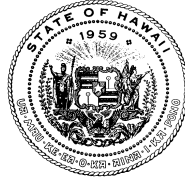


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



CAROLINE CADIRAO
DIRECTOR

BRUCE ANDERSON
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII
EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON AGING
NO. 1 CAPITOL DISTRICT
250 SOUTH HOTEL STREET, SUITE 406
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-2831
eoa@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony COMMENTING on SB2342
Relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program**

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES
SENATOR RUSSELL E. RUDERMAN, CHAIR
SENATOR KARL RHOADS, VICE CHAIR

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

Hearing Date: January 27, 2020
2:45 p.m.

Room Number: 016

- 1 **EOA's Position:** The Executive Office on Aging (EOA), an attached agency to the Department
- 2 of Health, provides comments on SB2342.
- 3 **Fiscal Implications:** This measure is requesting an appropriation of \$2,000,000 for the Kupuna
- 4 Caregivers Program in FY 2021 and amending the definition of "qualified caregiver" in Section
- 5 2, 349-16, Hawaii Revised Statutes by proposing to reduce the number of hours a caregiver has
- 6 to be employed to qualify for the Kupuna Caregivers Program from 30 hours per week to 20
- 7 hours per week. EOA notes that appropriation for the Kupuna Caregivers Program is a priority of
- 8 the Ige Administration. Governor Ige's budget includes a request for \$1.5 million for SFY2021.
- 9 **Purpose and Justification:** The purpose of this bill is to increase funding for the Kupuna
- 10 Caregivers Program and amend the definition of a qualified caregiver to serve more working
- 11 caregivers. Hawaii's aging population continues to grow, and caregiver assistance is critical to
- 12 supporting caregivers' own health as well as the health of Hawaii's kupuna. In addition,

1 caregivers who are employed earn retirement benefits and provide support to the workforce by
2 helping businesses retain experienced workers.

3 Act 102, HSL2017 created the Kupuna Caregivers Program and appropriated \$600,000 for
4 services in SFY2018. The program launched in February 2018 and the appropriation was used to
5 provide a full day of Adult Day Care (ADC) services to the care recipients of 101 caregivers
6 which allowed caregivers the ability to work a full day at the cost of approximately \$70 a day.
7 For SFY2019, the Legislature appropriated \$1.2 million which maintained funding for those
8 being served. We served 112 caregivers in SFY2019. ACT 126 was passed by the Legislature in
9 SFY2020 which increased the appropriation to \$1.5 million, amended the amount that can be
10 expended for services from \$70 per day to \$210 per week, and required the EOA to develop a
11 written plan to maximize the number of caregivers served. As of December 2019, we served 125
12 caregivers statewide.

13 The proposal to change the eligibility of qualified caregivers working 20 hours or more a week
14 may assist caregivers in rural areas such as Molokai where caregivers are unable to find full time
15 employment. However, EOA feels that the focus should be on caregivers working 30 hours or
16 more a week. In addition, EOA was tasked with developing a plan to maximize the number of
17 caregivers served. EOA is in the process of implementing this plan and would prefer to keep the
18 eligibility the same so that we can evaluate the effectiveness of the plan over time.

19 **Recommendation:** The Administration's budget includes \$1.5 million for the Kupuna
20 Caregivers Program. We support the intent of this measure provided that its enactment does not
21 reduce or replace priorities within the Administration's budget.

22 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Council Chair
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore
Tasha Kama

Councilmembers
Riki Hokama
Kelly Takaya King
Michael J. Molina
Tamara Paltin
Shane M. Sinenci
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura



Director of Council Services
Traci N. T. Fujita, Esq.

COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.MauiCounty.us

January 26, 2020

TO: The Honorable Russell E. Ruderman, Chair
Senate Committee on Human Services

FROM: Tamara Paltin, Councilmember for West Maui
Maui County Council

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF JANUARY 27, 2020; SUPPORT OF SB 2342, RELATING
TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM**

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in **SUPPORT** of this important measure. The purpose of this bill amends the total amount of hours per week an individual must be employed to be a qualified caregiver under the kupuna caregivers program from thirty to twenty. Appropriates funds for the proper implementation of the kupuna caregivers program.

The Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am providing this support in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

Recognizing the aging populace of Hawai'i, I support the needed assistance and benefits for working caregivers that has been afforded through the Kupuna Caregivers Program. I believe reducing the amount of working hours needed to qualify for benefits will ensure more caregivers are able to remain in the workforce while still accessing resources to assist them with their family members.

Thank you, once again, for the opportunity to testify and for your consideration.

SB-2342

Submitted on: 1/26/2020 5:40:49 AM

Testimony for HMS on 1/27/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Deborah Stone-Walls	Testifying for Maui County Office on Aging	Support	No

Comments:

TO : SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES
Senator Russell E. Ruderman, Chair
Senator Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair

FROM: Eldon L. Wegner, Ph.D.
Board Member, Hawaii Family Caregiver Coalition

SUBJECT: SB2342 Relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program

HEARING: Monday, January 27, 2020, 2:45 pm
Conference Room 016, Hawaii State Capitol

POSITION: The Hawaii Family Caregiver Coalition strongly supports SB 2342 which appropriates funds to continue the Kupuna Caregiver Program

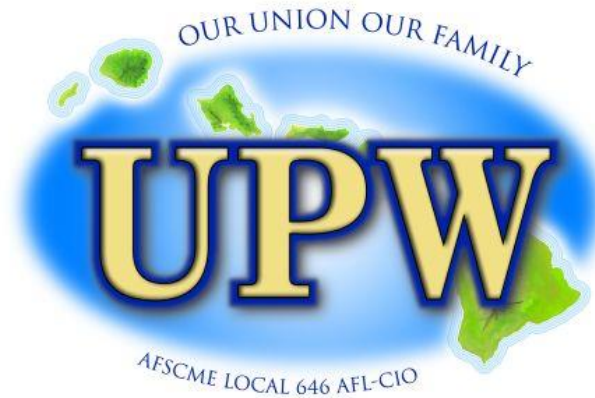
THE NEED:

The Hawaii Kupuna Caregivers Program was established by the 2017 Legislative Session and is an important step in creating needed supports to family caregivers. The number of persons needing some assistance with everyday activities continues to increase. The majority are able to manage without any assistance, but research in Hawaii as well as nationally has shown that employed caregivers suffer an extraordinary level of stress in trying to balance the obligations of work and eldercare. Consequently, many employed caregivers have reduced productivity at work and many have to limit their hours or drop out of the workforce due the demands of caring.

The Kupuna Caregivers Program is designed to enable family caregivers to continue to participate in the labor force by providing assistance with care for their elder family member. The program offers in-home and community-based services, such as day care, meals, personal care services, transportation, and homemaker services. Elder persons needing assistance with at least 2 activities of daily living may qualify for the program. This bill reduces the employment criterion from 30 hours a week to 20 hours a week.

Within a few weeks of when the program was launched, over 500 persons submitted an inquiry for the program. The current bill will provide an appropriation for the FY 2020-2011, The challenge to the Legislature is to increase resources so that the program can expand to better meet the level of need in the community.

