

Jeannine Johnson, Legislative Sub-Committee Chair

Kuli'ou'ou / Kalani Iki Neighborhood Board #2

5648 Pia Street, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96821

Phone: 373-2874 (h) / 537-7261 (w)

March 24, 2009

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair

Rep. Tom Brower, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Rep. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair

Rep. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair

SB 673 RELATING TO ZONING

Hearing: Wednesday, March 25, 2009 at 11:00 am in Conf. Room 329

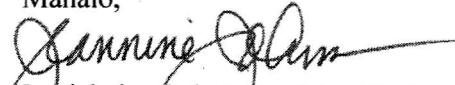
Aloha kākou,

As Committee Chair of the **Kuli'ou'ou / Kalani Iki Neighborhood Board #2** Legislative Sub-Committee, it is my pleasure to inform you **Neighborhood Board #2** strongly supports SB673 which allows counties to impose within their zoning ordinances performance standards on group living facilities restrictions, such as on commercial deliveries, and ambient noise and pollutant emission standards at lot boundaries that must be satisfied in order for group living facilities to operate. **Neighborhood Board #2** represents over 6,000 households, with a population of almost 20,000 people (State of Hawaii Data Book 2002) in East Honolulu.

The proliferation of adult residential care homes (ARCH) Type I and Type II in residentially zoned areas is a major concern. At the Kuli'ou'ou / Kalani Iki Neighborhood Board #2's meeting on March 1, 2007, the Board voted to oppose the ARCH II facility being built at 5304 Limu Place to renovate/convert an existing one-story single-family dwelling to accommodate a maximum of eight (8) care recipients due to the serious physical limitations of Limu Place, a small dead end street in 'Āina Haina, and the residents' concerns about increased traffic, lack of adequate parking and safety issues.

Your support of SB673 is respectfully requested.

Mahalo,


Legislative Sub-Committee Chair
Kuli'ou'ou / Kalani Iki Neighborhood Board #2

cc via email: Chair Robert Chuck
Sen. Sam Slom
Rep. Lyla Berg
Rep. Barbara Marumoto
'Āina Haina Community Association



UNITED FILIPINO COUNCIL OF HAWAII

P.O. BOX 498, Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0498

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 673

House Committee on Health & House Committee on Human Services

Mar. 25, 2009, 11 a.m. | Hawai'i State Capitol | House Conference Room 329

To:

House Health Committee Rep. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair & Rep. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice-Chair
House Health Committee Members

House Human Services Committee Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair & Rep. Tom Brower, Vice Chair
House Human Services Committee Members

From:

Eddie Agas, President, United Filipino Council of Hawaii

Report Title: Zoning; Performance Standards

Description: Allows the counties to impose within their zoning ordinances performance standards on group living facilities.

My name is Eddie Agas. I am the president of the United Filipino Council of Hawaii (UFCH). I submit this testimony in opposition to this bill, on behalf of UFCH, an umbrella organization with member organizations from six islands. UFCH membership is comprised of nearly 5,000 individual members.

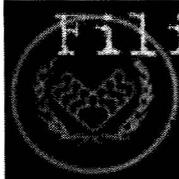
Filipinos, who make up a significant part of Hawai'i's caregivers, have offered generations of families and individuals in the state of Hawai'i with a quality, caring and affordable option to institutional long term care facilities. The caregiver industry is already heavily regulated by government agencies to protect the public interests. While we oppose further impositions of zoning ordinance performance standards on group living facilities, we support caregivers to engage in collaborative and compassionate partnerships, and to be good community stewards and neighbors, in order to address the need for affordable, long term care options for Hawai'i's frail population.

We praise lawmakers like former City Councilman Neil Abercrombie, who stood up for the development of elderly care housing next to Manoa District Park despite a petition of 5,000 individuals whose NIMBY (not in my back yard) attitudes persist today. The fearful reasoning expressed years ago by angry, sign-holding Manoa residents have given way to the highly sought-after model elderly care gem today. More zoning regulations are not the answer.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our thoughts.

Respectfully submitted,

Eddie Agas, President, United Filipino Council of Hawaii



Filipino Coalition for Solidarity

A HAWAII RIGHTS ADVOCACY GROUP • FOUNDED IN 1990

c/o 728 Nunu St. • Kailua, HI 96734 • <http://www.philippinesonline.org/thecoalition/>

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 673

House Committee on Health & House Committee on Human Services

Mar. 25, 2009, 11 a.m. | Hawai'i State Capitol | House Conference Room 329

To:

House Health Committee Rep. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair & Rep. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice-Chair
House Health Committee Members
House Human Services Committee Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair & Rep. Tom Brower, Vice Chair
House Human Services Committee Members

From:

Charlene Cuaresma, MPH, President, Filipino Coalition For Solidarity

Report Title: Zoning; Performance Standards

Description: Allows the counties to impose within their zoning ordinances performance standards on group living facilities.

My name is Charlene Cuaresma, president of the Filipino Coalition for Solidarity. Since its inception in 1990, the Coalition has represented more than 50 Filipino community leaders, whose aim is to work for social justice issues to empower Filipinos to make socially responsible contributions to Hawai'i and our global neighbors through education, advocacy, and social action.

While the intent of this bill has merit, the Coalition respectfully opposes this bill. We encourage community, public, and private partnerships to help address concerns and improve community relations. As conscientious stewards in a broken health care system, residential caregivers continue to offer affordable and quality in-community residential care. Cooperation and compassion, not zoning regulations, are essential for strengthening our communities to care for our vulnerable members, as our islands and nation brace for even harder economic times.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony. Please do not enact this bill.

Respectfully,

Charlene Cuaresma, MPH
President, Filipino Coalition for Solidarity

Filipinos for Affirmative Action

3432 B-1 Kalihi Street Honolulu, HI 96819

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 673

House Committee on Health & House Committee on Human Services
Mar. 25, 2009, 11 a.m. | Hawai'i State Capitol | House Conference Room 329

To:

House Health Committee Rep. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
Rep. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice-Chair
House Health Committee Members

House Human Services Committee Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair
Rep. Tom Brower, Vice Chair
House Human Services Committee Members

From:

Amy Agbayani, Ph.D., Co-Chair, Filipinos for Affirmative Action

Report Title: Zoning; Performance Standards

Description: Allows the counties to impose within their zoning ordinances performance standards on group living facilities.

