

SB 821

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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MUFI HANNEMANN
MAYOR

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DIRECTOR

ERNEST Y. MARTIN
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

February 9, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Human Services
The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Health
The State Senate
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Chun Oakland, Chair Ige, and Members:

**Subject: Providing Comments on S.B. 821
Relating to Elder Care**

The Elderly Affairs Division is the Area Agency on Aging on Oahu designated by the Executive Office on Aging under the Older Americans Act of 1965. We support additional funds to maintain services provided under S.B. 821, Relating to Elder Care, and would be willing to work cooperatively with the State Executive Office on Aging on matters listed in Section 2. However, we have comments about Section 2 (1) and (2).

Section 2 (1) states that we shall develop a plan to increase voluntary contributions to support the cost of Kupuna Care programs. We interpret that to mean the voluntary contributions that service providers request from clients. It would be helpful to review current practices to see if there are ways to increase donations. However, if the expectation is that the total amount collected is increased, then we are not sure that can be achieved.

On Oahu, 40% of clients are low income and their median age 80 to 84. As client service needs increase with age and service costs increase due to inflation, the numbers of services and clients served have decreased. Asking a shrinking client population to increase donations when they have fixed incomes in an economy where goods and services cost more would be difficult. Moreover, it may cause clients who need services to decline service because of the pressure to donate.

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
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February 9, 2009
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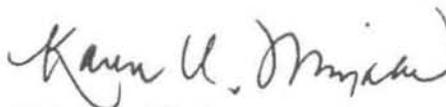
A suggestion is to change the wording in Section 2 (1) from "increase" to "maximize" in view of clients' financial situations.

Section 2(2) states that we must develop procedures for managing the waitlist for kupuna care service. Each provider manages their waitlist as best as they can for the specific service they deliver and the resources available to them. We are not clear what managing the waitlist means and would need clarification before we can provide further comment.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

Sincerely,


Deborah Kim Morikawa
Director


Karen K. Miyake
County Executive on Aging
Elderly Affairs Division

KM:ab
sb 821



CATHOLIC CHARITIES HAWAII

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Less Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Josh Green, M.D., Vice Chair
Committee on Health

FROM: Diane M. Terada, Division Administrator

DATE: Tuesday, February 10, 2009 (1:15 p.m., Room 016)

RE: **Support of SB 821, Relating to Elder Care with recommendation**

Catholic Charities Hawaii (CCH), is a tax exempt, non-profit agency that has been providing supportive home and community based services to elders since 1973 and currently serves approximately 5,000 older persons each year. **We support this bill as a vehicle to increase kupuna care funding for senior services that provide a safety net for Hawai'i's elders and would like to make one recommendation in regard to Section 2.**

Need for Additional Kupuna Care Funding:

Catholic Charities Hawaii has provided transportation and housekeeping services, both State-funded Kupuna Care Services, for a number of years. In addition, we have been partners with other aging network providers who also provide essential State-funded Kupuna Care Services such as home-delivered meals, case management, bathing service and more.

State-funded Kupuna Care currently funds a set of basic, essential services that help frail elders remain independent and avoid institutionalization or homelessness. In addition, these services support family caregivers who are providing support to frail elderly relatives who still want to maintain their independence but require supportive services, from family and the community, in order to do so.

Some of the challenges that Catholic Charities Hawaii faces in providing State-funded Kupuna Care Services include:

- **Flat or reduced State and Federal funding** for elderly services despite the growing cost of service delivery due to aging vehicles, increased cost of gas and utilities, etc.
- **Growing wait list for Housekeeping Services** as a result of no additional Kupuna Care funding released for the current Fiscal Year 2009. This means elders who may be at risk of eviction must wait for several months in order to receive services.

The Consequences of Not Providing More Funding for State Kupuna Care Services

- **Wait lists will grow.** The longer that elders must wait for service, the greater the risk that their will **lose their ability to live independently in a safe, dignified environment.**
- The **alternative is institutionalization** at a cost of approximately \$7,000 a month per person. The cost of institutional care will eventually be a burden on taxpayers and government since State-funded Kupuna Care program targets those in greatest need.

