JOSH GREEN, M.D. GOVERNOR KE KIA'ĀINA



CATHY BETTS DIRECTOR KA LUNA HO'OKELE

JOSEPH CAMPOS II DEPUTY DIRECTOR KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

STATE OF HAWAII KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAI'I DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES KA 'OIHANA MĀLAMA LAWELAWE KANAKA Office of the Director P. O. Box 339 Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

February 23, 2023

TO: The Honorable Representative Kyle T. Yamashita, Chair House Committee on Finance

FROM: Cathy Betts, Director

SUBJECT: HB 222 HD2 – RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES.

Hearing:February 24, 2023, 11:30 a.m.Conference Room 308 & Via Videoconferencing, State Capitol

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) provides

comments on this measure and appreciates the amendments by the House Committees on Human Services and Health and Homelessness. DHS respectfully requests that any appropriation not replace or reduce priorities identified in the executive budget and Governor's Messages.

PURPOSE: This bill adjusts the method by which the department of human services shall calculate payments to providers of medical care and long-term supports and services. Appropriates funds. Effective 6/30/3000. (HD2)

The HD2 amended the measure by:

- (1) Adding a preamble;
- (2) Clarifying that the methodology used by DHS in calculating each biennial budget medical care appropriation request includes payments to health maintenance organizations and prepaid health plans;
- (3) Clarifying that the annual report to the Legislature by DHS is to be submitted when the Department reviews rates without Medicare comparisons;
- (4) Defecting the date; and

(5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

DHS appreciates the intent to clarify and adjust the Medicaid fee schedule and to determine rates for non-institutional long-term supports and services. DHS conferred with Representative Hashimoto on a similar bill HB 1438. Rates that do not have Medicare rates for equivalent services, such as all home and community-based waiver services, are to be reviewed and determined by DHS at least every five years.

An example of such a review is MQD's December 2022 Home and Community Based Rate study for community care foster family homes (CCFFH), Expanded Adult Residential Care Homes, in-home services, and case management services, reported in "Senate Resolution 4: Requesting The Department Of Human Services To Study The Feasibility Of Increasing The Medicaid Reimbursement Rates For Community Care Foster Family Homes, Expanded Adult Residential Care Homes, And Other Types Of Home And Community Based Service Care Providers And Services." (SR4 2022)

If this measure were in effect, then this report would meet the proposed amendment of section 346-59(e), Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), (pages 9, lines 3-10) "......The director shall submit a report to the legislature on or before January 1 of each year <u>when the department</u> <u>reviews rates without medicare comparisons</u>, indicating an estimate of the amount of money required to be appropriated to pay providers [at the maximum rates permitted by federal and state rules in the upcoming fiscal year.] according to the rates determined by the department without medicare comparisons pursuant to subsection (c)."

The appropriation in Section 3 references funding any costs that may arise while the DHS establishes payment rates pursuant to section 346-59(c), HRS. If this appropriation were to include payment rates DHS recommended based on reviews that have already been completed, the SR4 2022 report includes three scenarios (low, medium, and high) to consider rate increases for home and community-based services (HCBS). The table below includes all three scenarios with the estimated general funds (in millions) highlighted:

Scenarios	Lo	W	Med	ium	Hig	h
SERVICE CATEGORY	Estimated Payment Change	Estimated General Fund	Estimated Payment Change	Estimated General Fund	Estimated Payment Change	Estimated General Fund
Residential services	\$13.50	<mark>\$5.59</mark>	\$27.90	<mark>\$11.56</mark>	\$30.10	<mark>\$12.47</mark>
In-home services	\$23.80	<mark>\$9.86</mark>	\$34.70	<mark>\$14.38</mark>	\$40.40	<mark>\$16.74</mark>
Case management						
services	\$0.50	<mark>\$0.21</mark>	\$1.30	<mark>\$0.54</mark>	\$2.30	<mark>\$0.95</mark>
Total Rate Study						
Services	\$37.90	<mark>\$15.71</mark>	\$64.00	<mark>\$26.52</mark>	\$72.90	<mark>\$30.21</mark>

Estimated Modeled Comparison Rate Impact (in millions)

We note that for the increase to be ongoing, the appropriations will need to be added to the HMS 401 base budget in the executive budget bill. Conversely, if this appropriation is via this measure, the increase will only apply in state fiscal years 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 and will not be ongoing, which would necessitate future budget requests.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this measure.