My name is Amy Agbyani. As co-chair of Filipinos For Affirmative Action, I am submitting testimony in opposition to this bill. The mission of Filipinos For Affirmative Action is to advocate for civil rights for all.

We all share in the frustration and challenges of facing the need to find affordable, long term care providers for our families and others. Given the state's budget shortfalls and the near meltdown of our economy and possible catastrophic consequences of our healthcare system, we should be supporting neighbors and caregivers to address community concerns through other measures, not over-regulating them with zoning ordinances.

For these reasons, I ask that this bill be deferred. In the interim, collaborations with all stakeholders are urged to bridge the gap between those who are providing alternative, community-based solutions to long term care and those who find it intolerable, until they themselves are in need of long term care. Thank you for the opportunity to express my concerns over this complex issue. We respectfully ask you to consider voting no to this bill.

Sincerely,

Amy Agbayani, Ph.D.
Filipinos For Affirmative Action



Nursing Advocates & Mentors, Inc.

... a non-profit organization with a mission to address the global nursing shortage by providing guidance and assistance for nursing colleagues to obtain their professional license in nursing.

P.O. Box 2034 Aiea, HI 96701
E-mail: bramosrazon@aol.com

Beatrice Ramos-Razon,
RN, FACDONA
President

Tessie Oculito, RN
Vice President

D Jun Obaldo, RN, BSN
Corresponding Secretary

Au Curameng, RN, CM
Recording Secretary

Margie A. Berueda, RN, CM
Treasurer

Lynn Barnes, RN, CM
Assistant Treasurer

Bong Curameng, CCHT
Auditor

Michael G. Berueda, LPL
Computer Support

Joe Magno
Technical Support

Mentors & Volunteers:

Christiaan De Vera, RN, BSN

Erlinda Ferrer, RN, BSN

Estrella Guevarra, RN

Delmar Magno, RN, C

Edel Matias, RN, CM

Cielito Lyn Matias, RN, BSN

Brenda Monegas, RN

Oscar Querido, RN

Lucy Porte, RNC

Violeta Sadural, RN, BSN

Tina Salvador, RN, BSN, CNN

Ramon Sumibcay, CPT, AN

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 673

House Committee on Health & House Committee on Human Services
Mar. 25, 2009, 11 a.m. | Hawai'i State Capitol | House Conference Room 329

To: House Health Committee Rep. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
Rep. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice-Chair
House Health Committee Members

House Human Services Committee Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair
Rep. Tom Brower, Vice Chair
House Human Services Committee Members

From: Beatrice Ramos-Razon, RN, FACDONA
President, Nursing Advocates and Mentors, Inc. (NAMI)

Report Title: Zoning; Performance Standards

Description: Allows the counties to impose within their zoning ordinances performance standards on group living facilities.

My name is Beatrice Ramos-Razon. As the Founder and President of NAMI (Nursing Advocates & Mentors, Inc.), we are in opposition to this bill. NAMI's membership is comprised of over 75 volunteer nurses, instructors, allied health care professionals, and Filipino leaders, who are dedicated to improve the health of Hawai'i's people by addressing not only a statewide, but worldwide nursing shortage, through the training and mentoring of foreign graduate nurses, many of whom come from underprivileged backgrounds, to pass Hawai'i's nurses board exams.

NAMI opposes this bill because zoning regulations are a punitive and ineffective approach to addressing these community concerns. Caregivers are currently accountable to multiple government agency regulations. As nurses and mentors, who support the success and accountability of Hawai'i's caregivers, we welcome civil and collegial collaborations to find ways to address community concerns. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Beatrice Ramos-Razon, RN, FACDONA
President, Nursing Advocates and Mentors, Inc
Executive Director, Philippine Nurses Association Hawaii



OAHU FILIPINO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

P.O. Box 17531 • Honolulu • Hawaii 96817

Unit Organizations

Alliance of Residential
 Carehome Administrators
 Aloha Saguibsib Cultural
 Foundation, Inc.
 Annac ti Bado iti Hawaii
 Annac ti Batac
 Annac ti Caoayan 2002
 Annak ti Kailokuan iti
 America
 Annak ti Sinait iti Hawaii
 Asingan Organization of
 Hawaii
 Badoc-Pimili Aid
 Association of Hawaii
 Banna Association of
 Hawaii
 Bannatiran Association of
 Hawaii
 Batangas Association of
 Hawaii
 Bulacan Circle of Hawaii
 Caballeros de Dimasalang
 Cabugao Sons & Daughters
 of Hawaii
 Candonians of Hawaii
 Caoayan ISAH
 Cavitenians of Hawaii
 Dingras Association of
 Hawaii
 Divine Word College
 Alumni Association
 FilAm Sports USA
 Fil American Citizens
 League
 Filipino Business Women's
 Club
 Filipino Nurses Organization
 of Hawaii
 Filipino Women's Civic
 Club
 GUMIL Hawaii
 GUMIL Oahu
 Hawaii Filipino Women's
 Club
 Hawaii Council of Bilingual
 Educators
 ILAH
 Ilocos Nortenians of
 America
 INCAT Alumni Association
 of Hawaii
 International Filipino
 Society of Hawaii
 Kalayaan Phil.-Hi. Int.
 La Union Circle of
 Hawaii
 Lingayen Gulf Club of
 Hawaii

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 673

**House Committee on Health &
 House Committee on Human Services
 Mar. 25, 2009, 11 a.m. | Hawai'i State Capitol | Room 329**

**To: House Health Committee Rep. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
 Rep. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice-Chair
 House Health Committee Members**

**House Human Services Committee Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair
 Rep. Tom Brower, Vice Chair
 House Human Services Committee Members**

From: Cirvalina Longboy, OFCC President

**Report Title: Zoning; Performance Standards
 Description: Allows the counties to impose within their zoning
 ordinances performance standards on group living facilities.**

