

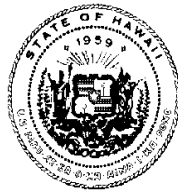
TESTIMONY BY WESLEY K. MACHIDA
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
STATE OF HAWAII
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 276, S.D. 1

March 2, 2015

RELATING TO ELDER AND VULNERABLE ADULTS

Senate Bill No. 276, S.D. 1, proposes to create a new chapter called Hawaii Kupuna Trust Fund to meet the outstanding and future needs of the elder and vulnerable adult population. The intent is to strengthen elderly and vulnerable adult care by the award of grants from the trust fund for the purposes which include, but is not limited to, prevention of elder abuse and neglect, prevention of financial exploitation and assistance of residents of elderly housing.

As a matter of general policy, the Department of Budget and Finance does not support the creation of any trust fund which does not meet the definition of a trust fund as defined by Section 37-62, HRS, and does not demonstrate the capacity to be financially self-sustaining. In regards to Senate Bill No. 276, S.D. 1, although the purpose of the bill is well-intentioned, it is difficult to determine whether the Kupuna Trust Fund meets the definition of a trust fund and will be self-sustaining.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

February 27, 2015

Memorandum

TO: The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Rachael Wong, DrPH, Director

SUBJECT: S.B. 276, S.D. 1 - RELATING TO ELDER AND VULNERABLE ADULTS

Hearing: Monday, March 02, 2015; 9:00 a.m.
Conference Room 211, State Capitol

PURPOSE: The purpose of this measure is to create the Hawaii Kupuna Trust Fund, which comprises public and private funding for meeting the outstanding and future needs of the elder and vulnerable adult population.

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: This bill proposes to create a mechanism by which funds will be made available for the prevention of abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation of elders and vulnerable adults, and to plan for the future care needs for this population. The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports the intent of the measure as long as its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in our Executive Budget. DHS will lend its support as a co-lead agency along with the Executive Office on Aging, and in selecting a department designee to serve as an advisory board member.

The DHS defers to the Department of Health regarding its administrative needs to execute the legislative intent of this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this bill.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII

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Testimony in OPPOSITION to SB 276 S.D. 1
Relating to Elders and Vulnerable Adults

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair

Senator Ronald D. Kouchi, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS (WAM)

Testimony of Terri Byers
Director, Executive Office on Aging
Attached Agency to the Department of Health

Hearing Date: March 2, 2015
9:00 a.m.

Room Number: CONF. ROOM 211

1 **EOA's Position:** The Executive Office on Aging (EOA), an attached agency to the Department
2 of Health is in opposition to this measure. The measure is well intended to provide for elders
3 and vulnerable adults by strengthening the service and supports intended for the elderly and
4 vulnerable adults through the award of grants by the Hawaii Kupuna trust fund. However, the
5 intent may be duplicative to the ongoing work of the Executive Office on Aging. Prevention of
6 elder abuse, financial exploitation, assistance to vulnerable adults with transportation and
7 housing concerns, are current issues being addressed by the Older Americans Act of 1965 and
8 our Kupuna Care program.

1 In the 2011 – 2015 State Plan on Aging, the Executive Office on Aging has 5 goals to support
2 older adults. Goal #5 is to ensure the rights of older people and prevent their abuse, neglect and
3 exploitation.

4 **Recommendation:** We respectfully request that support be diverted to the SB964 Related to
5 Aging so that the Executive Office on Aging can carry out its functions to support older adults in
6 Hawaii.

7 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

SB276

Submitted on: 2/27/2015

Testimony for WAM on Mar 2, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Norma Circle	Maui County Office on Aging	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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March 2, 2015

Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair

Re: **SB 276, SD 1, RELATING TO ELDER AND VULNERABLE ADULTS**

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kouchi, and members of the committee:

AARP is a membership organization of people fifty and over with nearly 148,000 members in Hawaii alone. AARP advocates for issues that matter to Hawaii families, including the high cost of long-term care; access to affordable, quality health care for all generations; providing the tools needed to save for retirement; and serving as a reliable information source on issues critical to people over the age of fifty.

AARP Hawaii supports SB 276, SD 1, Relating to Elder and Vulnerable Adults. This bill would create the kupuna trust fund, which comprises public and private funding for meeting the outstanding and future needs of the elder and vulnerable adult population.

Our support for this bill is based in part on the understanding that its purpose is to raise funds that can supplement the public funding of senior services. It does not create entirely new services. We would not support any efforts to take resources away from existing public funding of senior services, and we do not believe that is the intent of this bill.

We support the purpose of the trust fund to strengthen elderly and vulnerable adult care by the award of grants for purposes that include but are not limited to:

- The prevention of elder vulnerable adult abuse and neglect;
- The prevention of financial exploitation of the elderly and vulnerable adults;
- The prevention of injuries to the elderly and vulnerable adults that are caused by falling;
- The assistance of residents of elderly housing;
- The assistance of the elderly and vulnerable adults with transportation and mobility needs;
- The promotion of aging and disability resource centers; and
- The meeting of future needs of the elderly and vulnerable adults.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

SB276

Submitted on: 2/28/2015

Testimony for WAM on Mar 2, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Teresa Parsons	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Senators, I stand in STRONG SUPPORT of SB 276 SD1. It is appropriate to have this funding under the DoH as those who understand the needs of our kupuna are working in the DoH with families every day. We must honor our elders and this Bill is one way to ensure their care. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important Bill.

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SB276

Submitted on: 2/27/2015

Testimony for WAM on Mar 2, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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