1001 Bishop Street | Suite 625 | Honolulu, HI 96813-2830 1-866-295-7282 | Fax: 808-536-2882 aarp.org/hi | <u>aarphi@aarp.org</u> | twitter.com/AARPHawaii facebook.com/AARPHawaii

The State Legislature House Committee on Finance Friday, February 24, 2023 Conference Room 308, 11:30 a.m.

TO: The Honorable Kyle Yamashita, Chair

RE: Support for H.B. 222 HD2 Relating to Human Services

Aloha Chair Yamashita and Members of the Committee:

My name is Keali'i Lopez and I am the State Director for AARP Hawai'i. AARP is a nonpartisan, social mission organization that advocates for individuals age 50 and older. We have a membership of nearly 38 million nationwide and nearly 140,000 in Hawaii. We advocate at the state and federal level for the issues that matter most to older adults and their families.

AARP supports H.B. 222 HD2 which adjusts the method by which the department of human services shall calculate payments to providers of medical care and long-term supports and services.

AARP appreciates the inclusion of long term care support and service providers who care for many kupuna needing assistance whether in an institutional setting or in their home which is their preference. In a 2021 quantitative research study among Hawai'i residents age 45 and older, an overwhelming number of individuals expressed a desire to remain in their homes and community as they age. 83% of those surveyed said that it is extremely or very important for them to stay in their home as they get older, and 75% said it was important to have affordable long-term care options in their community. Nearly two-thirds (65%) of Hawai'i residents age 45+ are extremely or very concerned about being able to age in place.¹

AARP feels strongly that Hawaii should expand funding for a wide range of home and community based services (HCBS) through Medicaid, and that state should fund the services needed to meet individuals' long term care services and support needs and allow them to remain in the community. Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify in strong support **H.B. 222 HD2.**

Sincerely,

Keali'i S. López, State Director

¹AARP VITAL VOICES: Issues That Impact Hawai'i Adults Age 45 and Older, October 2021

<u>HB-222-HD-2</u> Submitted on: 2/22/2023 7:12:42 PM Testimony for FIN on 2/24/2023 11:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carina Ocampo	United Caregivers of Hawaii	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Legislators/Finance Committee,

Due to the inflation of all costs of commodities, it is just reasonable enough for the caregivers' pay to be increased. We the caregivers spend 24/7 trying our best to provide the best quality care to our kupuna. We use our own homes as we serve them and regard them as members of our family. In this connection we incur expenses like utilities, mortgages, foods, substitutes' wages, license fees and other related expenses in the operation of the business.We deserve to have our pay be increased.

I strongly support HB222 HD2

Sincerely,

Carina Ocampo, President

United Caregivers of Hawaii

<u>HB-222-HD-2</u>

Submitted on: 2/22/2023 10:22:19 PM Testimony for FIN on 2/24/2023 11:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maria Corazon E. Cariaga	Big Island Adult foster home operators	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

On behalf of the Big Island Adult Foster Home Operators I strongly support the HB222 due to the high cost of living in our State'. And the cost of taking care of these needy populations whom we're sheltering in our own residences.

Caregiving industry should be prioritized in increasing the reimbursement for the care they're providing for the needy population to convince more younger caregivers to open up their homes for care/foster homes. Because our program is the most alternative cheaper means of nursing homes. Thank you so much for allowing me to submit my testimony.

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HB222, HD2

Chair Kyle Yamashita, Vice Chair Lisa Kitagawa and Members of the Committees:

We, the Presidents of the five Associations of Community Care Foster Family Homes (CCFFH's) in the State of Hawaii representing nearly **85%** of the community caregiver industry, which are under Adult Foster Homecare Association of Hawai'i (AFHA of HI), United Caregivers of Hawai'i (UCH), Community Homecare Association Of Hawai'i (CHCAH), Alliance of Professional Primary Care Administrators (APPCA) and Providers Helping Hands of Hawaii (PH3), humbly requests your support to increase the reimbursement rates for CCFFH's in the State. Reimbursements to CCFFH in Hawai'i have not increased since 2008, fourteen (14) years ago. Meanwhile, we provide 24/7 care 365 days a year for a flat- rate, which calculates to **\$1.71** per hour - no overtime, no benefits -just **\$1.71/hr** for 24-hour care.