**My name is Cirvalina Longboy, president of the Oahu Filipino
 Community Council. OFCC is an umbrella organization that
 represents a network of non-profit civic groups with a unified
 vision to improve the lives of our Filipino communities in order
 to be a contributing steward to our state of Hawai'i.**

**I submit this testimony to oppose this bill, while at the same
 time recognizing the need for ongoing support for improved
 goodwill partnerships with communities to address their
 concerns.**

**As our state faces more and more serious problems,
 compassion, tolerance, and patience are needed more than
 ordinance regulations. Thank you for the opportunity to
 provide this written testimony.**

Sincerely,

**Cirvalina Longboy, President
 Oahu Filipino Community Council**

Unit Organizations

Magsingal Association of
 Hawaii
 Narvacan/San Antonio Club of
 Hawaii
 Nueva Vizcaya Association of
 Hawaii
 Pasuquimios Association of
 Hawaii
 Philippine Cultural Foundation
 Philippine Nurses
 Association of Hawaii
 Piddig Association of Hawaii
 Sanchez Mira Association of
 Hawaii
 San Manuel Pangasinan
 Association of Hawaii
 San Nicolaneos USA
 San Nicolas Goodwill
 Foundation
 San Nicolas Teachers of
 Hawaii
 Santa Lucia Association of
 Hawaii
 Sarrat Association of Hawaii
 Sarrat International Inc.
 Sinait Nt. High School Alumni
 of Hawaii
 Solsona of Hawaii
 Tarlac Mutual Club of Hawaii
 TPCP
 Kalihi Ballroom, Inc.
 Sadiri ti San Nicolas iti Hawaii
 Samar Leyte Association of
 Hawaii
 Sampaguita/Sunflower Club of
 Hawaii
 San Juan Association of
 Hawaii
 San Nicolas Nat. High
 Santa Marians of Hawaii
 School Alumni
 Santa Nicolas Nat. High
 School Bingao Annex
 Tagalog Association of Oahu
 United Bacarreños of Hawaii
 United Group of Home
 Operators
 United Pangasinan of Hawaii
 United Urdaneta Club of
 Hawaii
 United Vintarinians of Hawaii
 Vigan Association of Hawaii

Filipino American Citizens League

Jake Manegdeg, President
P. O. Box 270126 * Honolulu, Hawai'i 96827

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 673

House Committee on Health & House Committee on Human Services

Mar. 25, 2009, 11 a.m. | Hawai'i State Capitol | House Conference Room 329

To:

House Health Committee Rep. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair & Rep. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice-Chair
House Health Committee Members
House Human Services Committee Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair & Rep. Tom Brower, Vice Chair
House Human Services Committee Members

From:

Jake Manegdeg, President, Filipino American Citizens League

Report Title: Zoning; Performance Standards

Description: Allows the counties to impose within their zoning ordinances performance standards on group living facilities.

My name is Jake Manegdeg. I am the president of the Filipino American Citizens League. The Filipino American Citizens League was formed over ten years ago to contribute to the advancement of civil rights and social justice for minority groups, underserved populations, and vulnerable communities through education, advocacy, and social action.

I submit this testimony to oppose this bill. The realities of our state budget shortfall call for continued engagement with community partners, neighbors, government agencies and care providers that would be acceptable to all stakeholders involved. We cannot create another labyrinth of regulations on socially responsible caregivers. Furthermore, we cannot implement a bill that is well-intended, but has unintended consequences that outweigh its benefits. Let's focus on strengthening our networks and communications by building allies. Thank you for the opportunity to provide this written testimony.

Thank you for taking on this tough issue.

Very Sincerely,

Jake Manegdeg
President
Filipino American Citizens League

From: Sandra Shim [shims003@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 24, 2009 3:26 PM
To: HUS testimony
Subject: Testimony against SB 673

Committee on Human Services
Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr. Vice Chair

11:00 am, Wednesday, March 25, 2009
Conference Room 329

Dear Chairperson and Members of The Committee,

I am against SB 673.

I feel that the passage of this bill would greatly impact the needs of the elderly population in Hawaii. There is already a crisis, most Nursing Homes are at full capacity and many of their residents are ready for release and are unable to be cared for at home, they need to go into Care Homes.

There are not enough Care Homes and Nursing Homes in Hawaii, especially in the Central Honolulu area. With the passage of SB 673, the new rules and regulations would probably make it prohibitive to develop more Long Term Care Facilities. The DPP and Dept. of Health already have adequate regulations governing the Care Homes and Nursing Homes. In creating more rules and regulations, the elderly will be the losers.

brower2-Jenna

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 24, 2009 8:20 PM
To: HUS testimony
Cc: wooden808@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB673 on 3/25/2009 11:00:00 AM

Testimony for HUS/HLT 3/25/2009 11:00:00 AM SB673

Conference room: 329
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Sandy Wooden
Organization: Individual
Address: 2005 McKinley Street Honolulu, HI
Phone: 808 941-7700
E-mail: wooden808@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 3/24/2009

Comments:

brower2-Jenna

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 24, 2009 8:25 PM
To: HUS testimony
Cc: jaytoyofuku@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB673 on 3/25/2009 11:00:00 AM

Categories: Blue Category

Testimony for HUS/HLT 3/25/2009 11:00:00 AM SB673

Conference room: 329
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jay Toyofuku
Organization: Individual
Address: 2110 A Kakela Pl Hon., Hi 96822
Phone: 808-781-9146
E-mail: jaytoyofuku@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 3/24/2009

Comments:

I would like to submit written testimony in opposition to SB 673. I personally see no need for more regulation on an already heavily government regulated industry. I live in a neighborhood in which several care homes peacefully co-exist. In fact one would never suspect that these were care homes just by judging from their exterior appearances.

I believe it is quite evident that there is a dire shortfall of these types of facilities to care for the ever growing elder population here in Hawaii.

It is also my belief that the emotion driving the passage of this bill is fear. The fear that somehow these facilities will "destroy" your neighborhood and create all types of unwanted "problems". I feel that almost everyone would agree that these facilities are sorely needed; however, it is the "not in my backyard" mentality that creates so much opposition to these much needed services.