Recommendation regarding Section 2:

- We recommend that the State and counties be encouraged to include service provider agencies in the development of any plans, procedures and policies as indicated in this section.

If I can provide any further information, please feel free to contact me via phone at 808-595-5901 or via email at diane.terada@catholiccharitieshawaii.org. Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Hawai'i Alliance for Retired Americans

An affiliate of the Alliance for Retired Americans
c/o AFSCME · 888 Mililani Street, Suite 101 · Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

AFT Hawaii Retirees

HGEA Retirees

HSTA – Retired

ILWU Retirees

Kokua Council

Machinists Union Retirees

UPW Retirees

ADA/Hawaii

Hawaii Family Caregivers Coalition

(Submitted by email to: HMSTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov February 7, 2009)

Joint statement of Al Hamai, President, and Carol Nitta, Legislative Committee
Member, Supporting SB 821, Relating to Elder Care

Joint Hearing of the Senate Committees on Human Services and Health

February 10, 2008, 1:15 p.m. Conference Room 016

Chair Suzanne Chun Oakland, and Members of the HMS Committee, and
Chair David Y. Ige and Members of the HTH Committee,

We are submitting testimony on behalf of HARA in support of SB 821.

This bill seeks to implement the findings of the Joint Legislative Committee on Aging in Place to maintain the levels of Kupuna Care Services provided statewide in fiscal year 2007-2008. Kupuna Care is a model program to provide vital services to our elders, administered by the counties. The need for these services is increasing and probably will continue to increase with the downturn in our economy. As of June 2008 there were 242 elders on the waitlist since the counties reported that they did not have sufficient funds to cover these essential services that really promotes the goal of helping seniors age in place.

HARA urges the Senate Human Services Committee and the Senate Health Committee to approve SB 821. Mahalo.

HARA is a strong voice for Hawaii's retirees and seniors. HARA is an educator, a grassroots organizer, a communicator and a trusted source of information for decision-makers. HARA is a diverse community-based local organization with national roots where our members decide our priorities. We are 21,000 strong and growing.

1809 Bachelot Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817

Bill No: SB821 Title: Relating to Health-Kupuna Care; Cash and Counseling;
Appropriation

Committee: Senate Committees on Human Services

Hearing Date: February 10, 2009

Time: 1:15 p.m.

Place: State Capitol Room 016

415 South Beretania St

Submitted by:

Name: Remedios S. Rueda

Title: Director, Lanakila Meals on Wheels Contact Information: Remy Rueda

Phone: 808-356-8558

Fax:

Testimony in: (X) SUPPORT

Founded in 1939, Lanakila Rehabilitation Center, Inc., dba Lanakila Pacific is a private, Hawaii-based non-profit offering programs and social enterprises that build independence for thousands of people with challenged lives each year.

Lanakila Pacific's Programs serve over 2,479 Oahu residents annually with programs that build life skills, which in turn support our greater community. Two thousand forty two (2,242) of these individuals are seniors 60 years and older participants of the Lanakila Meals on Wheels and more!

We are in full support of the SB821 and requesting the Senate Committee on Human Services to address the increasing number of our elders 60 years and older needing long term care. We request that additional Kupuna Care funding be provided by passing SB821 to maintain the same level of care provided statewide in fiscal year 2007-2008.

By doing so, you are assuring that qualified seniors will not experience days of not eating and no senior will go to the grocery store to buy dog food for their own consumption.

Thank you very much for all your help!

To: State of Hawaii, Senate
Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Members of Committee on Human Services

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Josh Green, M. D., Vice Chair
Members of Committee on Health

Public Hearing by Committees on Health and Human Services
Tuesday, February 10, 2009 at 1:15 p.m., Conference Room 016

Testifier's Name: Jill T. Kitamura
Senior Program Director, Moiliili Community Center

RE: SB 821 – Relating to Elder Care

Thank you for this opportunity to testify **in support** of Senate Bill 821.

Moiliili Community Center Senior Center program is one of the agencies presently contracted by the City & County of Honolulu Elderly Affairs Division to provide services to seniors. We are not a part of the Kupuna Care program, but work with the different Kupuna Care agencies to assist seniors. It is very difficult to assist seniors to access services when there are waiting lists.

