care recipients, caregivers and employed caregivers.

Fiscal Implications: This measure does not request an appropriation.

Recommendation: EOA is in strong support of this administrative bill. If this bill does not pass, care recipients and their non-employed caregivers will not be able to access services and supports under Kupuna Care.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

SB-1372

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 8:28:21 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/13/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Roberta Murray	Testifying for PABEA	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am Roberta Wong Murray, Chair of the Policy Advisory Board on Elder Affairs (PABEA), an appointed board which serves to advise the Executive Office on Aging (EOA).

On behalf of PABEA, I am submitting written testimony in favor of SB1372, which clarifies those individuals eligible to receive Kupuna Care funds.

SB1372 adds 'caregiver' as a separate and distinct category to the current 'employed caregiver' and 'care recipient' designations.

PABEA believes that the greater majority of the 155,000 caregivers in the state fall into the category of caregivers who provide 24/7 caregiving duties to a spouse, family member or loved one at home without compensation. Many of these unpaid caregivers are themselves kupuna.

SB1372 thus would allow the Area Agencies on Aging to provide not only stipends but also respite care to unpaid caregivers.

Please pass SB1372.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roberta Wong Murray

Chair, PABEA

To: The Honorable Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair
The Honorable Senator J.C. Aquino, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary
Re: Strong Support of SB 1372, Relating to the executive office on aging
Hrg: Monday, February 13th , 2023 at 1:00pm, Conference Room 225

Position: Support

My name is Logan Nishihara and I am a graduate student at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. I am testifying in favor of SB 1372. I currently work with a lot of caregivers, older adults, and am a caregiver myself. I am in support of this bill to ensure that caregivers are able to have respite care and access to appropriate services for support.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.