I would also like to add that I have no vested interest in the passage of the bill. I do not own or operate any such facility, nor do I have any family member currently in one. I write merely as a concerned compassionate citizen of this state in recognition that we will all at some point age and require assistance. Hopefully, those who are in favor of passage of this bill will be well off enough not to require these services in their neighborhood. Thank you for your time.

brower2-Jenna

From: David Robertson [david.robertson@mac.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 24, 2009 9:01 PM
To: HUSTestimony
Subject: Testimony against SB 673

Categories: Blue Category

Committee on Human Services
Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senatory Les Ihara, Jr. Vice Chair

11:00am, Wednesday, March 25, 2009
Conference room 329

Dear Chairperson and Members of the Committee,

I am against SB 673

Passage of this bill would create undue burden on those wishing to care for our Kapuna, and would prevent those who are taking care of our Elders from doing their good work.

Already, Nursing Homes and other Acute Care facilities are saturated with patients that are ready to be released, but have no place to go.
(This is also being experienced by our mental health patients, but that is another matter.)
These citizens do not need the level of care provided by these providers, but do need to have a lower level of care available.

There are not enough Care Homes and Nursing Homes in Hawaii, especially in the Central Honolulu area. This bill would make it prohibitive to develop more Long Term Care facilities at a time when we need them most.

The DPP and Dept of Health already have adequate regulations governing the Care Home and Nursing Homes. What is missing are inspectors and enforcement. By placing more regulations on these facilities, our Old Folk will be denied the opportunities that we should be offering them.

Sincerely,
Dr. Dave Robertson, D.O.
3108 Kaohinani Dr
Honolulu, HI 96817

As a long time Certified Nurse Assistant, CareHome Operator and supporter of compassionate care of our elderly; **I strongly oppose Senate Bill 673.**

The proposed legislation limiting group living facilities across the island to no less than 1000 linear feet of another is absolutely ludicrous, and will have horrendous repercussions to all the current and future elderly of our state. A number that will grow 110% by the year 2020. This is highest per capita in our nation.

The claims of SB 673 supporters are ones of half truths and pride. They have pride in the fact that they live in one of the most sought after neighborhoods on this island. These same neighborhoods that my carehome residents were born in, grew up in and raised their own children in.

Why should it be that when I get old and unable to care for myself, that I should be forced to move from my “hometown” where I grew up and was a contributing member of the community Why would I want move to the “less-desirable” part of Oahu. Forced to seek care away from my neighbors, family and friends?

It is obvious to me that this bill’s supporters are somewhat resentful of the monetary gain that Carehome owners seem to bring in. There are many other collective concerns that come to mind regarding a business in a residential setting such as; rubbish, noise, delivery trucks, parking, employees etc... yet they choose to focus on the one that most of us as independent entrepreneurs strive for. They are against using a private residence for personal profit and gain. In our society this seems to present a double-standard. For my whole adult life, working from home has always been presented as the appropriate ambition. So at this point in my life where I have found the ultimate “American dream” and can work at home, serve and give back to my community, be with my kids at home (if I had any) and enrich the lives of those less fortunate than me, why would you now tell me that you can only work from home and make money **if** you do not take care of fellow human beings or run a business without compassion for others? There are countless entrepreneurs in our money-making society who work from home and are without overlooking prejudiced eyes. They are not under scrutiny I suppose because their jobs are not as gratifying, resourceful or innovative as my job is.

Once again, in your consideration for this bill please consider the motives of its supporters and reflect on what will become of our elderly who cannot care for themselves at home in our forthcoming future.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Shim

brower2-Jenna

From: david v. ing [jingd012@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 24, 2009 9:14 PM
To: HUS testimony
Subject: Testimony against SB 673

Committee on Human Services
Senatory Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr. Vice Chair

11:00am, Wednesday, March 25, 2009
Conference room 329

Dear Chairperson and members of the Committee,

I am against S 673.

This bill would make it very difficult for the elderly in our community, which is growing and will be in need of help.

Sincerely,
David V. ing
3108 Kaohinani Drive
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96817

brower2-Jenna

From: david v. ing [jingd012@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 24, 2009 9:26 PM
To: HUS testimony
Subject: : Testimony against SB 673

From: Dr. and Mrs. Arthur Wong
Date: March 24, 2009 9:14:12 PM HST
To: HUS testimony@capitol.hawaii.gov
Subject: Testimony against SB 673

Committee on Human Services
Senatory Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr. Vice Chair

11:00am, Wednesday, March 25, 2009
Conference room 329

Dear Chairperson and members of the Committee,

I am against S 673.

This bill will make it difficult for our aging community to find help when it is already difficult..

Sincerely,
Dr and Mrs. Arthur Wong
1356 Alewa Drive
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96817

brower2-Jenna

From: Spencer Kawamoto [skawamoto002@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 24, 2009 9:27 PM
To: HUS testimony
Subject: Testimony Against SB 673

Committee on Human Services
Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr. Vice Chair

Dear Chairperson and Members of the Committee:

I am opposed to SB 673.

What we need is an expanded network of care homes and nursing homes to meet the needs of the elderly community in Hawaii – and not more rules and regulations.

Mahalo,

Spencer Kawamoto
954 Oceanview Drive
Honolulu, HI 96816
808-737-7866

brower2-Jenna

From: HEMAXWELL@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2009 3:26 AM
To: HUS testimony; HLT testimony
Subject: *****SPAM***** Testimony for SB 673 on 3/25/2009 11:00 AM
Attachments: [Fwd: Fwd: testimony for SB 673 needed]

Subject: Testimony for SB673 on 3/25/2009 11:00:00 AM

Testimony for HUS/HLT Hearing 3/25/2009 11:00:00 AM SB673

Subject: Testimony for SB673 on 3/25/2009 11:00:00 AM

Testimony for HUS/HLT Hearing 3/25/2009 11:00:00 AM SB673

Chairman John Morita, HUS Committee

Chairman Ryan Yamane, HLT Committee

Dear Chairmen and Representatives,

We would very much like to speak in favor of this bill (SB673) to give the counties the authority to place reasonable guidelines on future adult residential care homes in Hawaii.