Thank you
Eldon L. Wegner, Ph.D



THE HAWAII STATE SENATE

The Thirtieth Legislature
Regular Session of 2020

Committee on Human Services

Senator Russell E. Ruderman, Chair
Senator Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair

Date of Hearing: Monday, January 27, 2020
Time of Hearing: 2:45 p.m.
Place of Hearing: Conference Room 016
State Capitol
415 South Beretania St.

Testimony in Support of SB2342 Kupuna Caregiver Program

By DAYTON M. NAKANELUA,
State Director of the United Public Workers,
AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO ("UPW")

My name is Dayton M. Nakanelua, State Director of the United Public Workers, AFSCME, Local 646, AFL-CIO (UPW). The UPW is the exclusive bargaining representative for approximately 13,000 public employees, which include blue collar, non-supervisory employees in Bargaining Unit 01 and institutional, health and correctional employees in Bargaining Unit 10, in the State of Hawaii and four counties. The UPW also represents about 1,500 members in the private sector.

SB2342 reduces the number of hours per week an individual must be employed to be a qualified caregiver under the Kupuna Caregivers Program from thirty to twenty hours. The bill also calls for an appropriation for the program. The UPW strongly supports this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.



THE SENATE
Committee on Human Services
Monday, January 27, 2020
2:45 p.m.
Conference Room 016

RE: SB 2342 RELATING TO KŪPUNA CAREGIVER PROGRAM

To: Senator Russell Ruderman, Chair

AARP is a membership organization of people age fifty and over, with nearly 145,000 members in Hawaii. AARP advocates and provides information on issues that matter to our kūpuna and their families, including affordable, accessible, quality healthcare, financial resiliency, and livable communities.

SB 2342 appropriates funds to the Kūpuna Caregivers program to assist family members who are providing care for elders to stay in the workforce. In addition, this bill amends the definition of a “qualified caregiver” by reducing the hours per week (from 30 hours to 20) that an individual needs to be employed in order to be a qualified caregiver under this program. This will assist more working caregivers to care for their loved ones in their own homes.

AARP Hawaii **strongly supports** SB 2342. This program supports our working caregivers who struggle to care for their loved ones while holding down their jobs and other personal responsibilities. The program provides a care benefit which allows families to obtain services such as home care or adult day care that will safely supervise a family member at home or in a community setting. This is less expensive than a nursing home which costs \$160,000 annually. (2019 American Council on Aging- Annual Private Room Rate)

AARP fully supports this program which will assist Hawaii’s 154,000 caregivers, whom many are currently still in the workforce, and continue to care for our kūpuna in their homes and communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 2342.

Keali’i Lopez, State Director
AARP Hawaii



KOKUA COUNCIL TESTIMONY

January 27, 2020 2: 45 pm Room 016

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCES

DATE: Monday, January 27, 2020

TIME: 2:45PM

PLACE: Conference Room 016

RE: KOKUA COUNCIL SUPPORTS THE FOLLOWING BILLS: SB 2336; SB 2339; SB 2335; SB 2337; SB 2342; SB 2102; and SB 2334. We also generally support all efforts to further protect Kupuna.

Specifically, we offer comments on

RE SB 2337 MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE OFFICE OF THE LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM: Kokua Council long been a strong advocate for more funding for the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program. We urge increases in fund to the minimum amount in this bill, and more if you can find it!

RE SB 2342 RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM. Kokua Council supports the amendment and funding. However, we strongly encourage the program to also develop criteria to prioritize the circumstances of caregivers to ensure that these limited funds go to those who are most likely to continue in the workforce, and less likely to retire in the immediate future.

RE SB 2339 AND SB 2102 RELATING THE ALZHEIMERS PROGRAMS. Kokua Council supports these efforts and encourages the Department of Health to include Dementia and Early Dementia in their focus on Mental health. We also encourage amending the insurance statues to ensure that early onset dementia is covered by our Prepaid Health Law.

RE SB 2334 RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES AGAINST SENIORS, Kokua Counsel welcomes the added focus and consequences of elder abuse. We suggest adding an appropriation section so that WAM and other committees can ensure that there is adequate funding not only for the increase in elder abuse prosecution resources that may follow from this bill, but also funding for case managers and other agency complementary support services to work with families to avoid situations that may lead to abuse.

Mahalo for your serious consideration of this testimony.

alzheimer's association®

ALOHA CHAPTER

1130 N. Nimitz Highway Suite A-265, Honolulu, Hawaii 96817
Phone: 808.591.2771 Fax: 808.591.9071 www.alz.org/hawaii

January 24, 2020

Honorable Senator Russell E. Ruderman, Chair
Senator Committee on Human Services
Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 016, 2:45 P.M.
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: SB2342 RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM

Dear Chair Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair Karl Rhoads, and members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Alzheimer's Association, Aloha Chapter, I am pleased to extend our **strong support** for Senate Bill 2342. This bill lowers the total amount of hours per week an individual must be employed to be a qualified caregiver under the Kupuna Caregivers program from thirty to twenty and appropriates funds for the proper implementation of the Kupuna Caregivers program by increasing it from \$1.5 million to \$2 million.

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. Funding the Kupuna Caregivers program will enable family members in the workforce to care for their loved ones while continuing to work. This improves the economic security for caregivers while stabilizing the workforce for business owners.

Our growing number of kupuna 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.

Here in Hawaii, an estimated 65,000 caregivers assist the more than 29,000 individuals who live with Alzheimer's disease or a 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. Respite services provide temporary, substitute care that gives the caregiver a break from his or her caregiving duties. State programs supporting family caregivers save the state significant future long-term care costs to programs such as Medicaid.



ALOHA CHAPTER

1130 N. Nimitz Highway Suite A-265, Honolulu, Hawaii 96817
Phone: 808.591.2771 Fax: 808.591.9071 www.alz.org/hawaii

I appreciate the opportunity to testify on this legislation and applaud your leadership in bringing it forward. The Alzheimer's Association, Aloha Chapter is a proud member of the Working Families Coalition and is in **strong support** of this bill.

Ian Ross

Public Policy and Advocacy Manager

iaross@alz.org | Phone: (808) 591-2771 x1333

SB-2342

Submitted on: 1/26/2020 3:42:47 PM

Testimony for HMS on 1/27/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sarah Yuan	Testifying for Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs	Support	No

Comments:

The Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs has a statutory obligation to advocate on behalf of the senior citizens of Hawaii. While we advise the Executive Office on Aging, we do not speak on its behalf.

The PABEA strongly supports bill **SB2342**, which is to (1) reduce the number of hours per week a caregiver must be employed to be qualified for Kupuna Caregivers Program (KCG) from 30 to 20, and (2) appropriate out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$2,000,000 for fiscal year 2020-2021 for KCG. Lowering the work-hour requirement would expand the access of KCG for more working caregivers while increasing the funding from \$1.2 million to \$2 million will expand the program to serve more families-in-need.

