



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony Commenting on HB1282
RELATING TO CERTIFIED CAREGIVERS**

REP. GREGG TAKAYAMA, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Hearing Date: February 7, 2025
8:45 am

Room Number: 329

1 **Department Position:** The Department of Health (DOH) - Developmental Disabilities Division
2 (DOH-DDD) provides the following comments on this measure.

3 **Department Testimony:** The DOH-DDD is authorized under section 321-11.2 to certify adult
4 foster homes for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD), age eighteen
5 years and older, who are not related to the certified caregiver, and who have been deemed
6 eligible for services with the DOH-DDD. An adult foster home is a private family home
7 providing care, training, and supervision on a twenty-four basis for not more than two adults
8 with I/DD.

9 Individuals with I/DD have physical and cognitive impairments, chronic diseases, and risk
10 factors that require a range of long term services and supports to meet their daily needs, maintain
11 their health and well-being, and improve their quality of life. Certified caregivers must have the
12 skills, knowledge, and experience to provide safe and appropriate person-centered supports
13 based on the individual's service plan, behavior plan, nurse delegation plan, physician orders,
14 and other specialized treatment plans. Certified caregivers must understand and comply with
15 applicable federal and state laws and regulations to ensure ongoing compliance with the
16 operation of the adult foster home and be responsible for the implementation of remediation
17 actions. As long as these requirements are met, DOH-DDD does not have issue with the change
18 made in this bill.

- 1 DOH-DDD also notes a review of states that license or certify foster home settings for adults
- 2 with I/DD revealed that many require the caregiver to be at least twenty-one years of age or
- 3 older. Maintaining the minimum of age of twenty-one for adult foster homes would align with
- 4 the minimum age for primary caregivers of adult residential care homes in Hawaii.
- 5 Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this measure.



STATE OF HAWAII
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAI'I
STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
'A'UNIKE MOKU'ĀPUNI NO KA NĀ KĀWAI KULA
PRINCESS VICTORIA KAMĀMALU BUILDING
1010 RICHARDS STREET, Room 122
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543

February 7, 2025

The Honorable Representative Gregg Takayama, Chair
House Committee on Health
The Thirty-Third Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawai'i
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Representative Takayama, and Committee Members:

SUBJECT: HB1282 Relating to Certified Caregivers

The Hawaii State Council on Developmental Disabilities **SUPPORTS HB1282**, which lowers the minimum age that a certified caregiver for an adult foster home must be from twenty-one to eighteen.

In Hawaii, we are fortunate to have our adult foster homes being family-run, with caregivers' children growing up alongside the residents. These young adults have a unique bond with the individuals they care for, making them the best suited for the job. With the high cost of living, many of these young adults need part-time jobs to support their families. Allowing them to work as caregivers not only addresses staffing shortages but also provides a meaningful opportunity for them to contribute to their community.

If this bill does not pass, we risk losing these young, dedicated individuals to other states, like Nevada, where they can work in similar caregiving roles. HB1282 ensures that we can retain this invaluable resource and continue to provide quality care in our local homes. We strongly support our unique caregiving system in Hawaii and to ensure individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities receive the care they need from those who already consider them family. We are hopeful this measure becomes law.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **strong support of HB1282**.

Sincerely,

Daintry Bartoldus
Executive Administrator

HB-1282

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 4:29:27 PM

Testimony for HLT on 2/7/2025 8:45:00 AM

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

Comments:

Dear Rep. Gregg Takayama, Chair and Members of HLT Committee:

RE: HB1282

On behalf of ILWU Local 1000 and Sebastian's ARCH LLC, I am strongly supporting HB1282.

Our caregiving operations needs certified caregivers/substitutes. Right now, they have to be age 21 or older. There are times when a certified caregivers/substitutes aren't able to report to work (as scheduled) so it's important for the Operator to be able to find another caregiver--that is available momentarily. Sometime the only available is a family members or friends who are younger but are trained Nurses Aide and or CNAs but most of the time, they are younger than age 21. So this house bill is requesting to lower the age from 21 to 18 years old. If we are able to utilize a caregiver that's 18 years old, then this will allow us to care for our clients without any disruptions.

We ask for your kind considerations by approving this bill. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

Rose Sebastian, Treasurer/Legislative Committee Chair

ILWU LOCAL 1000,

P.O. Box 2064

Pearl City, HI 96782

Cell. (808) 220-0824

Email: rose.sebastian808@gmail.com

HB-1282

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 4:33:18 PM

Testimony for HLT on 2/7/2025 8:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Menchie Dawang	Providing Healthy Homecare for Hawaii- PH3	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Members of the Committee,

My name is Menchie Dawang and I am the president of PH3, representing a dedicated group of caregivers who work tirelessly to provide essential support to our clients. I am here today to express my heartfelt and unwavering support for HB1282.

