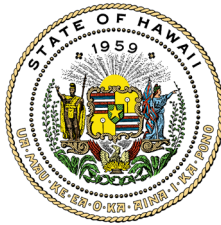


LATE

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII
KE KIA'ĀINA O KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII'

KENNETH FINK, MD, MGA, MPH
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH
KA LUNA HO'OKELE



CAROLINE CADIRAO
DIRECTOR

Telephone
(808) 586-0100

Fax
(808) 586-0185

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
KA 'OIHANA OLAKINO
EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON AGING
NO. 1 CAPITOL DISTRICT
250 SOUTH HOTEL STREET, SUITE 406
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-2831

Testimony COMMENTING on SB 163 SD1
Relating to Health

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
SENATOR DONOVAN DELA CRUZ, CHAIR
SENATOR GILBERT S.C. KEITH-AGARAN, VICE CHAIR

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

Hearing Date: March 1, 2023
10:10 AM.

Room Number: 211
Via Videoconference

EOA's Position: The Executive Office on Aging (EOA), an attached agency to the Department of Health, supports the intent of SB 163 SD1, Relating to Health, and provides the following comments.

Fiscal Implications: This measure appropriates an unspecified amount to the Executive Office on Aging for an Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias public health campaign.

Purpose and Justification: The public health campaign in this measure will educate the public about: 1) the early signs of cognitive impairment; 2) the value of early detection and diagnosis; and 3) the benefits of discussing changes in memory and thinking with health care professionals.

While the Executive Office on Aging supports the intent of this measure, the Executive Office on Aging, with funding from a Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) planning grant, already established workgroups that are currently updating and developing a new state plan on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias. The state plan will include goals and activities in

four CDC areas: 1) data; 2) workforce development; 3) program and policy and 4) **public awareness and education**. We acknowledge that the public awareness and education campaign in the new state plan will be much broader than the 1) early signs of cognitive impairment; 2) value of early detection and diagnosis, and 3) the benefits of discussing changes in memory with health care professionals identified in SB 163 SD1, however, we can incorporate these elements into the public awareness goal in the state plan.

Regarding an appropriation to implement a public health awareness campaign, we believe \$500,000 would be adequate.

Recommendation: EOA supports the intent of this measure provided that its enactment does not reduce or replace priorities with the Administration's budget request. Additionally, we feel that the purpose of the public health campaign can be incorporated into the new state plan for Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



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

The State Legislature
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Wednesday, March 1, 2023
Conference Room 211
10:10 a.m.

TO: The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
RE: Support for S.B. 163, SD1 Relating to Health

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz 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 impact organization that advocates for individuals age 50 and older. We have a membership of nearly 38 million nationwide and nearly 140,000 in Hawaii. We advocate at the state and federal level for the issues that matter most to older adults and their families.

AARP supports S.B. 163, SD1 which seeks to implement an Alzheimer's disease and related dementia public health campaign.

According to AARP Research Alzheimer Disease Awareness Poll in 2018, nearly everyone knew the seriousness of Alzheimer's disease and most knew someone who has had Alzheimer's disease or other forms of dementia causing cognitive decline; however, awareness of key characteristics and resources was still relatively low and remains the same today. S.B.163, SD1 will launch a public health campaign that educates the public on the early signs of cognitive impairment, the value of early detection and diagnosis, and discuss changes in memory and thinking with healthcare professionals. Increasing public awareness of early diagnosis could lead to changing the course of this disease. Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify in support for **S.B 163, SD1**.

Sincerely,


Keali'i S. López
State Director



**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Wednesday, March 1, 2023; 10:10 a.m.
State Capitol; Conference Room 211
Via Videoconference**

RE: SENATE BILL NO. 0163, SENATE DRAFT 1, RELATING TO HEALTH.

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Primary Care Association (HPCA) is a 501(c)(3) organization established to advocate for, expand access to, and sustain high quality care through the statewide network of Community Health Centers throughout the State of Hawaii. The HPCA **SUPPORTS** Senate Bill No. 0163, Senate Draft 1, RELATING TO HEALTH.

