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**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB2224 HD1
RELATING TO LONG-TERM CARE**

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: Monday, March 18, 2024, 1:00 P.M., Conference Room 225

- 1 **EOA Position:** The Executive Office on Aging (EOA), an attached agency to the Department of
- 2 Health (DOH) **supports** this measure, provided that its enactment does not reduce or replace
- 3 priorities with the Administration's budget request.
- 4 **Fiscal Implications:** Appropriates funds. Declares that the general fund expenditure ceiling is
- 5 exceeded to establish a long-term care planner position within the EOA.
- 6 **Purpose and Justification:** Requires EOA to create a comprehensive long-term care master plan
- 7 to accomplish long-term care policy goals that, when implemented, ensure the availability of a
- 8 full continuum of institutional and community-based services. Establishes a long-term care

1 planner position within the EOA to oversee the development and implementation of the long-
2 term care master plan. Requires the EOA to submit a report to the Legislature.

3 The Executive Office on Aging is in strong support of this measure as it is in alignment with our
4 functional statement for the Policy, Planning, Evaluation and Communication (PPEC) section of
5 EOA. PPEC coordinates, guides, and provides support for planning, policy development and
6 evaluation, data management, revenue maximization, and public communication. During a
7 reorganization of EOA in 2005, EOA's LTC planner was deleted from the organizational chart
8 causing a gap in the ability to fully execute and implement long-term care policies.

9 **Recommendation:** EOA supports the intent of this measure.

10 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



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The State Legislature
Senate Committee on Health and Human Services
Monday, March 18, 2024
Conference Room 225, 1:00 p.m.

TO: The Honorable Joy San Buenaventura, Chair
FROM: Keali'i Lopez, State Director, AARP Hawai'i
RE: Support for H.B. 2224 HD2 Relating to Long Term Care

Aloha Chair San Buenaventura and Members of the Committee:

My name is Keali'i Lopez, and I am the State Director for AARP Hawai'i. AARP is a nonpartisan, social mission organization that advocates for individuals age 50 and older. We have a membership of nearly 38 million nationwide and 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 H.B. 2224 HD2 requiring the Executive Office on Aging (EOA) to create a comprehensive long term care master plan that will ensure the availability of a full continuum of institutional and community based services. It also includes the establishment of a long term care planner within EOA.

Back in 2008, AARP played a key role in establishing the initial Hawaii long term care commission that was tasked to address the state's long term care system. A report was submitted to the legislature in 2012 with recommendations to improve and strengthen it. Since then, the state long term care system has evolved over the last 12 years, particularly with the expansion of home and community based services (HCBS), and the impact of COVID has certainly revealed new challenges and opportunities. We are also facing a health care workforce shortage especially in the long term care industry that continues to be challenging as the demand for more care increases with our aging population. We support this initiative that will provide an updated and comprehensive master plan of Hawaii's long term care system, look at new trends and explore more options in long term financing and home and community based services, and recommend additional system improvements that are needed.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify in strong support of H.B. 2224, HD2.

HB-2224-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/16/2024 8:20:18 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/18/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rosemarie	Testifying for ILWU - LOCAL 1000/SEBASTIAN'S ARCH LLC	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair, Chair San Buenaventura, Vice-Chair Aquino & all committee members:

I/we so appreciate this bill as it benefits the lives of Hawaii's treasured Kupunas and a Long Term Master Plan is quite important to the future lives of our Kupunas in Hawaii. We'll all become a part of Kupuna communities oneday, so it's a wise/sound investment for our State to do so.

I/we stand in support of this bill; it must pass through this year's legislation so that EOA can commence with necessary planning.

Thank you!

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemarie S. Sebastian, Treasurer

ILWU - Local 1000 / SEBASTIAN'S ARCH LLC

1630 Leilani St., Honolulu, HI 96819

Tel. No. (808) 220-0824



Monday, March 18, 2024 at 1:00 pm
Conference Room 225

Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

To: Chair Joy A. San Buenaventura
Vice Chair Henry J.C. Aquino

From: Paige Heckathorn Choy
Associate Vice President, Government Affairs
Healthcare Association of Hawaii

Re: **Testimony in Support**
HB 2224 HD 2, Relating to Long-Term Care

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii (HAH), established in 1939, serves as the leading voice of healthcare on behalf of 170 member organizations who represent almost every aspect of the healthcare continuum in Hawaii. Members include acute care hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, home health agencies, hospices, assisted living facilities and durable medical equipment suppliers. In addition to providing access to appropriate, affordable, high-quality care to all of Hawaii's residents, our members contribute significantly to Hawaii's economy by employing over 30,000 people statewide.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide **support** for on-going measures to create a strong, comprehensive long-term care system in the state. We have worked extensively with our partners at the Executive Office on Aging (EOA), the MedQUEST division, the Department of Health, and others on ensuring that long-term care providers are receiving adequate reimbursement for services provided, and support in resolving a critical workforce shortage that is compromising access to care for residents across the state.

There are many different providers, stakeholders, advocates, and agencies who must work together to ensure that we have an equitable, affordable, and available long-term care system. This work is tremendous in both importance and difficulty and we look forward to EOA identifying a partner that has knowledge of home- and community-based services and providers to carry this work out. We are grateful that the legislature is considering this measure to support efforts to focus on the needs of long-term care providers.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.