As caregivers, we are often overwhelmed and burned out due to the increasing demands of our profession. Many of us are struggling to balance the needs of our clients with our own well-being. The absence of sustainable caregiver support and guidance has made our jobs even more challenging. With a growing shortage of qualified caregivers and rising costs, it has become increasingly difficult to ensure that our clients receive the care they need.

HB1282 presents a critical opportunity to address these challenges. By providing essential support for caregivers, this bill has the potential to improve not only our working conditions but also the quality of care we can offer to our clients. It acknowledges the vital role we play in the healthcare system and seeks to ensure that we are equipped to meet the demands placed upon us. I urge you to consider the voices of caregivers like myself and my colleagues, who stand behind this bill. We need your support to pass HB1282, so that we can continue to provide compassionate care without sacrificing our own health and well-being. Together, we can create a system that values and supports those who dedicate their lives to caring for others.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Menchie Dawang

President, PH3

Providing Healthy Homecare for Hawaii

HB-1282

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 8:36:58 PM

Testimony for HLT on 2/7/2025 8:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jamie Rankin	PH3	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE, 2025
STATE OF HAWAII U
ABILLFORANACT

RELATING TO CERTIFIED CAREGIVERS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Section 321—11.2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:
3 “(a) The department of health is authorized to certify
4 adult foster homes for individuals with developmental or
5 intellectual disabilities requiring care beyond the individual’s
6 eighteenth birthday. “Adult foster home” means a private family
7 home providing care on a twenty-four hour basis to adults with
8 developmental or intellectual disabilities. To be certified, an
9 adult foster home shall house not more than two adults with
10 developmental or intellectual disabilities who are unrelated to
11 the certified caregiver at the same time. The director of
12 health may waive the two-adult limit for certification of that
13 home as an adult foster home; provided that the total number of
14 adults with developmental or intellectual disabilities in the
15 home shall not exceed three adults with developmental or
16 intellectual disabilities who are related or unrelated to the
17 certified caregiver.

2025—0832 H3 HMSO

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H.B. NO. 12~4.

1 For the purposes of this subsection:
2 “Certified caregiver” means an individual who is [twenty
3 one] eighteen years of age or older, resides in an adult foster
4 home, and has been issued by the department a valid certificate
5 of approval to provide care, training, and supervision on a
6 twenty—four hour basis to adults with developmental or
7 intellectual disabilities.
8 “Related” means connected by legal guardianship,
9 trusteeship, blood, marriage, or a legal relationship between,

10 the certified caregiver and the adult with developmental or
11 intellectual disabilities.”

12 SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
13 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

14 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.
15

INTRODUCED BY:

JAN 222025

2025—0832 HB HMSO 2

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H.B. NO. 1232

Report Title:

Adult Foster Homes; Certified Caregiver

Description:

Lowers the minimum age that a certified caregiver for an adult
foster home must be from twenty-one to eighteen.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only
and is

not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

HB-1282

Submitted on: 2/6/2025 7:54:17 PM

Testimony for HLT on 2/7/2025 8:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lea Daguro	Provider Helping Hands of Hawaii	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The Honorable Members of the Hawaii State Legislature,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1282, which addresses the certification of caregivers for adults in foster homes. As a caregiver and a member of PH3, I believe this legislation is vital for enhancing the quality of care provided to individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities.

HB1282 will ensure that caregivers meet the necessary qualifications, thereby improving the standards of care in adult foster homes. By lowering the age requirement for certified caregivers from 21 to 18, this bill opens the door for a new generation of compassionate individuals to enter the caregiving profession. Many young adults possess the skills, dedication, and empathy needed to provide excellent care, and this change will allow them to contribute meaningfully to our communities.

Furthermore, the certification process outlined in the bill will help establish a clear framework for training and supervision. This will not only benefit caregivers by providing them with essential skills and knowledge but will also ensure that individuals receiving care have access to safe and nurturing environments.

As a caregiver, I have witnessed firsthand the positive impact that well-trained caregivers can have on the lives of those they serve. I strongly believe that HB1282 will lead to better outcomes for both caregivers and care recipients, fostering a more supportive and effective caregiving community.