The proliferation of ARCHs affects all communities statewide. It is a very lucrative business and many owners who start an ARCH find they can easily afford buying more property and increasing their services and their wealth.

We would like to add our voices to that of Jeremy Lam, MD:

"We have met for the past two years beginning in Feb 2007 with Senator Brian Taniguchi, Representative Kirk Caldwell, Councilwoman Ann Kobayashi, Director of Health Chiyome Fukino, the Dept. of Planning and Permitting and many others. Dozens of residents have attended meetings on my patio to discuss the problems of multiple care homes built adjacent to one another and the myriad health and safety problems that arrive hand in hand with these developments. We understand the importance of these care homes and totally support its concept.

It is when they negatively impinge on the surrounding residential neighborhood that we citizens are concerned. In Manoa, some adult residential care homes are located on sub standard streets with brittle infrastructure. Fire trucks may not fit on these tight roads. An ARCH owner on one street is now attempting to fit 13 unrelated people into a home and DPP has issued them a permit. In another case in Manoa, an ARCH owner has 3 adjacent care homes which have greatly affected the nearby neighbors. Medical waste blowing across the street, employee smoking outside, noise from shift changes and deliveries and patients and personnel, night lights shining at all hours, handicapped van pickups and drop offs, family visitors, limited parking, 6 foot high fences, increased traffic, are some of the ways that a quiet residential block has been transformed.

There are many more neighbors concerned about these homes than live in these homes and there must be a reasonable balance between the need for ARCHs and the needs of the surrounding communities. Since 2000, residential care homes have increased by 19%. I know Aina Haina, Maunalani Heights and Nuuanu are presently dealing with these same issues.

Neighbors object to the clustering of care homes. This has a significant negative impact on a quiet residential community. We tried to look at ways to restrict how many facilities can operate on the same block. Various legislation has been written for the past two years. Each time the community comes to testify, the Attorney General stonewalls the process of finding a balance or limiting ARCHs to 1000 yard

apart which according to Mr. John Whalen was intended long ago. The Attorney General says such a law would violate the Fair Housing Act and then the bills die. We know states like Colorado and Arizona seem to have sensible distance requirements.

Hundreds of people have signed petitions encouraging distance requirements but their voices have now died with the past legislation. We feel helpless and don't know what to do so we don't even have meetings anymore.

Manoa takes pride in and care of its kupuna. I have cared for my 92 year-old severely handicapped mother for 15 years. Many others do much more. ARCHs are only one option for elderly care. Manoa supports the elderly and supports care homes. It is not the total number of homes that is a problem, but the dense proximity of these homes built next to one another. We have concerns about the safeguards of operating two or more homes completely independently as stated within the law. Staff carrying disease can pass this back and forth between homes. Any physician could tell you about the inherent dangers of the spread of infectious diseases in adjacent homes. A single case of flu virus, stomach virus, or tuberculosis could spread like wild fire, exacting significant morbidity and mortality. Any fireman would tell you that it would be much more difficult to evacuate 8 elderly persons from an elderly care home than 16 or 24 which could occur in adjacent homes.

Having reasonable regulations like distance standards, random audits for independence, checking health requirements for staff, stringent reporting of infectious diseases, evacuation fire plans, and much more should be discussed. We hope the legislature will take a proactive role with this issue.

Just as the bed and breakfast and vacation rentals challenge our communities, so does the clustering of ARCHs which some have referred to as "mini hospital complexes".

Maunalani Heights is one of the areas being affected and the points brought out in Dr. Lam's letter very much affect our area - the difficulty of fire trucks to reach homes on the circle - the increased traffic on a road that was built to handle just a few residential homes and that has no or very little on street parking

We very much support the passage of SB 673 and feel that it would be a good start to address this land use!

Peter and Helen Maxwell
4941 Maunalani Circle
Honolulu, HI 96740

Feeling the pinch at the grocery store? [Make dinner for \\$10 or less.](#)

brower2-Jenna

From: Cheryl Varady [Varadyc002@Hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2009 7:43 AM
To: HUS testimony
Cc: HLT testimony
Subject: Support for SB 673

To: HUS and HLT hearings on behalf of SB 673

Dear Sirs:

As a resident of Maunalani Heights, I respectfully request your support of SB 673 limiting the placement of ARCH facilities in communities. I am concerned that if ARCH facilities are allowed to cluster as has happened in Manoa, and appears to be unfolding in our neighborhood of Maunalani Heights, the character of the neighborhood will disappear, and these neighborhoods will no longer be desirable places for the rest of us to live in.

On Maunalani Heights we already have a large eldercare Hospital, which attracts a lot of traffic and ambulances to the neighborhood. Now one neighbor is in the process of creating an ARCH facility a short distance from that hospital. While we accept and support the existing facility, we are concerned that if these facilities are allowed to proliferate in our area, there will be a tipping point at which the neighborhood we love no longer exists.

Thus, I hope you will consider the impact these facilities have on existing communities, and support SB 673.

Mahalo

Cheryl Varady
5036 Maunalani Circle
Honolulu, Hawaii

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<http://www.pctools.com/spyware-doctor-antivirus/>

brower2-Jenna

From: James Saari & Mary Flynn [saarij001@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2009 7:49 AM
To: HUS testimony; HLT testimony
Subject: Testimony in favor of SB 673

To: HUS testimony@capitol.hawaii.gov and HLT testimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

Subject: Testimony for SB673 on 3/25/2009 11:00:00 AM

Testimony for HUS/HLT Hearing 3/25/2009 11:00:00 AM SB673

Subject: Testimony for SB673 on 3/25/2009 11:00:00 AM

Testimony for HUS/HLT Hearing 3/25/2009 11:00:00 AM SB673

Chairman John Morita, HUS Committee
Chairman Ryan Yamane, HLT Committee

Dear Chairmen and Representatives,

Thank you for this opportunity to speak in favor of SB 673.

We live on quiet Maunalani Circle on Wilhelmina Rise and have been very concerned about the rather uncontrolled growth and clustering of ARCH facilities in our neighborhood. The Circle has no sidewalks and very little parking. At one end of the Circle is Maunalani Nursing Home. We say this to emphasize that we are not against kapuna in any way.

