POLICE DEPARTMENT

# CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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KIRK CALDWELL MAYOR



OUR REFERENCE ST-DA

LOUIS M. KEALOHA Chief

CARY OKIMOTO JERRY INOUYE DEPUTY CHIEFS

February 15, 2017

The Honorable Dee Morikawa, Chair and Members Committee on Human Services House of Representatives Hawaii State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street, Room 329 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Morikawa and Members:

SUBJECT: House Bill No. 432, Relating to the Elderly

I am Stason Tanaka, Captain of the Criminal Investigation Division of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD supports House Bill No. 432, Relating to the Elderly.

This bill appropriately provides an additional mechanism to protect the elderly against financial exploitation by a caregiver by making the penalty for anyone who violates this chapter a felony offense.

We believe this legislation will improve compliance among caregivers who are entrusted to care for the health, safety, and welfare of an elder. This bill will also provide better protection to the elderly and deter violations of the chapter.

The HPD urges you to support House Bill No. 432, Relating to the Elderly.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

APPROVED:

Cary Okimeto Acting Chief of Police

Sincerely,

Stason Tanaka, Captain Criminal Investigation Division

Serving and Protecting With Aloha

### National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE) Hawaii State Federation of Chapters e-mail: JMatsuo368@hawaii.rr.com

### LEGISLATIVE TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB432, RELATING TO THE ELDERLY Hearing, Wednesday, February 15, 2017, 9:00 a.m., Room 329

Rep. Dee Morikawa, Chair Rep. Chris Todd, Vice Chair and members of the Committee on Human Services

#### Aloha

The National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE), Hawaii State Federation of Chapters, testifies in support of HB 432 that would make financial exploitation of an elder by a caregiver a class felony.

We appreciate that this law would provide additional protection for the elderly against financial exploitation and deter individuals from taking advantage of elders.

Mahalo for your consideration of our testimony.

Respectfully

Joyce Matsuo 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President/Legislation

#### About NARFE

The National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE) is dedicated to protecting and enhancing the earned pay, retirement and health care benefits of federal employees, retirees and their survivors. Founded in 1921, NARFE's legacy spans more than 90 years – working tirelessly in support of our members before the Office of Personnel Management, members of Congress and the White House. The Hawaii State Federation of Chapters has 10 chapters that are located on Kauai, Hawaii, O'ahu and Maui.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 6, 2017 3:54 PM
То:	HUStestimony
Cc:	mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for HB432 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM*

### <u>HB432</u>

Submitted on: 2/6/2017 Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Tuesday, February 7, 2017 3:34 PM
То:	HUStestimony
Cc:	victor.ramos@mpd.net
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for HB432 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM*

### <u>HB432</u>

Submitted on: 2/7/2017 Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Victor K. Ramos	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Friday, February 10, 2017 2:08 AM
То:	HUStestimony
Cc:	mkhan@hawaiiantel.net
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB432 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

#### HB432

Submitted on: 2/10/2017 Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Leimomi Khan	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Support HB 432 that would make financial exploitation of an elder by a caregiver a class felony. I am an elder and hope to never have to experience financial exploitation by caregivers, family members, or others. Having said that, I am aware of elders who have been exploited, so fully support this proposed legislation.

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Friday, February 10, 2017 12:21 PM
То:	HUStestimony
Cc:	dylanarm@hawaii.edu
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for HB432 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM*

### <u>HB432</u>

Submitted on: 2/10/2017 Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Dylan P. Armstrong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 13, 2017 7:14 AM
То:	HUStestimony
Cc:	tampaltin@gmail.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for HB432 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM*

### <u>HB432</u>

Submitted on: 2/13/2017 Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Tamara Paltin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Sunday, February 12, 2017 10:24 PM
То:	HUStestimony
Cc:	kaisakamoto@hawaii.rr.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB432 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM

#### HB432

Submitted on: 2/12/2017 Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Lynnette Sakamoto	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES, Rep Dee Morikawa, Chair, Rep Chris Todd, Vice Chair, Re HB432, hearing on 2/15/2017 at 9:00 am. My name is Lynnette Sakamoto, and I have been a caregiver to my parents for almost 16 years. I am very careful to keep records of expenses etc paid with their funds, but I have heard horror stories of caregivers depleting accounts of folks they are caring for. I feel very strongly that there should be laws protecting this very vulnerable group. I hope you will pass HB432, as I believe it will serve as a strong deterrent to folks in a position to take advantage of those being cared for. Mahalo for your consideration.

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov		
Sent:	Monday, February 13, 2017 8:20 PM		
То:	HUStestimony		
Cc:	marseel@aol.com		
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB432 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM		

#### HB432

Submitted on: 2/13/2017 Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Marilyn Seely	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Testimony for HB 432 Hawaii State Legislature, 2017 February 15, 2017 9:00 am Committee on Human Services Regarding Elder Abuse From: Marilyn R Seely Chairs Morikawa and Todd and members of the committee I am in strong support of this measure which makes elder abuse A felony. This is in my opinion long overdue and will help deter those who exploit vulnerable elders financially. Stealing from those who can least afford to lose hard earned savings and income is deplorable and deserves special penalities. Thank you for your consideration of this request. Marilyn Seely, Kaneohe, Hawaii marseel@aol,com

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov   Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2017 7:01 AM		LATE
To: Cc: Subject:	HUStestimony rkailianu57@gmail.com *Submitted testimony for HB432 on Feb 15, 2017 09:00A	M*

#### <u>HB432</u>

Submitted on: 2/15/2017 Testimony for HUS on Feb 15, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Rachel L. Kailianu	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

To: Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair Representative Chris Todd, Vice Chair Members of the Committee on Human Services

From: Jamie Rodrigues

Hearing:Representative Committee On Human ServicesWednesday, February 15, 20179:00 a.m. in Conference Room. 329

#### Testimony in opposition of HB 432, Relating To The Elderly

My name is Jamie Rodrigues and I oppose this measure. Adult Protective Services exist for the intervention of elder abuse but many whom have been exploited financially or manipulated of assets are often overlooked or unattended too. The process of prosecution for exploiters are vague and lengthy. By defining the act as a criminal offense, caretakers may think twice before committing the act, however, simply detailing the offense as a felony will not prevent these occurrences from happening.

In California, financial exploitation is punishable by a fine of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) and imprisonment in a county jail for one year, or in the state prison for two, three, or four years, when the value exceeds nine hundred fifty dollars (\$950); and by a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars (\$1,000), by imprisonment in a county jail for one year, when the property taken is of a value not exceeding nine hundred fifty dollars (\$950). (California Penal Code Section 368). I am afraid these consequences do not suffice for the amount of pain and suffering that is brought upon the elder. These types of fines and imprisonment does not replenish the asset or money that has been removed from the elder's care. Innovative measures of restorative justice may help Hawaii to prevent our already overcrowded jails from continuing to be inundated with non-violent offenders. I'm encouraging the State to find a better way to

hold financial exploiters accountable that includes services to be rendered to those whom have been affected. I would like to encourage this committee to consider other options to holding people accountable for their crimes besides criminalizing citizens. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in opposing HB 432.

Once again, I urge your support of this bill. If you have any questions, please contact Jamie Rodrigues at 808-368-2462 or by email at Jamiear@hawaii.edu.