By way of background, the HPCA represents Hawaii's Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs). FQHCs provide desperately needed medical services at the frontlines to over 150,000 patients each year who live in rural and underserved communities. Long considered champions for creating a more sustainable, integrated, and wellness-oriented system of health, FQHCs provide a more efficient, more effective and more comprehensive system of healthcare.

This measure, as received by your Committee, would:

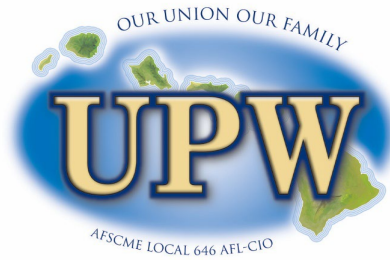
- (1) Appropriate an unspecified amount of general funds for fiscal year 2023-2024, and the same amount for fiscal year 2024-2025, for an Alzheimer's disease and related dementias public health campaign that educates the public on early signs of cognitive impairment, the value of early detection and diagnosis, and benefits of discussing changes in memory and thinking with health care professionals;
- (2) Specify that the funds be expended by the Executive Office on Aging; and
- (3) Take effect on December 31, 2050.

Testimony on Senate Bill No. 0163, Senate Draft 1
Wednesday, March 1, 2023; 10:10 a.m.
Page 2

The HPCA wishes to acknowledge the work of the Alzheimer Association in informing partner nonprofit organizations, labor, and community leaders throughout the State on the necessity of this public campaign. It is our understanding that efforts like this are occurring throughout the United States and are part of a national campaign to inform our citizens on the availability of new drugs and therapies to mitigate the devastating impacts of this disease. Because of this, authorizing the appropriation for multiple fiscal years will provide the Executive Office on Aging with the flexibility essential to ensure that the publicity campaign in Hawaii will coincide with similar campaigns across the nation.

Accordingly, we urge your favorable consideration of this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Public Affairs and Policy Director Erik K. Abe at 536-8442, or eabe@hawaiiipca.net.



**THE SENATE
THE THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2023**

Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

Wednesday, March 1, 2023, 10:10 AM
Conference Room 211 & via Videoconference

Re: Testimony in SUPPORT of SB163, SD1 – RELATING TO HEALTH

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

The United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO (“UPW”) is the exclusive bargaining representative for approximately 14,000 public employees, which includes blue collar, non-supervisory employees in Bargaining Unit 1 and institutional, health, and correctional employees in Bargaining Unit 10, in the State of Hawaii and various counties. The UPW also represents 1,500 members in the private sector.

UPW supports SB163, SD1, which appropriates funds to be expended by the Executive Office on Aging for an Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias Public Health Campaign.

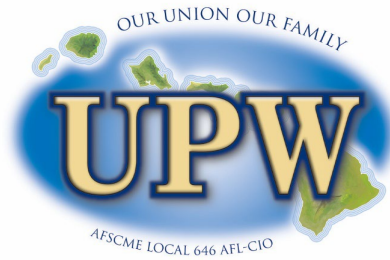
The growing number Alzheimer’s disease cases, as well as other forms of dementia, represents a health crisis that is currently impacting tens of thousands of families across the State. UPW firmly believes in the value of early detection and diagnosis of these and other diseases. Such efforts can help to mitigate the severity of illness and allow our working families to better understand what to expect in caring for their loved ones. Increasing awareness through a public health campaign could change the course of this disease.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Kalani Werner".

Kalani Werner
State Director



**THE SENATE
KA 'AHA KENEKOA
THE THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2023**

Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

Wednesday, March 1, 2023, 10:10 AM
Conference Room 211 & Videoconference

Re: Testimony in Support of SB1470, SD1 – RELATING TO CORRECTIONS

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

The United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO (“UPW”) is the exclusive bargaining representative for approximately 14,000 public employees, which includes blue collar, non-supervisory employees in Bargaining Unit 1 and institutional, health, and correctional employees in Bargaining Unit 10, in the State of Hawaii and various counties. The UPW also represents 1,500 members in the private sector.

UPW supports SB1470, SD1, which requires the Department of Public Safety (“PSD”) to install digital cameras in all guard control rooms in any correctional center housing women. This measure also appropriates funds for such purposes.