In conclusion, I urge you to support HB1282. It is a step in the right direction toward improving the quality of care for individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities in our state.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Lea Daguro

Assistant Treasurer, PH3

HB-1282

Submitted on: 2/6/2025 9:22:52 PM

Testimony for HLT on 2/7/2025 8:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mary Ellayn Ortal	PH3	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1282, a bill that addresses a critical need in our community for certified caregivers. As a caregiver and a member of our local caregiving community, I want to highlight the struggles we face daily in providing quality care for those who depend on us.

The current caregiver shortage has made it increasingly difficult for us to hire substitute caregivers. The rates charged by outside caregivers are often prohibitively high, making it challenging for us as business owners to manage our finances while ensuring our patients receive the care they deserve. This bill offers a solution by allowing individuals as young as 18 years to serve as certified secondary caregivers, thereby expanding our options.

Moreover, the demands of caregiving often lead to burnout, and many of us do not have the luxury of taking vacations. By enabling family members, such as our children or household members aged 18 and up, to obtain the necessary certification, we can create a support system that is both affordable and reliable. These individuals already know our patients and understand their needs, making them ideal candidates for providing care.

In emergencies, having someone available who is already familiar with the patient can make all the difference. This bill not only addresses the immediate staffing needs but also acknowledges the unique challenges we face as caregivers.

I urge you to pass HB1282, as it will provide much-needed relief and support for caregivers like myself. It will empower us to continue providing high-quality care without the overwhelming burden of financial strain and staffing shortages.

Thank you for considering this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Mary Ortal

PH3

HB-1282

Submitted on: 2/6/2025 9:47:12 PM

Testimony for HLT on 2/7/2025 8:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Norma Tan	PH3	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm in full support of HB1282

HB-1282

Submitted on: 2/6/2025 10:27:30 PM

Testimony for HLT on 2/7/2025 8:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rowena Sonajo Agustin	PH3	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The Honorable Members of the Hawaii State Legislature,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1282, which addresses the certification of caregivers for adults in foster homes. As a caregiver and a member of PH3, I believe this legislation is vital for enhancing the quality of care provided to individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities.

HB1282 will ensure that caregivers meet the necessary qualifications, thereby improving the standards of care in adult foster homes. By lowering the age requirement for certified caregivers from 21 to 18, this bill opens the door for a new generation of compassionate individuals to enter the caregiving profession. Many young adults possess the skills, dedication, and empathy needed to provide excellent care, and this change will allow them to contribute meaningfully to our communities.

Furthermore, the certification process outlined in the bill will help establish a clear framework for training and supervision. This will not only benefit caregivers by providing them with essential skills and knowledge but will also ensure that individuals receiving care have access to safe and nurturing environments.

As a caregiver, I have witnessed firsthand the positive impact that well-trained caregivers can have on the lives of those they serve. I strongly believe that HB1282 will lead to better outcomes for both caregivers and care recipients, fostering a more supportive and effective caregiving community.

In conclusion, I urge you to support HB1282. It is a step in the right direction toward improving the quality of care for individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities in our state.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Rowena Agustin

PH3, Auditor

HB-1282

Submitted on: 2/6/2025 11:04:08 PM

Testimony for HLT on 2/7/2025 8:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maria Angelica Camantang	PH3	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing my testimony in behalf of PH3. I am

supporting the bill. As CCFFH operator, I dont see any hindrances on to why as 18 years old adult may not be able to be approved as SCG. With the proper trainings and mentoring, this of age adult are definitely capable of doing what us, PCG are doing to our clients. And also, based on my situation as an operator with only 2 medicaid,

having relatives of 18 yo to help us in our foster is really really helpful when it comes to managing our finances. Also, with the demand of caregivers at the momeney, it is hard to look for an NA that will help us. If we have families thay our 18 yo, it is really a big help.

HB-1282

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 11:09:10 AM

Testimony for HLT on 2/7/2025 8:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kalae	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support we need some way to fix staff shortages for care homes this is a step in the right direction.

HB-1282

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 12:40:37 PM

Testimony for HLT on 2/7/2025 8:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ellen Awai	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB1282 due to how my own siblings were mistreated at these Adult Care Homes, mostly run by one cultural group that didn't speak any English, had different foods, and practices of what is sanitary being from a foreign country with different laws. Department of Health required family members to notify these homes 24 hrs before visiting, so that upon appearance it looked like they lived in great homes, but were mistreated by family members. Of course the registered nurses that were able to acquire the permit had paying jobs in hospital and nursing homes and left their family to take care of I believe up to 6 patients.