The EOA's Annual Legislative Report indicated that the KCG served 112 working caregivers in the fiscal year 2019. The average age was 57 years old, and almost 80% lived with the care recipients. About 60% of them spent more than 40 hours/week in caregiving before they enrolled in KCG. About 92% of care recipients received adult daycare services, and 87% received case management services. Other services used by 7% or more of seniors were personal care, homemaker, transportation, and home-delivered meals.

The KCG has shown to be effective in keeping the working caregivers in the workforce while reducing their caregiving burdens. The evaluation results showed a significant decrease in the "objective" and "stress" burden scores from intake to follow-up (6-12 months later). These positive impacts have proved to be significant among caregivers who have been caregiving for over five years or spent more than 40 hours a week in caregiving.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony.

The Thirtieth Legislature
Regular Session of 2020

THE SENATE
Committee on Human Services
State Capitol
Conference Room 016
Monday, January 27, 2020; 2:45 p.m.

**STATEMENT OF THE ILWU LOCAL 142 ON S.B. 2342
RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM**

The ILWU Local 142 supports S.B. 2342, which amends the total amount of hours per week an individual must be employed to be a qualified caregiver under the Kupuna Caregivers Program from thirty to twenty and appropriates for the proper implementation of the Kupuna Caregivers Program.

The extremely high cost of institutionalization is prohibitive for most people needing long-term services and supports, but many prefer to avoid nursing and care homes because they want to remain at home with the support of family caregivers.

But many family caregivers are still employed and cannot afford to take time off from work to provide care for their loved ones. The Kupuna Caregivers Program was specifically designed to help these caregivers by providing their care recipients with services that will allow the family caregiver to remain in the workforce without having to worry about how their loved ones are doing during the day. In many cases, adult day care offers the best type of services where the care recipient receives meals and support throughout the day provided by trained professionals.

Of course, since the program's funding is limited, only a relatively small number of family caregivers may be supported. Although the Legislature would like more people to be served, the cost of services and the amount of funding unfortunately limit the number who are served.

Clearly, more funding is needed if more caregivers and care recipients are to be served. Also, the Executive Office on Aging should seriously consider prioritizing the lowest paid caregivers before others in order to maximize services and serve those with greatest need. Low-paid caregivers are the most in need of Kupuna Caregivers Program services because they are the least likely to have vacation leave to care for loved ones who need long-term care. They are also the most likely to be disadvantaged by missing work to be a caregiver, not only because of lost wages but possibly termination for excessive absenteeism and reduced income at retirement.

The Kupuna Caregivers Program should also consider more education and outreach to ensure that targeted caregivers know about the program and will apply. Education should consider language and cultural diversity. Outreach is also imperative to be sure that those with greatest need have access to the program.

The ILWU believes that the Kupuna Caregivers Program is a program that has the potential to provide needed services to support family caregivers, but more funding is needed to reach those with the greatest need. We urge passage of S.B. 2342 and thank you for the opportunity to testify.



HAWAII APPLESEED

CENTER FOR LAW & ECONOMIC JUSTICE

LATE

Testimony of Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice
In Support of SB 2342 – Relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program
Senate Committees on Human Services
Monday, January 27, 2020, 2:45 PM, conference room 016

Dear Chair Ruderman, Vice Chair Rhoads, and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **SUPPORT** of **SB 2342**, which amends the number of hours that a person needs to work in order to qualify for the Kupuna Caregivers Program from 30 to 20 as well as appropriates \$2 million for proper implementation of the program.

We believe that amending the hours needed to qualify for the program as proposed in this bill will expand the program to help more caregivers and their families. We support funding the program at the level of \$2 million in fiscal year 2020-2021 to cover this expanded eligibility.

According to a MetLife survey, the cost of home health aide and homemaker services are significantly higher in Hawai'i than the national average. Ninety percent of people over age 65 say they would prefer to remain stay in their homes as long as possible. Our extended 'ohana are often loving caregivers, but providing that care can often create financial and emotional stress.

When the caregiver is working at least half-time outside the home, kupuna care duties add significant personal strain for the caregiver. As a result, many caregivers make the difficult decision to leave their job or reduce their work hours to care for an aging family member.

We commend you for creating the Kupuna Caregivers Program in 2017, the first of its kind in the nation. This groundbreaking program is a crucial way to both provide a safety net for Hawai'i's family caregivers and invest in our paid care workforce.

Supporting home caregiving means Hawai'i can honor the wishes of our seniors, improve their health outcomes, and reduce the cost of long-term care for both family caregivers and the state.

Please pass this bill. We appreciate your consideration of this testimony.

The Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice is committed to a more socially just Hawai'i, where everyone has genuine opportunities to achieve economic security and fulfill their potential. We change systems that perpetuate inequality and injustice through policy development, advocacy, and coalition building.



Hawaii
Children's Action Network Speaks!
Building a unified voice for Hawaii's children

January 26, 2020

To: Senator Ruderman, Chair
Senator Rhoads, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Human Services

LATE

Re: **SB 2342, Relating to Kupuna Caregivers Program**
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 016
2:45PM, 1/27/2020

Chair Ruderman, Vice Chair Rhoads, and committee members,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support of SB 2342**. SB 2342 would provide a \$2million appropriation for the program and lowers the threshold of hours that must be worked for eligibility, from 30 hours to 20 hours.

The Kupuna Caregivers program is a prevention program, assisting families before crisis strikes. Studies have shown that people who age at home with family are more likely to have better health outcomes, reducing hospitalization and ER visits, and as a result, ends up saving our state the cost of expensive medical procedures or institutionalization that could have been prevented with adequate care.

As strong supporters of paid family leave for Hawaii, we believe that workers should be able to take care of their families without sacrificing their economic livelihood. The Kupuna Caregivers Program provides the opportunity for working caregivers to stay engaged in the workforce while ensuring their loved one receives quality care.

For these reasons, we request the committee pass SB2342.

Thank you,

Kathleen Algire
Director, Public Policy and Research

LATE

SB-2342

Submitted on: 1/27/2020 11:55:59 AM

Testimony for HMS on 1/27/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ashleigh Loa	Testifying for Faith Action for Community Equity	Support	Yes

Comments:

SB-2342

Submitted on: 1/24/2020 3:59:51 PM

Testimony for HMS on 1/27/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pedro Haro	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Committee on Human Services
Monday, January 27, 2020
2:45 p.m.
Conference Room 016

Testimony and Comments in Support of SB 2342
Relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program

Aloha Chair Senator Russell E. Ruderman, Vice-Chair Senator Karl Rhoads and
Members of the Committee:

My name is Anna Filler, and I am writing to express my support of Senate Bill 2342, relating to the Kupuna Caregivers program. This bill amends the total amount of hours per week and an individual must be employed to be a qualified caregiver under the Kupuna Caregivers program from thirty to twenty, which is a critical part to help our kupuna and allow more caregivers who are only employed work 20 hours per week.

Thank you for considering my testimony for SB 2342.

Anna Filler
Kakaako, District 12
afiller@twc.com

SB-2342

Submitted on: 1/26/2020 8:00:06 PM

Testimony for HMS on 1/27/2020 2:45:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jun Shin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Ruderman, Vice Rhoads, Members of the Senate Committee on Human Services,

My name is Jun Shin. I am a Sophomore at UH Mānoa, and I'm a resident of the Ala Moana area. Please pass SB2342, Relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program. This measure would amend the total amount of hours per week an individual must be employed to be a qualified caregiver under the kupuna caregivers program from thirty to twenty. Appropriates funds for the proper implementation of the kupuna caregivers program.