UPW would like to note that the previous version of this bill required Adult Corrections Officers (“ACOs”) to wear body-worn cameras. This provision was problematic as it did not specifically address the need for PSD to negotiate a body-worn camera policy with UPW as is required pursuant to 89-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and the collective bargaining agreement. We firmly believe that the elimination of this requirement from the previous draft better addresses the greater intent of the bill: replacing inoperable and outdated cameras to improve security camera coverage within correctional facilities and ensuring the safety of inmates.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Kalani Werner", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Kalani Werner
State Director

2023 Hawaii Leadership Board

Lori McCarney, Chair
Community Advocate

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

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

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

Stafford Kiguchi
*Executive Vice President
Bank of Hawaii
retired*

Travis Kikuchi
*Vice President and
Business Development and
Investment Officer
First Hawaiian Bank*

Kai Ohashi
*Financial Advisor
Edward Jones*

Michael Robinson
*Vice President
Hawaii Pacific Health*

Kimberly Soares
*Vice President
Atlas Insurance*

Gino Soquena
*Executive Director
Hawaii Building and
Construction Trade Council*

Gordon Takaki
*Past President
Hawaii Island Chamber of
Commerce*

Caroline Witherspoon
*President
Becker Communications*

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

Testimony to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means Wednesday, March 1, 2023; 10:10 a.m. Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 211 and Videoconference

RE: Senate Bill No. 163 Senate Draft 1, RELATING TO HEALTH

Chair Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Gilbert Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

I am Ron Shimabuku, Director of Public Policy and Advocacy for the Alzheimer's Association. We are testifying in **STRONG SUPPORT of Senate Bill No. 163 Senate Draft 1 and offer amendments for your consideration.**

The Alzheimer's Association was established to assist those facing Alzheimer's disease and other dementias by providing local support groups and educational resources while advancing crucial research and public policy initiatives.

Alzheimer's disease is a public health crisis across the country. In Hawaii, approximately 29,000 individuals aged 65 and older live with Alzheimer's disease. By 2025, this figure is projected to increase by 20.7%. In addition, many are experiencing subjective cognitive decline — one of the earliest warning signs of future dementia. In 2020, 6.7% of individuals aged 45 and over reported increased confusion or worsening memory loss, putting them at risk of later developing dementia. More than two-thirds have not talked to their healthcare professional about it.

New FDA-approved therapies are here, and more are on the horizon, which may allow people more time to participate in daily activities, remain independent, and decide on the future of their health. These treatments are beneficial at the early onset of the disease; therefore, early detection and diagnosis are critical. Educating the community at large is paramount to prevention, health management, and equitable access to FDA-approved treatments that may prevent or delay disease.

The bill, as received by your Committee, would:

- (1) Appropriate funds for an Alzheimer's disease and related dementias public health campaign for fiscal year 2023-2024 and the same sum or so much thereof for fiscal year 2024-2025; and
- (2) Be made effective on December 31, 2050.

The Alzheimer's Association would like to provide the following comments respectfully:

- (1) In 2020, the Executive Office on Aging (EOA) received the Building Our Largest Dementia (BOLD) Infrastructure for Alzheimer's Program Award from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). This award updated the Hawaii 2025: State Plan on Alzheimer's Disease & Related Dementias (also known as the Hawaii State Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias State Plan; the State Plan) established in 2013. Contained within the State Plan is a strategy focused on public awareness and education to include a general public health awareness campaign. This bill would, specifically, fund and implement an awareness campaign on the early signs of cognitive impairment, the value of early detection and diagnosis, and discussing changes in memory and thinking with health care professionals.

We have obtained preliminary cost estimates from marketing and communication firms in Hawaii to conduct this. These estimates range from \$555,000 to \$981,945. **We ask for your consideration to appropriate \$1,000,000 to be used over multiple fiscal years to allow EOA to complement this with the BOLD award.**

- (2) **This appropriation takes effect on July 1, 2023.**

With these amendments, the Alzheimer's Association strongly urges your favorable consideration of this bill.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify. If you have questions, please contact Ron Shimabuku at 808.451.3410 or rkshimabuku@alz.org.