One family on the Circle owns six or seven houses with minimal parking and has begun the process of turning them into ARCH businesses. This issue is similar to the proliferation of B&B houses or transit vacation rentals. It has been frustrating to see the quality of the neighborhood be threatened like this and to have very little recourse. Of course any business comes with increased traffic and noise. Having reasonable regulations like distance standards, random audits for independence, checking health requirements for staff, stringent reporting of infectious diseases, evacuation fire plans, and much more should be discussed. We hope the legislature will take a proactive role with this issue.

Please give the counties the authority to place reasonable guidelines on future adult residential care homes in Hawaii.

Mary Flynn
James Saari
4959-1 Maunalani Circle
Honolulu, Hawaii 96816

From: DRJLAM@aol.com [mailto:DRJLAM@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 24, 2009 8:50 PM
To: TIATestimony; Rep. John Mizuno; Rep. Ryan Yamane
Subject: Testimony in favor of SB 673

Subject: Testimony for SB673 on 3/25/2009 11:00:00 AM, Conference Room 329 State Capitol

Testimony for HUS/HLT Hearing 3/25/2009 11:00:00 AM SB673

**Chairman John Mizuno, HUS Committee
Chairman Ryan Yamane, HLT Committee**

Dear Chairmen and Representatives,

I would very much like to speak in favor of this bill (SB673) to give the counties the authority to place reasonable guidelines on future adult residential care homes in Hawaii.

The proliferation of ARCHs affects all communities statewide. It is a very lucrative business and many owners who start an ARCH find they can easily afford buying more property and increasing their services and their wealth.

We have met for the past two years beginning in Feb 2007 with Senator Brian Taniguchi, Representative Kirk Caldwell, Councilwoman Ann Kobayashi, Director of Health Chiyome Fukino, the Dept. of Planning and Permitting and many others. Dozens of residents have attended meetings on my patio to discuss the problems of multiple care homes built adjacent to one another and the myriad health and safety problems that arrive hand in hand with these developments. We understand the importance of these care homes and totally support its concept.

It is when they negatively impinge on the surrounding residential neighborhood that we citizens are concerned. In Manoa, some adult residential care homes are located on sub standard streets with brittle infrastructure. Fire trucks may not fit on these tight roads. An ARCH owner on one street is now attempting to fit 13 unrelated people into a home and DPP has issued them a permit. In another case in Manoa, an ARCH owner has 3 adjacent care homes which have greatly affected the nearby neighbors. Medical waste blowing across the street, employee smoking outside, noise from shift changes and deliveries and patients and personnel, night lights shining at all hours, handicapped van pickups and drop offs, family visitors, limited parking, 6 foot high fences, increased traffic, are some of the ways that a quiet residential block has been transformed.

There are many more neighbors concerned about these homes than live in these homes and there must be a reasonable balance between the need for ARCHs and the needs of the surrounding communities. Since 2000, residential care homes have increased by 19%. I know Aina Haina, Maunalani Heights and Nuuanu are presently dealing with these same issues.

Neighbors object to the clustering of care homes. This has a significant negative impact on a quiet residential community. We tried to look at ways to restrict how many facilities can operate on the same block. Various legislation has been written for the past two years. Each time the community comes to testify, the Attorney General stonewalls the process of finding a balance or limiting ARCHs to 1000 yard apart which according to Mr. John Whalen was intended long ago. The Attorney General says such a law would violate the Fair Housing Act and then the bills die. We know states like Colorado and Arizona seem to have sensible distance requirements.

Hundreds of people have signed petitions encouraging distance requirements but their voices have now died with the past legislation. We feel helpless and don't know what to do so we don't even have meetings anymore.

Manoa takes pride in and care of its kupuna. I have cared for my 92 year-old severely handicapped mother for 15 years. Many others do much more. ARCHs are only one option for elderly care. Manoa supports the elderly and supports care homes. It is not the total number of homes that is a problem, but the dense proximity of these homes built next to one another. We have concerns about the safeguards of operating two or more homes completely independently as stated within the law. Staff carrying disease can pass this back and forth between homes. Any physician could tell you about the inherent dangers of the spread of infectious diseases in adjacent homes. A single case of flu virus, stomach virus, or tuberculosis could spread like wild fire, exacting significant morbidity and mortality. Any fireman would tell you that it would be much more difficult to evacuate 8 elderly persons from an elderly care home than 16 or 24 which could occur in adjacent homes.

Having reasonable regulations like distance standards, random audits for independence, checking health requirements for staff, stringent reporting of infectious diseases, evacuation fire plans, and much more should be discussed. We hope the legislature will take a proactive role with this issue.

Just as the bed and breakfast and vacation rentals challenge our communities, so does the clustering of ARCHs which some have referred to as "mini hospital complexes".

SB 673 would be a good start to address this land use and I support its passage!

**Jeremy Lam MD
2230 Kamehameha Avenue
Honolulu, HI 96822
drjlam@aol.com
3/24/09**

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From: Russell Dang [mailto:dangr004@hawaii.rr.com]

Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2009 12:40 AM

To: Rep. John Mizuno; Rep. Tom Brower; Rep. Della Belatti; repbetram@Capitol.hawaii.gov; Rep. Mele Carroll; Rep. Scott Nishimoto; Rep. Maile Shimabukuro; Rep. Ryan Yamane; Rep. Gene Ward; Rep. Lynn Finnegan

Subject: SB 673; Hearing on 03/25/09 11 a.m. in House Conference Room 329

Testimony Regarding Senate Bill 673

Hearing date: March 25, 2009, 11 a.m., House Conference Room 329

Committee of Human Services: Rep. Mizuno, Chair; Rep. Brower, Vice-Chair; Rep. Belatti; Rep. Betram; Rep. Carroll; Rep. Nishimoto; Rep. Shimabukuro; Rep. Yamane; Rep. Ward

Committee on Health: Rep. Yamane, Chair; Rep. Nishimoto, Vice-Chair; Rep. Belatti; Rep. Betram; Rep. Brower; Rep. Carroll; Rep. Mizuno; Rep. Shimabukuro; Rep. Finnegan

We OPPOSE Senate Bill 673. The intent of the bill and testimony appears discriminatory and caters to personal complaints against specific ARCH facilities. The additions listed in the bill to amend HRS 46-4 such as off-street parking, meeting temporal restrictions on commercial deliveries and ambient noise and pollutant emission standards at lot boundaries are concerns that should be reviewed by the council on zoning per county.