As our population continuously ages, more and more members of our community will either become a caregiver or will be in need of care. We have a responsibility to take care of our elderly relatives, but working families face the economic burdens that many of us face with the high cost of living. That is why I support a \$2 million funding for Kupuna Caregivers program. Funding for the Kupuna Caregiver Program protects working family caregivers who are struggling to remain employed while caregiving for a frail or elderly family member.

This not only unloads burdens off of family members taking on this important responsibility, but its also importan to our workforce and economy. It helps employers improve workforce attendance and productivity. The program also helps to retain valued employees and reduces the cost of hiring and training employee replacements. Please pass this bill.

Mahalo,

Jun Shin

1561 Kanunu St.

Cell: 808-255-6663

Email: junshinbusiness729@gmail.com

SB-2342

Submitted on: 1/26/2020 5:32:01 PM

Testimony for HMS on 1/27/2020 2:45:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Patricia Bilyk	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

THE SENATE
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2020

LATE

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES
Senator Russell E. Ruderman, Chair
Senator Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair

DATE: Monday, January 27, 2020

PLACE: Conference Room 016

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

HEARING SB2342

POSITION: **STRONG SUPPORT SB 2342**

The language in this bill provides for improving respite care in Hawai'i by lowering the required hours an individual must be work per week to be a qualified caregiver under the kupuna caregivers program. It also increases funding for the proper implementation of the Kupuna Caregivers program. This bill will strengthen current legislation and by its contents has an understanding of the nuance issues caregivers are facing. This bill should be passed by this committee to ensure the continuity of these vital services for one of our most respected and vulnerable populations of society. Thank you for reading my testimony.

Mahalo,

Ken Farm

SB-2342

Submitted on: 1/26/2020 8:17:05 PM

Testimony for HMS on 1/27/2020 2:45:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dale	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha: This is a worthy bill which 'lightens the load' on how many hours one must be employed outside the home, from 30 to 20 hours to qualify for a modest caregiver stipend. Please pass this bill.

Sincerely, Dale Head sunnymakaha@yahoo.com

LATE

SB-2342

Submitted on: 1/27/2020 11:13:55 AM

Testimony for HMS on 1/27/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tanya Aynessazian	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

SB-2342

Submitted on: 1/27/2020 12:00:19 PM

Testimony for HMS on 1/27/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Poki'i Balaz	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

From: [Jeanne YAGI](#)
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in Support of SB 2342
Date: Saturday, January 25, 2020 7:59:25 AM

Dear Chair Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair Karl Rhoads, and members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 2342. This bill lowers the total amount of hours per week a caregiver must work in order to qualify under the Kupuna Caregivers program from thirty to twenty and appropriates \$2 million for the program.

During our lives, most people will become either a care recipient or a family caregiver. Adequately funding the Kupuna Caregiver Program protects working family caregivers who are struggling to remain employed while caregiving for a frail or elderly family member.

Family caregivers are the most compassionate and dedicated people in our community. They also play a crucial role in the State's health care system by providing long-term care to the elderly, all unpaid. It is critical for caregivers to take care of themselves and have the necessary support and services to sustain their own health as well as the health of the family member for whom they are caring.

Caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's disease is an especially heavy burden for a caregiver. In 2018, 65,000 caregivers provided 74,000,000 hours of unpaid care to the 29,000 people with Alzheimer's disease across our state. These individuals often had to cut back work. Even worse, their healthcare costs were \$43,000,000 higher due to the stress and demands of being a caregiver.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support.

Regards,
Jeanne YAGI
1320 Komohana Street
Hilo, HI 96720

From: [Lorraine Leslie](#)
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in Support of SB 2342
Date: Friday, January 24, 2020 6:57:47 PM

Dear Committee Senate Human Services,

Dear Chair Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair Karl Rhoads, and members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 2342. This bill lowers the total amount of hours per week a caregiver must work in order to qualify under the Kupuna Caregivers program from thirty to twenty and appropriates \$2 million for the program.

During our lives, most people will become either a care recipient or a family caregiver. Adequately funding the Kupuna Caregiver Program protects working family caregivers who are struggling to remain employed while caregiving for a frail or elderly family member.

Family caregivers are the most compassionate and dedicated people in our community. They also play a crucial role in the State's health care system by providing long-term care to the elderly, all unpaid. It is critical for caregivers to take care of themselves and have the necessary support and services to sustain their own health as well as the health of the family member for whom they are caring.

Caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's disease is an especially heavy burden for a caregiver. In 2018, 65,000 caregivers provided 74,000,000 hours of unpaid care to the 29,000 people with Alzheimer's disease across our state. These individuals often had to cut back work. Even worse, their healthcare costs were \$43,000,000 higher due to the stress and demands of being a caregiver.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support.

Regards,
Lorraine Leslie
3384 Kalihi St
Honolulu, HI 96819

From: [Kathleen Wyatt](#)
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in Support of SB 2342
Date: Friday, January 24, 2020 7:01:31 PM

Dear Chair Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair Karl Rhoads, and members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 2342. This bill lowers the total amount of hours per week a caregiver must work in order to qualify under the Kupuna Caregivers program from thirty to twenty and appropriates \$2 million for the program.

During our lives, most people will become either a care recipient or a family caregiver. Adequately funding the Kupuna Caregiver Program protects working family caregivers who are struggling to remain employed while caregiving for a frail or elderly family member.

Family caregivers are the most compassionate and dedicated people in our community. They also play a crucial role in the State's health care system by providing long-term care to the elderly, all unpaid. It is critical for caregivers to take care of themselves and have the necessary support and services to sustain their own health as well as the health of the family member for whom they are caring.

Caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's disease is an especially heavy burden for a caregiver. In 2018, 65,000 caregivers provided 74,000,000 hours of unpaid care to the 29,000 people with Alzheimer's disease across our state. These individuals often had to cut back work. Even worse, their healthcare costs were \$43,000,000 higher due to the stress and demands of being a caregiver.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support.

Regards,
Kathleen Wyatt
94-509 Hoohele Place
Waipahu, HI 96797

From: [Katrina Sudweeks](#)
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in Support of SB 2342
Date: Friday, January 24, 2020 8:59:11 PM

Dear Chair Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair Karl Rhoads, and members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 2342. This bill lowers the total amount of hours per week a caregiver must work in order to qualify under the Kupuna Caregivers program from thirty to twenty and appropriates \$2 million for the program.

During our lives, most people will become either a care recipient or a family caregiver. Adequately funding the Kupuna Caregiver Program protects working family caregivers who are struggling to remain employed while caregiving for a frail or elderly family member.

Family caregivers are the most compassionate and dedicated people in our community. They also play a crucial role in the State's health care system by providing long-term care to the elderly, all unpaid. It is critical for caregivers to take care of themselves and have the necessary support and services to sustain their own health as well as the health of the family member for whom they are caring.

Caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's disease is an especially heavy burden for a caregiver. In 2018, 65,000 caregivers provided 74,000,000 hours of unpaid care to the 29,000 people with Alzheimer's disease across our state. These individuals often had to cut back work. Even worse, their healthcare costs were \$43,000,000 higher due to the stress and demands of being a caregiver.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support.

Regards,
Katrina Sudweeks
1520G Palolo Ave
Honolulu, HI 96816

From: [Naomi Hokama](#)
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in Support of SB 2342
Date: Friday, January 24, 2020 9:11:55 PM

Dear Chair Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair Karl Rhoads, and members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 2342. This bill lowers the total amount of hours per week a caregiver must work in order to qualify under the Kupuna Caregivers program from thirty to twenty and appropriates \$2 million for the program.

During our lives, most people will become either a care recipient or a family caregiver. Adequately funding the Kupuna Caregiver Program protects working family caregivers who are struggling to remain employed while caregiving for a frail or elderly family member.

Family caregivers are the most compassionate and dedicated people in our community. They also play a crucial role in the State's health care system by providing long-term care to the elderly, all unpaid. It is critical for caregivers to take care of themselves and have the necessary support and services to sustain their own health as well as the health of the family member for whom they are caring.

Caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's disease is an especially heavy burden for a caregiver. In 2018, 65,000 caregivers provided 74,000,000 hours of unpaid care to the 29,000 people with Alzheimer's disease across our state. These individuals often had to cut back work. Even worse, their healthcare costs were \$43,000,000 higher due to the stress and demands of being a caregiver.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support.

Regards,
Naomi Hokama
94-784 hoomele place
Waipahu, HI 96797

From: [Amy Truong](#)
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in Support of SB 2342
Date: Friday, January 24, 2020 9:16:59 PM

Dear Chair Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair Karl Rhoads, and members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 2342. My mother has early onset-Alzheimer's. She's currently 65 years old but has had Alzheimer's since age 50. My dad is her full-time caretaker at age 58 and he had to quit his job that he loved working as a director of operations for a large franchise to take care of her. To make up for the loss of income, he became a real estate agent due to the flexible hours but being successful takes time because you have to build your network.

Adequately funding the Kupuna Caregiver Program protects working family caregivers, like my father who is struggling to remain employed while caregiving for my mother.

My father is amazing and through him, I understand what real love, commitment, and what marriage really means. He takes care of my mother without complaint and doing this all unpaid and without assistance (we get help from some agencies sometimes but it's hard). It is so important for people like my father and other caregivers to take care of themselves and have the necessary support and services to sustain their own health to continue helping take care of my mother.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support.

Regards,
Amy Truong
555 South St
Honolulu, HI 96813

From: [Noe Gonzalez](#)
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in Support of SB 2342
Date: Friday, January 24, 2020 10:00:55 PM

Dear Chair Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair Karl Rhoads, and members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 2342. This bill lowers the total amount of hours per week a caregiver must work in order to qualify under the Kupuna Caregivers program from thirty to twenty and appropriates \$2 million for the program.

During our lives, most people will become either a care recipient or a family caregiver. Adequately funding the Kupuna Caregiver Program protects working family caregivers who are struggling to remain employed while caregiving for a frail or elderly family member.

Family caregivers are the most compassionate and dedicated people in our community. They also play a crucial role in the State's health care system by providing long-term care to the elderly, all unpaid. It is critical for caregivers to take care of themselves and have the necessary support and services to sustain their own health as well as the health of the family member for whom they are caring.

Caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's disease is an especially heavy burden for a caregiver. In 2018, 65,000 caregivers provided 74,000,000 hours of unpaid care to the 29,000 people with Alzheimer's disease across our state. These individuals often had to cut back work. Even worse, their healthcare costs were \$43,000,000 higher due to the stress and demands of being a caregiver.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support.

Regards,
Noe Gonzalez
521 W Lanikaula St
Hilo, HI 96720

From: [Rick Tabor](#)
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in Support of SB 2342
Date: Saturday, January 25, 2020 1:11:53 AM

Dear Chair Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair Karl Rhoads, and members of the Committee:

As a Pauoa Valley home owner, registered voter I am submitting testimony in support of Senate Bill 2342. This bill lowers the total amount of hours per week a caregiver must work in order to qualify under the Kupuna Caregivers program from thirty to twenty and appropriates \$2 million for the program.

As the operations manager at Right at Home in-home assistance & HMoW's (Hawaii Meals on Wheels) Board of Directors Secretary & Chair of the HMoW's Financial Development Committee, also Chair of the Rotary Honolulu Club Kupuna Kokua Committee & Gift of Sound Hearing Aid Giveaway Committee in addition to serving on the boards of The Kokua Council & HPGS (Hawaii Pacific Gerontological Society, Alzheimer's Association ~ Aloha Chapter Champion & a lifetime member of Club 100, & a LMHP, Licensed Mental Health Clinician/Supervisor with 45 years mental health & clinical casemanagement experience, I write today's testimony as an expert in our Island's Kapuna issues.

During our lives, most people will become either a care recipient or a family caregiver. Adequately funding the Kupuna Caregiver Program protects working family caregivers who are struggling to remain employed while caregiving for a frail or elderly family member.

Family caregivers are the most compassionate and dedicated people in our community. They also play a crucial role in the State's health care system by providing long-term care to the elderly, all unpaid. It is critical for caregivers to take care of themselves and have the necessary support and services to sustain their own health as well as the health of the family member for whom they are caring.

Caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's disease is an especially heavy burden for a caregiver. In 2018, 65,000 caregivers provided 74,000,000 hours of unpaid care to the 29,000 people with Alzheimer's disease across our state. These individuals often had to cut back work. Even worse, their healthcare costs were \$43,000,000 higher due to the stress and demands of being a caregiver.

Right at Home rates are \$31 for Companion Care (hands of Homemaker services) & \$34 Personal Care (hands on; bathing & changing undergarments). This rate will increase with our minimum wage increase. We already pay our employees \$15/hour. Right at Home was named the best in the west in-home service for 2019 by our independent survey company & we recently received the 2020 Caring Star award. We're proud of our incredible staff for their incredible Aloha Spirit & appreciate our Kupuna's recognition of our caring services. That said, many who need our services are unable to afford the caregiving cost. & many lose out on their careers, income and personal development as they take on the task of taking care of their loved ones. In our Dementia in The Family workshops we often hear of the hardships & need for respite from the demands of caretaking. And recent findings have shown a sad reality of the caretakers passing away before the person they're caring for. The need for professional

care takers is literally a life saver.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support.

Regards,
Rick Tabor
232 Koalele St
Honolulu, HI 96813

From: [Gordon Takaki](#)
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in Support of SB 2342
Date: Saturday, January 25, 2020 2:52:33 AM

Dear Chair Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair Karl Rhoads, and members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 2342. This bill lowers the total amount of hours per week a caregiver must work in order to qualify under the Kupuna Caregivers program from thirty to twenty and appropriates \$2 million for the program.