HB-1282

Submitted on: 2/5/2025 7:11:12 PM

Testimony for HLT on 2/7/2025 8:45:00 AM

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

Comments:

Testimony: Dear Members of the Committee,

As the president of PH3 and on behalf of our dedicated caregivers, I urge your strong support for HB1282. This bill is not just a legislative proposal. It represents a lifeline for our community and a crucial step towards alleviating the overwhelming challenges faced by caregivers across Hawai‘i.

Every day, caregivers like myself dedicate our lives to providing compassionate, 24-hour care for adults with developmental and intellectual disabilities. We do this not only out of duty but out of love and commitment to those who depend on us. However, the current age requirement of twenty-one for secondary substitute caregivers creates an unnecessary barrier that limits the availability of this essential support.

By lowering the minimum age to eighteen, we open the door for a new generation of caregivers who are ready, willing, and able to provide the care and attention that these individuals deserve. Many young adults possess the maturity, empathy, and dedication required for this role. Allowing them to step into these positions will help address the growing shortage of caregivers, which is a pressing issue in our state.

The burden of caregiving is immense, and many of us are feeling overwhelmed and burned out. Finding qualified caregivers is increasingly difficult and expensive. By supporting this bill, you are not only enhancing the quality of care for our clients but also providing much-needed relief to existing caregivers who are stretched thin.

We are at a critical juncture where decisive action is necessary. HB1282 is not just about changing an age requirement; it is about ensuring that every individual has access to the care they need and deserve. It’s about fostering a supportive community where caregivers can thrive, and our clients can receive the best possible care.

We urge you to pass this bill, not only for the present but for the future of caregiving in Hawai‘i. Together, we can make a profound difference in the lives of those we serve.

Thank you for your attention and support.

Sincerely,

Katrina Zairra Manuel CCFFH owner.

HB-1282

Submitted on: 2/6/2025 9:17:58 AM

Testimony for HLT on 2/7/2025 8:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Myrna Caro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill

HB-1282

Submitted on: 2/6/2025 3:10:13 PM

Testimony for HLT on 2/7/2025 8:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Grace Jadulang	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill, 18 years old can be a substitute caregiver. They are very knowledgeable, responsible, they know what they are doing. We need more caregivers/substitute caregiver in this community to take care senior citizens or people who are unable to take care themselves, so I strongly support this bill.

HB-1282

Submitted on: 2/6/2025 3:53:12 PM

Testimony for HLT on 2/7/2025 8:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rachel S Castro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this bill, 18 years old can do a lot, they are adults, we need more caregivers in this community to help disabled person.

HB-1282

Submitted on: 2/6/2025 7:45:45 PM

Testimony for HLT on 2/7/2025 8:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marian Nakahashi	PH3	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in support of HB1282, to establish a schedule of late fees to be added to the original unpaid claim amount if a health plan or insurer fails to pay to a provider within the required time.

Providing direct care to medicaid members in our community as dedicated caregivers is CRUCIAL. and we need this legislature's support to enhance our well being through fair and timely reimbursement. My colleague and I have faced issues with delayed payments from health insurers due to unclear reasons, despite submitting all necessary documentations.

We sometimes view insurers as being unyielding and unsympathetic towards caregivers. Thus, i ask this committee to take action regarding our concerns as caregivers for insurer members.

Respectfully.

Marian Nakahashi

PH3 Org member.

HB-1282

Submitted on: 2/6/2025 9:52:36 PM

Testimony for HLT on 2/7/2025 8:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rhoda Bolosan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The Honorable Members of the Hawaii State Legislature,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1282, which addresses the certification of caregivers for adults in foster homes. As a caregiver and a member of PH3, I believe this legislation is vital for enhancing the quality of care provided to individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities.

HB1282 will ensure that caregivers meet the necessary qualifications, thereby improving the standards of care in adult foster homes. By lowering the age requirement for certified caregivers from 21 to 18, this bill opens the door for a new generation of compassionate individuals to enter the caregiving profession. Many young adults possess the skills, dedication, and empathy needed to provide excellent care, and this change will allow them to contribute meaningfully to our communities.

Furthermore, the certification process outlined in the bill will help establish a clear framework for training and supervision. This will not only benefit caregivers by providing them with essential skills and knowledge but will also ensure that individuals receiving care have access to safe and nurturing environments.

As a caregiver, I have witnessed firsthand the positive impact that well-trained caregivers can have on the lives of those they serve. I strongly believe that HB1282 will lead to better outcomes for both caregivers and care recipients, fostering a more supportive and effective caregiving community.