INTERNATIONAL LONGSHORE & WAREHOUSE UNION

LOCAL OFFICE • 451 ATKINSON DRIVE • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814 • PHONE 949-4161

HAWAII DIVISION: 100 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawaii 96720 • **OAHU DIVISION:** 451 Atkinson Drive, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814
MAUI COUNTY DIVISION: 896 Lower Main Street, Wailuku, Hawaii 96793 • **KAUAI DIVISION:** 4154 Hardy Street, Lihue, Hawaii 96766
HAWAII LONGSHORE DIVISION: 451 Atkinson Drive, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

LOCAL 142

Testimony on Senate Bill No. 163 Senate Draft 1
RELATING TO HEALTH
Wednesday, March 1, 2023, at 10:10 am
Conference Room 211 & Videoconference
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Chair Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Gilbert Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Michael Victorino Jr, and I am the Secretary-Treasurer of ILWU Local 142. I strongly support bill SB163 SD1 which would fund and implement an Alzheimer's disease and dementia public health awareness campaign. I believe with the fund allocation the Alzheimer's Association could educate and take a more proactive approach in sharing information in regards to Alzheimer's and dementia.

As of now there's an estimated 6 million Americans living with Alzheimer's and studies show that numbers will continue to rise if not addressed in the early stages. There are three stages to Alzheimer's. Early (mild), middle (moderate), and late (severe). Obviously if recognized early enough, we could mitigate this disease. Thus, the reason for passing this bill. Inform, recognize, and address!

I would also be remiss to not share my personal story of how Alzheimer's affected our family. In 1996 our family was informed that my maternal grandmother was diagnosed with Alzheimer's and needed 24-hour care. This diagnose greatly changed our family and how we needed to care for my grandma. Unfortunately, in 2001 my grandma passed away from this disease.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Michael P. Victorino Jr.
Secretary-Treasurer, ILWU Local 142
451 Atkinson Drive
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814





Testimony to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Wednesday, March 1, 2023

10:10 a. m.

State Capitol Conference Room 211 and via videoconference

Re: SB 163 SD 1 Relating to Health

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

I am Gary Simon, a member of the board of the Hawaii Family Caregiver Coalition, whose mission is to improve the quality of life of those who give and receive care by increasing community awareness of caregiver issues through continuing advocacy, education, and training.

The Hawaii Family Caregiver Coalition strongly supports SB 163 SD 1, which appropriates funds to be expended by the Executive Office on Aging for an Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias Public Health Campaign.

An AARP Alzheimer's Disease Public Awareness poll conducted in 2018 demonstrated that nearly everyone surveyed knew the seriousness of Alzheimer's Disease and most knew someone who has had the disease or other forms of dementia. However, the public's understanding of the key characteristics was minimal.

More public health awareness is needed for people to be better informed of the early signs and symptoms of dementia, its impact on cognition, and resources and assistance that are available to persons with dementia and their families who care for and support them.

We urge you to support SB 163 SD 1 and we urge you to recommend its passage.

We thank you for seriously considering the bill.

Very sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gary Simon".

Gary Simon



Email gsimon@aarp.org

THE KŪPUNA CAUCUS



WAM_03-01-23 10:30 AM Submitted

TO: COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

CONCERNING: SB 163 SD1 (SSCR316) Relating to Health (Alzheimer's)

POSITION: STRONG SUPPORT

ALOHA Chair Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee

The Kūpuna Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i has more than 2,000 enrolled members who are politically active and greatly interested in all issues affecting seniors in the State of Hawai'i and nationally. The Caucus strongly requests that you support SB163

Alzheimer's disease is one of the most tragic diseases that can affect any human being. When it happens to a mother, father, or grandparent, the family is forced to watch their beloved elder slowly wither away into a state of confusion and loss. When people are ignorant of the symptoms or the possible progress of this disease it can be a devastating shock. When they don't know about the many different varieties of Alzheimer's and how different the symptoms may be between those varieties, then the patient may not be taken to a doctor for a formal diagnosis and receive whatever treatments are available to slow the progress of the disease.