During our lives, most people will become either a care recipient or a family caregiver. Adequately funding the Kupuna Caregiver Program protects working family caregivers who are struggling to remain employed while caregiving for a frail or elderly family member.

Family caregivers are the most compassionate and dedicated people in our community. They also play a crucial role in the State's health care system by providing long-term care to the elderly, all unpaid. It is critical for caregivers to take care of themselves and have the necessary support and services to sustain their own health as well as the health of the family member for whom they are caring.

Caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's disease is an especially heavy burden for a caregiver. In 2018, 65,000 caregivers provided 74,000,000 hours of unpaid care to the 29,000 people with Alzheimer's disease across our state. These individuals often had to cut back work. Even worse, their healthcare costs were \$43,000,000 higher due to the stress and demands of being a caregiver.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support.

Regards,
Gordon Takaki
PO Box 4425
Hilo, HI 96720

From: [Laura Johnson](#)
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in Support of SB 2342
Date: Saturday, January 25, 2020 10:45:57 AM

Dear Chair Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair Karl Rhoads, and members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 2342. This bill lowers the total amount of hours per week a caregiver must work in order to qualify under the Kupuna Caregivers program from thirty to twenty and appropriates \$2 million for the program.

During our lives, most people will become either a care recipient or a family caregiver. Adequately funding the Kupuna Caregiver Program protects working family caregivers who are struggling to remain employed while caregiving for a frail or elderly family member.

Family caregivers are the most compassionate and dedicated people in our community. They also play a crucial role in the State's health care system by providing long-term care to the elderly, all unpaid. It is critical for caregivers to take care of themselves and have the necessary support and services to sustain their own health as well as the health of the family member for whom they are caring.

Caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's disease is an especially heavy burden for a caregiver. In 2018, 65,000 caregivers provided 74,000,000 hours of unpaid care to the 29,000 people with Alzheimer's disease across our state. These individuals often had to cut back work. Even worse, their healthcare costs were \$43,000,000 higher due to the stress and demands of being a caregiver.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support.

Regards,
Laura Johnson
75-5608 Hienaloli Road, Unit 32
Kailua-kona, HI 96740

From: [Jim Lewellen](#)
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in Support of SB 2342
Date: Saturday, January 25, 2020 11:18:19 AM

Dear Chair Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair Karl Rhoads, and members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 2342. This bill lowers the total amount of hours per week a caregiver must work in order to qualify under the Kupuna Caregivers program from thirty to twenty and appropriates \$2 million for the program.

During our lives, most people will become either a care recipient or a family caregiver. Adequately funding the Kupuna Caregiver Program protects working family caregivers who are struggling to remain employed while caregiving for a frail or elderly family member.

Family caregivers are the most compassionate and dedicated people in our community. They also play a crucial role in the State's health care system by providing long-term care to the elderly, all unpaid. It is critical for caregivers to take care of themselves and have the necessary support and services to sustain their own health as well as the health of the family member for whom they are caring.

Caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's disease is an especially heavy burden for a caregiver. In 2018, 65,000 caregivers provided 74,000,000 hours of unpaid care to the 29,000 people with Alzheimer's disease across our state. These individuals often had to cut back work. Even worse, their healthcare costs were \$43,000,000 higher due to the stress and demands of being a caregiver.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support.

Regards,
Jim Lewellen
73-1350 Kaiminani Drive
Kailua-kona, HI 96740

From: [Emily Bustard](#)
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in Support of SB 2342
Date: Saturday, January 25, 2020 11:52:30 AM

Dear Chair Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair Karl Rhoads, and members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 2342. This bill lowers the total amount of hours per week a caregiver must work in order to qualify under the Kupuna Caregivers program from thirty to twenty and appropriates \$2 million for the program.

During our lives, most people will become either a care recipient or a family caregiver. Adequately funding the Kupuna Caregiver Program protects working family caregivers who are struggling to remain employed while caregiving for a frail or elderly family member.

Family caregivers are the most compassionate and dedicated people in our community. They also play a crucial role in the State's health care system by providing long-term care to the elderly, all unpaid. It is critical for caregivers to take care of themselves and have the necessary support and services to sustain their own health as well as the health of the family member for whom they are caring.

Caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's disease is an especially heavy burden for a caregiver. In 2018, 65,000 caregivers provided 74,000,000 hours of unpaid care to the 29,000 people with Alzheimer's disease across our state. These individuals often had to cut back work. Even worse, their healthcare costs were \$43,000,000 higher due to the stress and demands of being a caregiver.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support.

Regards,
Emily Bustard
1130 North Nimitz Highway, Suite A-265
Honolulu, HI 96817

From: [Anne Sadayasu](#)
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in Support of SB 2342
Date: Saturday, January 25, 2020 1:32:26 PM

Dear Chair Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair Karl Rhoads, and members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 2342. This bill lowers the total amount of hours per week a caregiver must work in order to qualify under the Kupuna Caregivers program from thirty to twenty and appropriates \$2 million for the program.

During our lives, most people will become either a care recipient or a family caregiver. Adequately funding the Kupuna Caregiver Program protects working family caregivers who are struggling to remain employed while caregiving for a frail or elderly family member.

Family caregivers are the most compassionate and dedicated people in our community. They also play a crucial role in the State's health care system by providing long-term care to the elderly, all unpaid. It is critical for caregivers to take care of themselves and have the necessary support and services to sustain their own health as well as the health of the family member for whom they are caring.

Caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's disease is an especially heavy burden for a caregiver. In 2018, 65,000 caregivers provided 74,000,000 hours of unpaid care to the 29,000 people with Alzheimer's disease across our state. These individuals often had to cut back work. Even worse, their healthcare costs were \$43,000,000 higher due to the stress and demands of being a caregiver.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support.

Regards,
Anne Sadayasu
46 Melani Street
Hilo, HI 96720

From: [Patrick Toal](#)
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in Support of SB 2342
Date: Saturday, January 25, 2020 8:07:42 PM

Dear Chair Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair Karl Rhoads, and members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 2342. This bill lowers the total amount of hours per week a caregiver must work in order to qualify under the Kupuna Caregivers program from thirty to twenty and appropriates \$2 million for the program.

During our lives, most people will become either a care recipient or a family caregiver. Adequately funding the Kupuna Caregiver Program protects working family caregivers who are struggling to remain employed while caregiving for a frail or elderly family member.

Family caregivers are the most compassionate and dedicated people in our community. They also play a crucial role in the State's health care system by providing long-term care to the elderly, all unpaid. It is critical for caregivers to take care of themselves and have the necessary support and services to sustain their own health as well as the health of the family member for whom they are caring.

Caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's disease is an especially heavy burden for a caregiver. In 2018, 65,000 caregivers provided 74,000,000 hours of unpaid care to the 29,000 people with Alzheimer's disease across our state. These individuals often had to cut back work. Even worse, their healthcare costs were \$43,000,000 higher due to the stress and demands of being a caregiver.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support.