While we have had no increase in reimbursement rates, our costs have escalated. It's just so difficult financially, especially with the cost of housing and living in Hawaii as it is one of the highest in the nation. Caregivers must pay their mortgage for their homes, medical insurance, not to mention electricity, water, and sewer costs that residents use; property taxes, general excise taxes, and income taxes; food, and kitchen, bathroom, and laundry supplies consumed by residents; the cars and gasoline used to bring their clients to the doctor; the insurance they are required to carry; any entertainment they are expected to provide their residents. We help our residents preserve their dignity **giving** them the feeling that they still belong in the community.

Even through the worst pandemic in the history, CCFFH's maintained high standards with very few cases of COVID transmission and deaths. All this for \$1.71 per hour, or \$1231.80 per month, which was just increase to \$1324.80 per month equivalent to \$1.84 per hour starting last January 1, 2023 but with the current inflation rate, It is not enough. We request an increase in accordance to the Milliman Study which was submitted to DHS/Med-Quest Division last December 30,2022. It's time for us to show some Aloha for our CCFFH's, most of whom are immigrants.

One thing is for sure. We save the State of Hawai'i a lot of money providing our services at these rates. The system would breakdown without the CCFFH program, which has over 3,500 beds. Private facilities, whose main objective is to get private as opposed to Medicaid clients, would be unable to handle the additional capacity. It's time for the State of Hawai'i to do what's right— support us so we can continue to take care of the elderly and disabled.

On behalf of the Presidents and organizations of this coalition we thank you for the opportunity to provide our testimony in support of HB222, HD2.

Atto

Maribel B. Tan President AFHA of HI

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Carina Ocampo President UCH

Lemmy Mabut President CHCAH

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President

APPCA

Darchie Dawag

Menchie Dawang President PH3

<u>HB-222-HD-2</u> Submitted on: 2/23/2023 10:39:08 AM Testimony for FIN on 2/24/2023 11:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
mari angelene d. maluyo	Adult Foster Homecare Association of Hawaii	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear legislator,

My name is Alton Miyamoto and I strongly support HB222 HD2 I which adjusts the method by which the Dept. of Human Services shall calculate payments to providers of medical care and long term supports and services and appropriate funds.

I've seen many written testimonies submitted to your committees because there has been on increase for over 14 yrs. and current payment is only 44.16/day. The caregivers do a 24/7 job and lovingly care of our kupunas. Therefore, I will not repeat the obvious justifications for approval of this bill. However.I would like to take the a step back and look at abroader perspective in relation to Hawii's and the nations priorities.

We have witnessed the legislators understanding of the difficult time workers are having with the high inflation due to, in part, to the pandemic. THe result is the increase of the minimum wage for many workers to \$12/hr increase to \$18/hr in 2028. How does that compare to a caregiver working and responsible for our kupuna 24/7 getting only \$44.16/day which computes to only \$1.84/hr. If we were to assume they are getting the minimum wage that means they can spend only \$3.68/hrs. with an individual kupuna to bath them, cook and feed them, take them to the bathroom, exercise them, bring them to their doctor, entertain them and everything else. We can all agree that this is impossible to do those tasks in the alloted time, besides the point that these caregivers will spend whatever time it takes to lovingly care of each kupuna. The amount other facilities receive for similar care proves the point that the caregivers covered under this bill is inadequately compensated. Who are they serving? The kupunas that we all said is a high priority.

Thank you allowing me to testify in support of this bill.

Thank you for supporting HB222, HD2.

Alton Miyamoto

PO Box 746 Waimea, Hi.96796

(808)639-0009

TESTIMONY ON HB222 HD2 IN SUPPORT

The Community-based care homes are a vital part of the State's long-term health care continuum that provide round-the-clock care to over twelve thousand patients, many of whom are Medicaid patients. If only large hospitals and large nursing centers receive Medicaid reimbursement equal to the Medicare reimbursement rate, this would cause a substantial reduction of the number of community-based care homes in the State and will lead to a significant number of patients transferring from these care homes to large nursing centers and hospitals, which would not be able to accept the thousands of new patients. The legislature therefore finds it is vital to ensure support, with fair pay, to licensed community-based caregivers, including but not limited to community care foster homes, type-I adult residential care homes, expanded adult residential care homes, and developmentally disabled domiciliary homes.