There can also be serious family trauma when family members are subject to emotional outbursts or irrational rages and accusations by a parent or grandparent who has Alzheimer's, but who doesn't know it or has never been diagnosed. The more information we can get to the public the better. If people know how the disease can present itself then maybe they can do something about it before feelings are hurt and precious time for love and togetherness is gone forever.

Martha E Randolph for
The Kūpuna Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii

IRON WORKERS STABILIZATION FUND

March 1, 2023
10:10 am

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Conference Room 211 & Videoconference
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Re: SB163SD1 – Relating to Health

Aloha Chair Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Gilbert Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

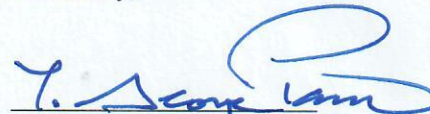
We **SUPPORT** the intent of SB163SD1. The purpose and intent of this measure is to fund a Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias Public Health Campaign, and to establish one full-time equivalent Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias Services Coordinator position within the Department of Health's Executive Office on Aging.

According to the 2022 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures, over 6 million U.S. citizens are living with Alzheimer's and over 11 million caregivers provided them with unpaid care. Various reports find the cost associated with unpaid care to be between \$200 and \$300 billion annually. Hawaii has an aging population and its fair share of those suffering from Alzheimer's and dementia related illnesses. Many working families are affected by Alzheimer's and dementia illnesses. Early diagnosis of Alzheimer's will have a direct effect on the cost of long-term treatment and the out-of-pocket expenses for Hawaii's kupuna.

Some studies show that by the end of this decade, over 35,000 Hawaii kupuna will be living with Alzheimer's disease. There are now new therapies available that did not exist a few years ago, and these therapies may help our kupuna to better participate in daily activities, remain independent, and make good decisions on their health.

This bill, if enacted, would educate the public on the early signs of cognitive impairment, the value of early detection and diagnosis, and encourage our community members to discuss such changes in memory and thinking with their healthcare professionals. Please consider supporting a public awareness campaign so that we can better care for our kupuna and their loved ones. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



T. George Paris
Managing Director



Hawai'i Psychological Association

For a Healthy Hawai'i

LATE

P.O. Box 833
Honolulu, HI 96808

www.hawaiipsychology.org

Phone: (808) 521-8995

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

March 1, 2023 10:10 P.M. - VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE – Rm 211

The Hawai'i Psychological Association (HPA) strongly supports SB163 SD1 RELATING TO HEALTH

HPA strongly supports SB163 SD1 to fund and implement an Alzheimer's disease and related dementias public health awareness campaign.

There are countless mental health challenges that come with the onset of Alzheimer's disease – for both the afflicted and their families.

We believe SB163 SD1 will educate the public on the early signs of cognitive impairment, the value of early detection and diagnosis, and discuss changes in memory, thinking, and quality of life with healthcare professionals – including mental health professionals. Increasing public awareness of early diagnosis could lead to changing the course of this disease and reducing the negative emotional and behavioral impact of this disease's associated hardships.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support.

Sincerely,

Alex Lichton, Ph.D.
Chair, HPA Legislative Action Committee



COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

March 1, 2023 10:10 A.M. - VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE – Rm 211

Testimony in Strong Support on SB163 SD1 RELATING TO HEALTH

The National Association of Social Workers – Hawai'i (NASW- HI) strongly supports SB163 SD1 to fund and implement an Alzheimer's disease and related dementias public health awareness campaign.

There are countless mental health challenges that come with the onset of Alzheimer's disease – for both the afflicted and their families.

We believe SB163 SD1 will educate the public on the early signs of cognitive impairment, the value of early detection and diagnosis, and discuss changes in memory, thinking, and quality of life with healthcare professionals – including mental health professionals. Increasing public awareness of early diagnosis could lead to changing the course of this disease and reducing the negative emotional and behavioral impact of this disease's associated hardships.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony in support.

Sincerely,

 MSW, LCSW

Sonja Bigalke-Bannan, MSW, LCSW
Executive Director,
National Association of Social Workers- Hawai'i Chapter



The Hawaiian Islands Association
for Marriage and Family Therapy
(HIAMFT)

We know systems.
We know relationships.
We know FAMILY MATTERS.