As the number of seniors increase and the cost of services increase, flat funding does not help the agencies to provide these services. In the long run, it will cost much more per person if services are not accessed early.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Jill T. Kitamura, Program Director
Moiliili Senior Center
Moiliili Community Center
2535 South King Street
Honolulu, HI 96826
Phone: (808) 955-1555
Fax: (808) 945-7033

To: The Honorable Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Chair
The Honorable Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Human Services
The Honorable Senator David Ige, Chair
The Honorable Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Health

From: Rose Nakamura, Administrator, Project Dana

Subject: Testimony Supporting S.B. 821: Relating to Elder Care

I strongly support S.B. 821 – Relating to Elder Care. This particular Senate Bill provides support to Kupuna Care to address the ever increasing numbers of elders needing long term care assistance. Additional funding is needed to provide the critical services to more elders.

Aging in place is the desire for everyone in Hawaii and assistance of various nature i.e. case management, meals on wheels, transportation, housing, personal care, attendant care, etc. is increasing. A waitlist of Kupuna Care Services has occurred in each county. Many older adults are isolated, shut in, lonely, helpless and need some assistance in coping with daily living.

In addition, plans to increase volunteer contributions and to establish a cash and counseling program could enhance the Kupuna Care program.

Funding for S.B. 821 from the State of Hawaii is imminent to Hawaii's Kupuna to age in place with needed assistance and sensitive support.

Thank you very much.

Feb. 9, 2009

TO: COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES
TO: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
RE: Testimony on SB 422 RELATING TO HEALTH, SB 821 RELATING TO ELDER CARE, SB 824
RELATING TO LONG TERM CARE
HEARING: Tuesday, Feb. 10, 2009, 1:15 p.m.
State Capitol Conference Room 016

As a Social Worker with practice experience in gerontology and long term care and cognizant of increasing aging and longevity in our community, I wish to offer supportive testimony on these 3 bills.

SB 442: The appropriating of funds to the Dept. of Health for the continued provision of respite services for Family Caregivers is needed. More Family Caregivers are "on line" than last year, as kupuna continue to wish to live in their own homes and surrounded by family and friends and love.

SB 821: As our 75 and older population continue to grow, and demands for services means that "wait lists" inevitably grow, it is crucial that we develop a system of voluntary payments or a portion thereof. It is also crucial that we allow the system of services, focused on home and community-based care, to be more client-centered and client-directed. Thus "Cash and Counseling" is a process that needs to be implemented.

SB 824: We must continue the work of planning, and implementing a statewide system of ADRCs. The ADRC is not only the "new way and face" of delivering aging services, but makes such delivery more effective, timely and cost-effective.

Mahalo for your consideration of these bills, each of which contribute to the building of a home and community-based services infrastructure for a society in which people are living longer and longer.

John A. H. Tomoso, MSW, ACSW, LSW
51 Ku'ula Street
Kahului, Maui, Hawai'i 96 732-2906
jtomoso@hawaii.rr.com

BCC: Maui JACOSA ListServe, Maui County State Legislators

Senate Committees on Health & Human Services

S.B. 821, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

Testimony of Valorie E. Taylor, LBSW

**541 Lauiki St. #3
Honolulu HI 96826**

February 10, 2009

1:15 p.m. Conference Room 016

I would like to show my support of SB 821 in relation to the Elder Care.

As a Social Worker in the field of Gerontology for the past 20 years, I recognize that a strong family is the backbone of our society which includes our elders. Hawaii's strength comes from its 'Ohana, we recognize the purpose of our Kupuna is to lead the family and to then be supported by them. We believe that supporting our seniors will also help us to stabilize our economy by preventing premature institutionalization which in turn will increase the state dollars needed to pay for long term care for our Kupuna.

The State's population is growing older faster than any other state, according to DBET. In 2005, 18.7% of Hawaii's population is 60 years of age and older (seventh in the nation), and 28.7% of Hawaii's households has at least one person 65 years of age and older (2nd in the nation). Life expectancy nationally is 77.5 years, while the age for Hawaii is 79.8 years (1st in the nation).