In conclusion, I urge you to support HB1282. It is a step in the right direction toward improving the quality of care for individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities in our state.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Rhoda Bolosan

PH3, Assistant Auditor

HB-1282

Submitted on: 2/6/2025 9:55:06 PM

Testimony for HLT on 2/7/2025 8:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Neva Jane Carlos	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

more pay for the caregivers

HB-1282

Submitted on: 2/6/2025 10:15:48 PM

Testimony for HLT on 2/7/2025 8:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sheillamari Prepuse	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In Hawaii, when individuals turn 18, they gain several legal rights and responsibilities.

- They can vote
- They can drive
- They can enter into contracts
- They can serve on a jury
- They can consent to medical treatment
- They can marry

However... they cannot work as a substitute caregiver in an adult foster home and 3-bed CCFFHs even though this will allow them to gain valuable work experience, develop essential skills and become productive members of society. Being a caregiver is one of the few jobs in the world where young adults not only gain knowledge and experience but most importantly, are taught compassion, empathy, and responsibility.

With that being said, I am writing to express my strong support for House bill 1282 (HB1282) and its companion bill SB1059, which propose to lower the minimum age for certified caregivers in adult foster homes from twenty-one to eighteen. This legislation is crucial for addressing the current caregiver shortage and ensuring the sustainability of high-quality care for our vulnerable populations.

While I wholeheartedly support this bill, I urge the inclusion of Community Care Foster Family Homes (CCFFH) with three beds in the scope of this legislation. Among the Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) industry, three-bed CCFFHs are uniquely excluded from accessing this valuable workforce resource. By including three-bed CCFFHs, we can address the scarcity of substitute caregivers and provide much-needed respite to the operators of these homes.

Three-bed CCFFHs play a critical role in reducing the state's reliance on costly Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) admissions. 3-bed CCFFHs are unique to the HCBS community in which we provide critical support to the hospital system by providing long-term care to patients who are stepping down from acute care. We also play a crucial role in providing options for families who have exhausted their private funds and need a Medicaid bed. We are also the go-to option for assisted living or senior living residents who are transitioning to a higher level of care. Lastly, we

are the only viable option for patients and families when nursing facilities are full. As you can see, WE ARE IMPORTANT.

By providing additional support to 3 bed CCFFH homes, we can enhance the quality of patient care through adequate staffing and ensure better physical and mental health outcomes for residents. On the provider's side, tapping into a new pool of workforce resources will allow for adequate respite and support to ensure that we can continue to provide exceptional care without compromising our health and wellbeing.

In conclusion, I strongly support HB1282 and SB1059 with the proposed amendments to include three-bed CCFFHs. This legislation is a vital step towards strengthening our caregiving workforce, improving patient care, and ensuring the sustainability of our HCBS industry. I urge you to consider these amendments and pass this bill to benefit our community.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.

Sheillamari "Shell" Prepuse, RN

HB-1282

Submitted on: 2/6/2025 11:55:15 PM

Testimony for HLT on 2/7/2025 8:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
kimberly mercado	Ph3	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Good evening as dedicated caregivers, we're passionate about delivering exceptional support to our residents, and we're eager to collaborate with you to address a pressing challenge we've been facing for years. Despite our best efforts, we've struggled to find a solution, and we believe that together, we can drive meaningful change. The cost of substitute caregivers is substantial, particularly when they're aware that all necessary paperwork is complete. We often find ourselves shouldering additional responsibilities, such as escorting residents to appointments, picking up medication, or running errands, all while ensuring their daily needs are met. It's not uncommon for substitute caregivers to earn higher hourly rates than primary caregivers, which can be unsustainable. With the rising costs of living and the demands of 24/7 care, we're seeking a solution that will enable us to continue providing the highest level of support to our residents. We're hopeful that by working together, we can find a way forward that benefits everyone involved.

HB-1282

Submitted on: 2/7/2025 5:21:57 PM

Testimony for HLT on 2/7/2025 8:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elisha Joy Tenorio	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Adult foster care homes should allow trained, delegated 18-year-old adults to provide care and supervision. With the proper training, required documents, and current CPR/First aid training, these individuals can work in adult foster care homes.

Caregiver burn out is a real issue, and emergencies can occur anytime. We need the assistance we can get, as long as the substitute caregiver adult is trained, compliant with rules and regulations, and has the necessary skills to work in an adult foster care home. Please consider this proposal.