LATE

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

March 1, 2023 10:10 A.M. - VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE – Rm 211

Testimony in Strong Support of SB163 SD1 RELATING TO HEALTH

The Hawaiian Islands Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (HIAMFT) strongly supports SB163 SD1 to fund and implement an Alzheimer's disease and related dementias public health awareness campaign.

There are countless mental health challenges that come with the onset of Alzheimer's disease – for both the afflicted and their families.

We believe SB163 SD1 will educate the public on the early signs of cognitive impairment, the value of early detection and diagnosis, and discuss changes in memory, thinking, and quality of life with healthcare professionals – including mental health professionals. Increasing public awareness of early diagnosis could lead to changing the course of this disease and reducing the negative emotional and behavioral impact of this disease's associated hardships.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony in strong support of this bill.

Sincerely,

Dr. John Souza, Jr., LMFT, DMFT, President
The Hawaiian Islands Association for Marriage and Family Therapy

Testimony to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Wednesday, March 1, 2023
10:10 a. m.
State Capitol Conference Room 211 and via videoconference

Re: SB 163 SD 1 Relating to Health

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

When I suddenly became the primary caregiver for my mother, I knew my love for her would sustain us. But when her mixed dementia eventually robbed her of her dignity and I stood to defend her against this monster, it was like being thrown in a boxing ring with Muhammad Ali. The stress my husband and I sustained nearly prevented us from caring for our own family, our small business and our own health. Fortunately, I reached out to Alzheimer's, Hawaii Chapter because I hoped they could tell me what to do. And they did, with immense amounts of information and a network of support that helped us withstand the blows of this slow, fatal disease. However, information about this merciless and destructively expensive health issue is still buried beneath our community's awareness. Everyone happily knows that at age 15 we can all get our driver's licenses. But no one wants to eagerly look at life at the other end of health and wellness. We need to make this loud and clear. Dementia is NOT a normal part of aging! What are the signs? What should I do as the victim or caregiver? Who can help?

Our entire extended family strongly supports SB 163 SD 1, which appropriates funds to be expended by the Executive Office on Aging for an Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias Public Health Campaign.

Please--support SB 163 SD 1, and please recommend its passage.

Sincerely,



S. Sanae Tokumura, ACFRE, APR
Email: solidconcepts@hawaii.rr.com

Testimony on Senate Bill No. 163 Senate Draft 1
RELATING TO HEALTH
Wednesday, March 1, 2023, at 10:10 am
Conference Room 211 & Videoconference
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Chair Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Gilbert Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Calvin M. Hara, a concerned resident and advocate for kupuna in our state. **I am in STRONG SUPPORT of SB163 SD1** to fund and implement an Alzheimer's disease and related dementias public health awareness campaign.

In my career in senior care and as a caregiver of a loved one with dementia, I know first hand how difficult it is to have Alzheimer's disease and other dementias and being a caregiver. Our state needs to better support residents across the islands.

There is a need for public awareness of early diagnosis so the journey of the illness can be better care planned.

Your decision to pass SB163 SD1 will educate the public on the early signs of cognitive impairment, the importance of early detection and diagnosis, and what happens to one's memory and ability to think. Medical professionals can be there at the early stage to assist.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB163 SD1.

Sincerely,

Calvin M. Hara
cmhara@comcast.net

SB-163-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/27/2023 6:49:19 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Naomi Manuel	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Gilbert Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Naomi Manuel and I am an approaching caregiver of a rapidly aging parent. I am in strong support of SB163 SD1, Relating to Health, to specifically fund and implement an Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias public health awareness campaign.

I strongly believe that my generation of future caregivers would tremendously benefit from increased Alzheimer’s awareness and education. General disease facts, information, resources, and strategies will aid families and caregivers in either addressing a current situation with an aging loved one, activating an intervention, or planning for future care that is personally and culturally acceptable to the individual living with Alzheimer’s and their caregivers.