Regards,
Patrick Toal
1875 Pua Melia Street, #385931
Waikoloa Village, HI 96738

From: [Karyn Clay](#)
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in Support of SB 2342
Date: Sunday, January 26, 2020 10:10:59 AM

Dear Chair Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair Karl Rhoads, and members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 2342. This bill lowers the total amount of hours per week a caregiver must work in order to qualify under the Kupuna Caregivers program from thirty to twenty and appropriates \$2 million for the program.

During our lives, most people will become either a care recipient or a family caregiver. Adequately funding the Kupuna Caregiver Program protects working family caregivers who are struggling to remain employed while caregiving for a frail or elderly family member.

Family caregivers are the most compassionate and dedicated people in our community. They also play a crucial role in the State's health care system by providing long-term care to the elderly, all unpaid. It is critical for caregivers to take care of themselves and have the necessary support and services to sustain their own health as well as the health of the family member for whom they are caring.

Caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's disease is an especially heavy burden for a caregiver. In 2018, 65,000 caregivers provided 74,000,000 hours of unpaid care to the 29,000 people with Alzheimer's disease across our state. These individuals often had to cut back work. Even worse, their healthcare costs were \$43,000,000 higher due to the stress and demands of being a caregiver.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support.

Regards,
Karyn Clay
65-1267B Lindsey Rd
Waimea, HI 96743

From: [Calvin Hara](#)
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in Support of SB 2342
Date: Sunday, January 26, 2020 10:22:25 AM

Dear Chair Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair Karl Rhoads, and members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 2342. This bill lowers the total amount of hours per week a caregiver must work in order to qualify under the Kupuna Caregivers program from thirty to twenty and appropriates \$2 million for the program.

Every day, citizens of Hawai'i, in their respect to kupuna, have the need to consider care options for their loved one. Some will be a family caregiver as difficult it may be with time and need to maintain income to survive. Adequately funding the Kupuna Caregiver Program protects working family caregivers who are struggling to remain employed while caregiving for a frail or elderly family member.

Family caregivers are the most compassionate and dedicated people in our community. They also play a crucial role in the State's health care system by providing long-term care to the elderly, all unpaid. It is critical for caregivers to take care of themselves and have the necessary support and services to sustain their own health as well as the health of the family member for whom they are caring.

Caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's disease is an especially heavy burden for a caregiver. In 2018, 65,000 caregivers provided 74,000,000 hours of unpaid care to the 29,000 people with Alzheimer's disease across our state. These individuals often had to cut back work. Even worse, their healthcare costs were \$43,000,000 higher due to the stress and demands of being a caregiver.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support.

Regards,
Calvin Hara
924 Pili'alo St
Honolulu, HI 96816

From: [Nancy Rose](#)
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in Support of SB 2342
Date: Sunday, January 26, 2020 10:25:07 AM

Dear Chair Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair Karl Rhoads, and members of the Committee:

Because my father lived with dementia for 10+ years, I am writing in support of Senate Bill 2342. This bill lowers the total amount of hours per week a caregiver must work in order to qualify under the Kupuna Caregivers program from thirty to twenty and appropriates \$2 million for the program.

During our lives, most people will become either a care recipient or a family caregiver. Adequately funding the Kupuna Caregiver Program protects working family caregivers who are struggling to remain employed while caregiving for a frail or elderly family member.

Family caregivers are the most compassionate and dedicated people in our community. They also play a crucial role in the State's health care system by providing long-term care to the elderly, all unpaid. It is critical for caregivers to take care of themselves and have the necessary support and services to sustain their own health as well as the health of the family member for whom they are caring.

Caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's disease is an especially heavy burden for a caregiver. In 2018, 65,000 caregivers provided 74,000,000 hours of unpaid care to the 29,000 people with Alzheimer's disease across our state. These individuals often had to cut back work. Even worse, their healthcare costs were \$43,000,000 higher due to the stress and demands of being a caregiver.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support.

Regards,
Nancy Rose
2815 Palalani St
Makawao, HI 96768

From: [Jomel Duldulao](#)
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in Support of SB 2342
Date: Sunday, January 26, 2020 1:58:01 PM

Dear Chair Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair Karl Rhoads, and members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 2342. This bill lowers the total amount of hours per week a caregiver must work in order to qualify under the Kupuna Caregivers program from thirty to twenty and appropriates \$2 million for the program.

During our lives, most people will become either a care recipient or a family caregiver. Adequately funding the Kupuna Caregiver Program protects working family caregivers who are struggling to remain employed while caregiving for a frail or elderly family member.

Family caregivers are the most compassionate and dedicated people in our community. They also play a crucial role in the State's health care system by providing long-term care to the elderly, all unpaid. It is critical for caregivers to take care of themselves and have the necessary support and services to sustain their own health as well as the health of the family member for whom they are caring.

Caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's disease is an especially heavy burden for a caregiver. In 2018, 65,000 caregivers provided 74,000,000 hours of unpaid care to the 29,000 people with Alzheimer's disease across our state. These individuals often had to cut back work. Even worse, their healthcare costs were \$43,000,000 higher due to the stress and demands of being a caregiver.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support.

Regards,
Jomel Duldulao
P.O. Box 11242
Honolulu, HI 96828

From: [Taylor Hall](#)
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in Support of SB 2342
Date: Sunday, January 26, 2020 2:08:25 PM

Dear Chair Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair Karl Rhoads, and members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 2342. This bill lowers the total amount of hours per week a caregiver must work in order to qualify under the Kupuna Caregivers program from thirty to twenty and appropriates \$2 million for the program.

During our lives, most people will become either a care recipient or a family caregiver. Adequately funding the Kupuna Caregiver Program protects working family caregivers who are struggling to remain employed while caregiving for a frail or elderly family member.

Family caregivers are the most compassionate and dedicated people in our community. They also play a crucial role in the State's health care system by providing long-term care to the elderly, all unpaid. It is critical for caregivers to take care of themselves and have the necessary support and services to sustain their own health as well as the health of the family member for whom they are caring.

Caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's disease is an especially heavy burden for a caregiver. In 2018, 65,000 caregivers provided 74,000,000 hours of unpaid care to the 29,000 people with Alzheimer's disease across our state. These individuals often had to cut back work. Even worse, their healthcare costs were \$43,000,000 higher due to the stress and demands of being a caregiver.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support.

Regards,
Taylor Hall
505 Ulumanu Dr
Kailua, HI 96734

From: [Ashley Curry](#)
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in Support of SB 2342
Date: Sunday, January 26, 2020 3:55:46 PM

Dear Chair Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair Karl Rhoads, and members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 2342. This bill lowers the total amount of hours per week a caregiver must work in order to qualify under the Kupuna Caregivers program from thirty to twenty and appropriates \$2 million for the program.

During our lives, most people will become either a care recipient or a family caregiver. Adequately funding the Kupuna Caregiver Program protects working family caregivers who are struggling to remain employed while caregiving for a frail or elderly family member.

Family caregivers are the most compassionate and dedicated people in our community. They also play a crucial role in the State's health care system by providing long-term care to the elderly, all unpaid. It is critical for caregivers to take care of themselves and have the necessary support and services to sustain their own health as well as the health of the family member for whom they are caring.

Caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's disease is an especially heavy burden for a caregiver. In 2018, 65,000 caregivers provided 74,000,000 hours of unpaid care to the 29,000 people with Alzheimer's disease across our state. These individuals often had to cut back work. Even worse, their healthcare costs were \$43,000,000 higher due to the stress and demands of being a caregiver.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support.

Regards,
Ashley Curry
1054 Kalo Pl
Honolulu, HI 96826

From: [Ivy Castellanos](#)
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in Support of SB 2342
Date: Sunday, January 26, 2020 5:45:38 PM

Dear Chair Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair Karl Rhoads, and members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 2342. This bill lowers the total amount of hours per week a caregiver must work in order to qualify under the Kupuna Caregivers program from thirty to twenty and appropriates \$2 million for the program.

During our lives, most people will become either a care recipient or a family caregiver. Adequately funding the Kupuna Caregiver Program protects working family caregivers who are struggling to remain employed while caregiving for a frail or elderly family member.

Family caregivers are the most compassionate and dedicated people in our community. They also play a crucial role in the State's health care system by providing long-term care to the elderly, all unpaid. It is critical for caregivers to take care of themselves and have the necessary support and services to sustain their own health as well as the health of the family member for whom they are caring.

Caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's disease is an especially heavy burden for a caregiver. In 2018, 65,000 caregivers provided 74,000,000 hours of unpaid care to the 29,000 people with Alzheimer's disease across our state. These individuals often had to cut back work. Even worse, their healthcare costs were \$43,000,000 higher due to the stress and demands of being a caregiver.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support.

Regards,
Ivy Castellanos
45-224 Wena St
Kaneohe, HI 96744

From: [Thomas Young](#)
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in Support of SB 2342
Date: Sunday, January 26, 2020 7:55:05 PM

Dear Chair Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair Karl Rhoads, and members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 2342. This bill lowers the total amount of hours per week a caregiver must work in order to qualify under the Kupuna Caregivers program from thirty to twenty and appropriates \$2 million for the program.

During our lives, most people will become either a care recipient or a family caregiver. Adequately funding the Kupuna Caregiver Program protects working family caregivers who are struggling to remain employed while caregiving for a frail or elderly family member.

Family caregivers are the most compassionate and dedicated people in our community. They also play a crucial role in the State's health care system by providing long-term care to the elderly, all unpaid. It is critical for caregivers to take care of themselves and have the necessary support and services to sustain their own health as well as the health of the family member for whom they are caring.

Caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's disease is an especially heavy burden for a caregiver. In 2018, 65,000 caregivers provided 74,000,000 hours of unpaid care to the 29,000 people with Alzheimer's disease across our state. These individuals often had to cut back work. Even worse, their healthcare costs were \$43,000,000 higher due to the stress and demands of being a caregiver.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support.

Regards,
Thomas Young
2373 Beckwith St
Honolulu, HI 96822

From: [Barbara Service](#)
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in Support of SB 2342
Date: Sunday, January 26, 2020 11:32:53 PM

Dear Chair Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair Karl Rhoads, and members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 2342. This bill lowers the total amount of hours per week a caregiver must work in order to qualify under the Kupuna Caregivers program from thirty to twenty and appropriates \$2 million for the program.

During our lives, most people will become either a care recipient or a family caregiver. Adequately funding the Kupuna Caregiver Program protects working family caregivers who are struggling to remain employed while caregiving for a frail or elderly family member.

Family caregivers are the most compassionate and dedicated people in our community. They also play a crucial role in the State's health care system by providing long-term care to the elderly, all unpaid. It is critical for caregivers to take care of themselves and have the necessary support and services to sustain their own health as well as the health of the family member for whom they are caring.

Caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's disease is an especially heavy burden for a caregiver. In 2018, 65,000 caregivers provided 74,000,000 hours of unpaid care to the 29,000 people with Alzheimer's disease across our state. These individuals often had to cut back work. Even worse, their healthcare costs were \$43,000,000 higher due to the stress and demands of being a caregiver.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support.

Regards,
Barbara Service
4172 Keanu St #4
Honolulu, HI 96816

From: [Colten Moore](#)
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in Support of SB 2342
Date: Monday, January 27, 2020 1:05:17 AM

Dear Chair Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair Karl Rhoads, and members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 2342. This bill lowers the total amount of hours per week a caregiver must work in order to qualify under the Kupuna Caregivers program from thirty to twenty and appropriates \$2 million for the program.

During our lives, most people will become either a care recipient or a family caregiver. Adequately funding the Kupuna Caregiver Program protects working family caregivers who are struggling to remain employed while caregiving for a frail or elderly family member.

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Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support.

Regards,
Colten Moore
6034 Kolopua St
Kapa'a, HI 96746

From: [Linda Nuland-Ames](#)
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in Support of SB 2342
Date: Monday, January 27, 2020 8:44:27 AM

Dear Chair Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair Karl Rhoads, and members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 2342. This bill lowers the total amount of hours per week a caregiver must work in order to qualify under the Kupuna Caregivers program from thirty to twenty and appropriates \$2 million for the program.

During our lives, most people will become either a care recipient or a family caregiver. Adequately funding the Kupuna Caregiver Program protects working family caregivers who are struggling to remain employed while caregiving for a frail or elderly family member.

Family caregivers are the most compassionate and dedicated people in our community. They also play a crucial role in the State's health care system by providing long-term care to the elderly, all unpaid. It is critical for caregivers to take care of themselves and have the necessary support and services to sustain their own health as well as the health of the family member for whom they are caring.

Caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's disease is an especially heavy burden for a caregiver. In 2018, 65,000 caregivers provided 74,000,000 hours of unpaid care to the 29,000 people with Alzheimer's disease across our state. These individuals often had to cut back work. Even worse, their healthcare costs were \$43,000,000 higher due to the stress and demands of being a caregiver.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support.

Regards,
Linda Nuland-Ames
3-2600 KAUMUALII HWY, STE 1300
Lihue, HI 96766

From: [Mary Gadam](#)
To: [HMS Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in Support of SB 2342
Date: Friday, January 24, 2020 6:57:24 PM

Dear Committee Senate Human Services,

Dear Chair Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair Karl Rhoads, and members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 2342. This bill lowers the total amount of hours per week a caregiver must work in order to qualify under the Kupuna Caregivers program from thirty to twenty and appropriates \$2 million for the program.

During our lives, most people will become either a care recipient or a family caregiver. Adequately funding the Kupuna Caregiver Program protects working family caregivers who are struggling to remain employed while caregiving for a frail or elderly family member.

Family caregivers are the most compassionate and dedicated people in our community. They also play a crucial role in the State's health care system by providing long-term care to the elderly, all unpaid. It is critical for caregivers to take care of themselves and have the necessary support and services to sustain their own health as well as the health of the family member for whom they are caring.

Caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's disease is an especially heavy burden for a caregiver. In 2018, 65,000 caregivers provided 74,000,000 hours of unpaid care to the 29,000 people with Alzheimer's disease across our state. These individuals often had to cut back work. Even worse, their healthcare costs were \$43,000,000 higher due to the stress and demands of being a caregiver.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support.

Regards,
Mary Gadam
425 South St apt. 2404
Honolulu, HI 96813