Let's not pass a bill that isn't necessary. HRS 46-4 requires the zoning agency/boards or city council to regulate and enforce the ordinances as well as to look at other regulations.

Society has a need for group living facilities, especially for the elderly and the disabled. We live in Manoa and can walk to the various group residential facilities such as the Shim's Manoa Care Home and others. We have visited the Shim's homes for the elderly and the noise level was that of any residential home, it was clean and a place we would place family. They do not have the traffic or environmental concerns that we see from all the traffic caused by students looking for street parking to attend UH or speeding cars from parents going to and from Punahou School.

If you are going to amend HRS 46-4 ensure that it doesn't specifically discriminate against one group. The amendments recommended are issues that also pertain to self employed individuals/small businesses working out of a residence, multi-generational family households, "crack" houses. None of whom have restrictions imposed on them by zoning regulations nor are they as closely regulated as with group living facilities that must be licensed. Is SB 673 fair?

Please vote against SB 673.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Gwen & Russell Dang
2173 Atherton Rd.,

March 25, 2009

LATE
Testimony

To: Rep. John Mizuno, Chair of HUS and
Rep. Ryan Yamane, Chair of HLT
And members of both House Committees

From: Duke Bainum, M.D., speaking as an individual
[Honolulu Councilmember, and former State Representative, 1990 to 1994]



Re: SB 673, Zoning (HUSD/HLT, WLO) (Wed, March 25, 11:00 am, Room 329)

Aloha, Chair Mizuno and Chair Yamane and members of the committees:

I am in support of SB 673 with a **suggested amendment to add a "grandfather" clause** so that any facility currently operating or in operation as of this bill becoming law would not be affected by this bill.

This is a **win-win** bill because most home owners are rightly concerned that there be a minimum of commercial facilities operating in their neighborhood and because there is a history in Hawaii of supporting community-based health and social service residential facilities, treating them as 'regular' homes.

This bill provides a new and innovative tool for regulating **clustering** of these facilities. Individual facilities are usually not a problem but when many facilities, sometimes back-to-back-to-back, as has happened in my district and other areas of Honolulu, there is undue burden on the neighborhood.

HAWAII COALITION OF CAREGIVERS

P.O. Box 2441, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96804

March 25, 2009

LATE
Testimony

MEMBERS 2008-09

Testimony in Opposition of SB 673 – HUS/HLT – 3/25/09, 11:00 a.m., Rm. 329

Chairs Mizuno and Yamane, and Members of the Joint Committee:

Myriam Tabaniag

President
*Alliance of Residential Care
Administrators*

Lani Akee

President
*Adult Foster Homecare
Association of Hawaii*

Esther Pascual

President
*United Group of Home
Operators*

Myriam Guerrero

President
*Alliance of Residential Care
Administrators - Big Island
Chapter.*

Daniel Marcos

President
*Adult Foster Home
Association of Hawaii - Big
Island Chapter*

Mila Medallon

Advisor

Donnie Juan, Esq.

Lobbyist

Bryan P. Andaya

Advisor

The Hawaii Coalition of Caregivers (HCCG) **opposes SB673** that requires Department of Health (DOH) and the Department of Human Services (DHS) to post on their respective websites reports of all inspections of care facilities, including care homes and foster homes.

Respectfully, SB673 and the so-called reasonable guidelines suggested by proponents ignore the reality of the increasing need for home and community based care options including care homes. As you know, the aging of the baby boomers, a situation that is exacerbated in Hawaii, will result in the exponential rise in the need for the care of our kupuna. Various sources indicate Hawaii already faces a shortage of elderly care providers, as evidenced in a report by the Honolulu Advertiser detailing how our kupuna are sometimes sent to other states because of insufficient number of elderly care options in this state. The growth of the care home industry illustrates the rising need for home and community based care options.

Undoubtedly, home and community based care options save taxpayers millions of dollars, every one of which is vital in this economy. While a home and community care home typically charges \$1,200 to \$2,500 per month per resident, a nursing home will charge \$7,000 or more per month. Meanwhile, caregivers work for less than \$2.00 per day to perform a necessary function that would fall upon the State. Home and community based care options save the State millions of dollars each year. Indeed, without almost 5,000 residents being serviced by HCCG, Hawaii's elderly care delivery system would breakdown without the several home and community based programs.

The so-called reasonable guideline of requiring a minimum of 1000 feet advocated by the proponents would create a completely unworkable system and threaten the health and safety of many elderly kupuna currently residing in care homes. In places like Kalihi, Waipahu, Ewa Beach, and many other areas care homes are often located across the street from each other or even back to back. Enforcement of this so-called reasonable guideline would result in the displacement and dislocation of hundreds of elderly and disabled residents.

About HCCG

HCCG consists primarily of four organizations working in collaboration towards the common mission of uniting the home and community based care giving industry to improve the quality of care provided to elderly and developmentally disabled clients in various home and community based programs, as well as to improve the state of the industry. HCCG members include: The Alliance of Residential Care Administrators (ARCA), the United Group of Home Administrators (UGHO), and the Adult Foster Home Association of Hawaii (AFHA). Together, members of the four organizations have a membership of almost 1,250 and comprise about 70% of the home and community-based caregivers in the State of Hawaii.

Second, reasonable ordinances already exist to protect against the concerns of the proponents. Counties currently place limits on the number of unrelated people that may reside in a dwelling. Counties also have regulations and restrictions as to business operated from homes, traffic, and street parking. Finally, counties already impose stringent requirements before the issuance of a building permit. If the proponents believe the respective counties are not meeting their responsibility of challenging, they should challenge the individual determinations through the appropriate mechanism – not legislation.

