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Palolo Chinese Home

Tuesday, February 8, 2011

Support for S.B. No. 210, Relating to Palolo Chinese Home

The Palolo Chinese Home (PCH) is a 501 (c) (3) not-for-profit organization. For more than a hundred years, PCH has been providing shelter and care to Hawaii's seniors. Its origins date back to 1896 and it is Hawaii's largest and second oldest Adult Residential Care Home (ARCH II – Expanded Care). PCH has 61 nursing home and 50 residential care beds; an adult day care program for 30 senior participants and an adult respite care program that provides short-term overnight stays for community seniors. PCH provides hospice care on its campus through partnerships with all hospice care providers in Hawaii. Also, PCH's innovative community-based Hawaii Neighborhood to the Aged (HiNOA) program provides services to assist elders who wish to remain in their homes and are in need of various support service such as physician home visits, home delivered meals and chore services

We strongly support S.B. #210, Relating to Palolo Chinese Home, which would provide a grant-in-aid to help the Home to renovate its facilities in order to expand its programs and services for seniors. Our Victoria Ward Hall, built in 1965, is in need of major repair and modernization. A similar request for funding support was made to the Hawaii State Legislature in 2008 and PCH was approved for a grant-in-aid for construction, expansion, and rebuilding. Unfortunately, funds were not released by the Governor and the grant-in-aid lapsed.

With the tremendous shortage of nursing home beds in Hawaii, Palolo Chinese Home has the opportunity to serve the community at a greater level by providing additional nursing and care home beds for seniors. PCH's master plan for its campus, seeks to help address these problems by renovating and expanding the Victoria Ward Hall.

We urge the committee to pass S.B. #210. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Darryl N. Ing

Chief Executive Officer