In the 2008 State of Hawaii, Older Adult Needs Assessment, a report prepared for the Joint Legislative Committee on Family Caregiving, those sampled had a higher percentage of individuals with Activities of Daily Living (Eating, Dressing, Personal Hygiene, Bathing, Toileting, Transferring and Mobility) and Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (Prepare Meals, Shopping, Take Medications, Manage Money, Use Telephone, Housework, Use Public Transport) impairments. Over half required assistance with personal care and other ADLs and almost the same amount (51.5%) needed assistance with arranging for their own care.

In 2008 Kupuna Care Services assisted 9,253 individuals in Hawaii. On average a senior may receive 2-3 meals a week (121 meals per year), 1-2 hours per week of personal care (68 hours per year), 1 round trip transport per week (56 one way trips per year), 4 hours of chore service per year or 17 hours of case management per year. As you can see the assistance provided falls short of the need but is enough to supplement other sources of support to help seniors stay at home.

The Kupuna Care Program is cost effective. In 2008 voluntary contributions accounted for almost 16% of the Kupuna Care expenditures. Kupuna Care Programs expand services by utilizing volunteers. For

example Lanakila MOW uses 1,344 volunteers who provide 24,543 hours of service delivering meals. The value of this service is \$184,075 and without it a full 2/3 of the meals would not be delivered.

By caring for our Kupuna we are in turn caring for their family members. The economic impact of family caregiving is significant. In *Valuing the Invaluable: The Economic Value of Family Caregiving, 2008 Update*, a study conducted by the AARP Public Policy Institute, found the value of caregiving at \$1.25 billion in Hawaii. The cost of this care continues to rise as the number of individuals needing care increase. If these costs were shifted to health insurers, including Medicare and Medicaid, it would dramatically increase health care costs and this increase would impact us all. Caregivers who do not have access to adequate relief from their duties and who lack knowledge of the aging process and their reactions to caregiving can suffer from emotional and physical exhaustion. In many situations, such exhaustion can lead to inadequate care, abuse or neglect of the senior and sometimes premature institutionalization.

Evidenced-based studies have reported that early intervention is the key to better outcomes for seniors requiring supportive services to remain in their community. A 2002 study reported in *The Gerontologist*, "Effects of a Community-Based Early Intervention Program on the Subjective Well-Being, Institutionalization, and Mortality of Low-Income Elders", "**those elders who received the intervention (case management) had significantly higher subjective well-being and were less likely to be institutionalized or die than those in a comparison group (remained on waiting lists for case management) across the 18-month period.**" The study states that the implications of the results are that they "make a strong case for the importance of community-based programs to the well-being of elders".

Monies earmarked by the legislature have not been released for these valuable services. An increase in the base budget for the Kupuna Care Programs is needed to offer stabilized funding and address the number of seniors on the waitlists.

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



NOEMI PENDLETON
DIRECTOR

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Senate Committees on Health/Human Services

S.B. 821, Relating to Elder Care Testimony of Noemi Pendleton Director of Executive Office on Aging Attached Agency to Department of Health

February 10, 2009

1:15 p.m. Conference Room 016

1 **Department's Position:** The Executive Office on Aging (EOA) is committed to Kupuna Care;
2 however, at this time EOA is not able to support this bill because of the state's declining economic
3 outlook and rising State budget deficit.

4 **Fiscal Implications:** There is an unspecified appropriation of general funds for State Fiscal Year
5 20010 and 2010 to the Department of Health for KUPUNA CARE services.

6 **Purpose and Justification:** The purpose of this Act is to effectuate the findings of the Joint
7 Legislative Committee on Aging In Place and to maintain the levels of KUPUNA CARE services
8 provided statewide in State Fiscal Year 2007 and 2008. The Executive Office on Aging (EOA)
9 supports the development of a plan to increase voluntary contributions, procedures to manage the
10 waitlist, and policies for applying a cash and counseling approach to service delivery. However,
11 EOA suggests a change in wording on Page 2, Section 2, Line 3 and 4 as follows: "The Executive
12 Office on Aging shall lead and work with the county offices on aging to develop:" to more clearly
13 outline our role. At this time, EOA regrets that it is unable to support any appropriation from

1 state general funds that is outside the Executive Biennium Budget, because of the state's declining
2 economic outlook and rising State budget deficit.

3 Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

4

5