This bill appears to arise from a dispute between neighbors. Legislation should not be used to address or resolve isolated disputes between neighbors. Not all care homes are bad neighbors; and not all bad neighbors are care homes. HCCG strongly encourages its members to respect their neighbors and communities. There may be one or two bad care homes, but almost all care homes have operated without incident and have become integrated as a valuable part of a community.

Finally, care homes provide an honest although back-breaking living for common ordinary citizens who immigrated to this country in search of a better life. About 90% of home and community based caregivers are Filipinos who emigrated from the Philippines in search of a better life. As difficult as it is to perform the functions of a caregiver (feeding, bathing, and caring for those who are unable to care for themselves), owning a care home is the American dream come true. To open the doors to regulations that could potentially put them out of existence would extinguish their source of livelihood and eviscerate their intent to better their lives.

In summary, HCCG reiterates its **opposition of SB673** and hopes that this joint committee will preserve the dignity of our kupuna by allowing them to remain integrated in the community and keep alive the dream of our home and community based caregivers by deferring this bill.

Very truly yours,

The Hawaii Coalition of Caregivers (HCCG)

By: Bryan P. Andaya

**The Arc in Hawaii
3989 Diamond Head Road
Honolulu HI 96816**

**Testimony In Opposition to SB673
Relating to Zoning
Wednesday, March 25, 2009 11:00 A.M.
Conference Room 329**

**LATE
Testimony**

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair
Rep. Tom Brower, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Rep. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
Rep. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair

House Of Representatives
The Twenty-Fifth Legislature
Regular Session of 2009

Representatives Mizuno, Yamane and Members

I am Thomas Huber, the volunteer President of The Arc in Hawaii, a nonprofit 501 (c) (3) organization which provides vital services to people in Hawaii with intellectual and developmental disabilities, including 18 small group homes located in various neighborhoods around Oahu.

We **strongly oppose** the provisions of S.B.673, which would hold certain small home-like residences to higher zoning standards than neighboring single-family homes. The Bill would permit counties to discriminate against the homes of our residents with disabilities; by limiting the times they could accept deliveries from FedEx or UPS. It insults our residents by suggesting that only they should be subject to noise restrictions. It implies that our residents emit more pollution than their so-called "normal" neighbors. The Bill further assumes that normal residents have ownership of the adjoining streets for their exclusive parking.

The statue already allows the counties to impose building height, setback, maximum lot coverage, parking, and floor area requirements. These are sufficient. The additional proposed requirements are insulting and unnecessary.

We urge the Committees to not pass S.B.673.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Thomas P. Huber
President



Big Island Chapter

AFHA & ARCH

88 Pakalana St.
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
Phone : 808 935 7425
March 25, 2009

LATE
Testimony

ARCH



Big Island

Rep John Mizuno and committee chair members

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Rudy Arzaga
- Past President:
Helen Sapla

On behalf of the Big Island Coalition of Caregivers , (AFHA and ARCH) we strongly oppose SB 673 (SSCR447) for the following reasons:

People with disabilities can not be discriminated. We should accommodate .in our environment as normal as possible. We integrate them in our family activities as an extended family.

Placing people with disabilities in a home and community-based healthcare program is preventing from being institutionalized and less cost to the government .

Giving more restrictions on where they live, what they want to do as normal individual is in violation of American Disability ACT (ADA)

We should be thankful for people who like to take care of people with disabilities.

We live in aloha state. Where is our aloha spirit? What are we trying to do? Are we trying to fix things that is already right?

Life is so fragile. Anything can happen any time. Disability in only a few seconds away if we get unlucky. Who will take care of you? Maybe your nearest neighbor who you did not like. Life is unpredictable. We should love our neighbors us we like ourselves.

What do we have to fix? We have other community services that we can get involve than to fix things that is already in the right place.

Zoning is not an issue if you have the heart to care for people who need help. Keep it as is.

Against SB 673 (SSCR447) :

Sincerely,
AFHA/ARCH LEADERS
Big Island Chapter

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brower2-Jenna

From: jocelyn mosher [jocelynmosher@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2009 9:56 AM
To: HUSTestimony
Subject: Testimony against SB 673

Committee on Human Services
Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr. Vice Chair

11:00 am, Wednesday, March 25, 2009
Conference Room 329

**LATE
Testimony**

Dear Chairperson and Members of The Committee,

I am against SB 673.

If this bill were to pass, the impact on the elderly community would be profound. Currently there are not enough Care Homes and Nursing Homes in Hawaii, particularly in the Honolulu area. This shortage of beds and quality care for this under appreciated sect of our community has already been realized. The elderly community in Hawaii deserve the best possible options. This means that we as a community need to foster and support those who care for this population.

This bill, SB 673 with its new rules and regulations would make it prohibitive to develop more much needed Long Term Care Facilities. The DPP and Department of Health already have extensive regulations governing the Care Homes and Nursing Homes. I urge the committee to carefully evaluate the impact that this bill will make on the elderly community and their families.

Thank you for your consideration.

Patricia P. Mosher, RN, CRNA, CHRN
Hale Nohea, LLC.
5061 Maunalani Circle
Honolulu, HI 96816
808-734-4680

LATE
Testimony

Subject: Testimony for SB673 on 3/25/2009 11:00:00 AM

Testimony for HUS/HLT Hearing 3/25/2009 11:00:00 AM SB673

Chairman John Morita, HUS Committee
Chairman Ryan Yamane, HLT Committee

Dear Chairmen and Representatives,

I strongly support the passage of SB673.

I am reiterating my previous testimony in support of this bill. Currently the licensing of an ARCH by the Department of Health is separate from the building permit process, which does not address the use of the property. As these facilities have an impact on a neighborhood (with the resultant medical waste, handivans, pickups, dropoffs, staff traffic, overflow parking, family, visitors, and general strain on the infrastructure) there should be a way to establish these much needed facilities in a sustainable way within our communities. Giving the counties the authority to address these issues would be helpful in meeting our kupuna's needs and retaining the residential character of our neighborhoods.

Niklas and Sharon Schneider

5042 Maunalani Circle

Honolulu, Hawaii 96816