SB163 HD1 would educate the public on the early signs of cognitive impairment, the value of early detection and diagnosis, and discuss changes in memory and thinking with healthcare professionals. Increasing public awareness of early diagnosis could lead to changing the course of this disease.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

Naomi Manuel

SB-163-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/27/2023 8:21:18 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kathleen Wyatt	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair, Vice Chair, and Committee:

I am in strong support of this bill. Ignorance is not bliss, especially if you are facing caring for a loved one who has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease or related dementias. I have two adult day care centers where we care for 80 seniors with some level of dementia. I hear from their caregivers about the fear of not knowing what to expect, how did I not know what was happening to them, where do I go now? To forewarned is to be forearmed. If the public could be made aware of the early signs and symptoms, resources available to help them when the time comes, how will they care for their loved one, then the caregiving journey that they must begin will be made easier knowing what to expect. The concept of a Public Awareness Campaign is exactly what our state needs, with the increasing numbrs of seniors with Alzheimer's Disease and related dementias and the ever-increasing number of caregivers for these seniors.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

Kathleen Wyatt

Hale Hau`oli Hawai`i

SB-163-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/27/2023 8:24:17 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Claire Santos, MS, RN	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Senator Dela Cruz and Committee,

As a registered nurse I am in full support of funding a public health awareness and educational campaign regarding the expansive public health dilemma created by the diagnosis of Alzheimers Dementia. We must do all that we can to educate the public about the diagnosis and the increasingly complex care that is required, often for a long term of many years as the person's condition slowly deteriorates. With education comes understanding, compassion and hopefully a call to action to support the care of our kupuna and all who suffer from Alzheimers Dementia. Please give your support to funding SB163, SD1.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Claire P. Santow, MS, RN

SB-163-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/27/2023 8:54:33 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Will Caron	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support SB163 SD1.

SB-163-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 8:53:53 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dan Gardner	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

Alzheimers is a terrible scourge on man kind. As our longevity has increased so has the incidence of this disease. Better awareness of early symptoms and their onset will help prepare us all to better deal with it and provde more help for family, friends and ourselves. I ask that you strongly support SB163 legislation. Thank you.

Testimony on Senate Bill No. 163 Senate Draft 1

RELATING TO HEALTH

Wednesday, March 1, 2023, at 10:10 am

Conference Room 211 & Videoconference

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

Chair Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Gilbert Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Ohad Amidor. **I am in STRONG SUPPORT of SB163 SD!** to fund and implement an Alzheimer's disease and related dementias public health awareness campaign.

Unfortunately, my grandmother-in-law was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease. It is a debilitating disease that brings suffering to the patient and their family. Early detection is essential as western medicine managed to slow the progress of the disease.

Unfortunately, many individuals are unaware of their cognitive condition until it is too late. Educating the public can bring positive outcomes for our kupuna and help families struggle with Alzheimer's and various other dementias.

I am requesting that SB163 SD1 be passed to specifically educate the public on the early signs of cognitive impairment, the value of early detection and diagnosis, and discuss changes in memory and thinking with healthcare professionals. Increasing public awareness of early diagnosis could lead to changing the course of this disease.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify!

Ohad Amidor

Amidor@hawaii.edu

SB-163-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 9:27:14 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Esther Ueda	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support SB163 SD1 which provides funding for Alzheimer's disease and related dementia public health program.

My father passed away from alzheimer's a few years ago. Prior to his diagnosis there was a lot of disagreement in the family regarding his condition. If there had been more public awareness and information about the disease, his condition may have been diagnosed earlier and he may have been able to enjoy a few more years with us.

Thank you for your support of this bill.

Esther Ueda

LATE

SB-163-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 7:00:03 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joli Tokusato	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am requesting that SB163 SD1 be passed to specifically educate the public on the early signs of cognitive impairment, the value of early detection and diagnosis, and discuss changes in memory and thinking with healthcare professionals. Increasing public awareness of early diagnosis could lead to changing the course of this disease.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify

Joli Tokusato

LATE

SB-163-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 7:00:46 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Karen Miyashiro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have had both parents with this disease. I know that any support is needed and should be granted. These types of measures reflect the priorities of our culture.

In Solidarity for a better society,

Karen Miyashiro