The community caregivers, providing essential long-term healthcare services to thousands of Kupuna and disabled. We the undersigned (Caregivers, Client's Family, Family Members and Friends) respectfully request that you pass this bill and ensure a fair pay increase of our caregivers.

We thank you for allowing us the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB222, HD2.

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Luisa Fortuna	1942 Kealakai ST. Anl. th. 9687 91922 Kaupu H. Wampu G. 707	868-456-3052	Juisa Jarfu
Cristina Apis	94220 Kaupu M. Waipahu, 96717	808-506-9768	Oristniker
ROMA ROBLES	94-208 WAIRANO ST. UNAIRATO 96797		
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HEGOR CABANTOG	94-058 AWAMOKY ST. WAIPAHU, MI. 96797	808-469-5657	1/m.C
Elijah Rivera	98-184 Pahemo St. Alea, HI 96701	808-178- 2546	appr 4
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COMMUNITY HOME CARE ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII P.O. Box 971450, Waipahu HI 96797

February 23, 2023

To: Chair Kyle Yamashita, Vice Chair Lisa Kitagawa and Members of the Committees:

From: Lemmy Mabuti, President of the Community Home Care Association

Subject: HB 222, HD2 – RELATING TO CCFFH

Hearing: Friday 23, 2023, 11:30 a.m. Conference Room #308, State Capitol

TESTIMONY: STRONGLY IN SUPPORT – HB 222, HD2

On behalf of the Community Home Care Association, strongly support HB-222, HD2. We provide 24/7 care 365 days a year for a flat-rate I've also learned and convinced that, with the work we provide for our elderly I truly believed that we are NOT gone up a single cent, yet we are asked to pay fees such as Medicaid provider's registration fee. In addition to fees, we also pay for fingerprint, APS/CAN, eCrim including adult flousehold members every two years, CPR/First Aid, In-service training for 12 hours every year, and most of all we pay our Health Insurance. Please note, we are only getting compensated \$41.06 per day (\$1.71 hourly) for a level 2 client.

The skyrocketing costs of providing care to the elderly and disabled make it nearly impossible to operate. Caregivers must pay their mortgage for their homes, most of which is used by the residents. Caregiver must also pay for utilities, food, laundry supplies consumed by residents; gasoline used to bring residents to the doctors' appointments. How do you stretch \$1.71 per hour for all these costs and still make a living?

It takes a great deal of commitment, dedication, patience, and love of the job to be able to keep working 24/7 in caring for our clients. Duties are included but not limited to tending to client for safety ensuring medications are taken or administered every day, preparing and cooking their foods 3meals a day including spoon-fed to our clients, assistance in and out of bed to wheelchair and going to the bathroom, changing their diapers, bathing, linen change, maintaining cleanliness to their rooms, recording, and maintaining all pertinent medical record and files.

Again, all these duties for \$41.06 per day and to think about it that this amount are not enough compared to a nursing home rate. This rate has been for a decade now. (14 years)

I humbly ask to all authorities to grant our request.

Very truly yours,

Lemmy Maluyo-Mabuti, president Community Home Care Association

Submitted on: 2/22/2023 12:23:29 PM Testimony for FIN on 2/24/2023 11:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Myungsuk	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please helping us . Now all over and Over economic, we can't Survive. The economic prices have gone up too much. Prices have gone up 3-5 times higher then 10 years ago, but our pension remains the same. Please review it.

Submitted on: 2/22/2023 8:15:34 PM Testimony for FIN on 2/24/2023 11:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Grace Jadulang	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support 100% for this bill, caregivers deserved an increase, we work hard 24/7. Comparing to big facilities that take care seniors with disability, medical health issues, facilities like life care, they pay their services more than care home, foster home, we take our clients same like the facilities, so we should have an increase.

HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Rep. Kyle T. Yamashita, Chair Rep. Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair Hearing Date: Friday, February 24, 2023, 11:30 am

Re: <u>HB 222, HD2</u> - RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES

Aloha Chair Yamashita and Committee Members.

My name is Linda Dorset, a resident of Wailuku, Maui. I thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony regarding the above referenced legislation. I strongly support HB222 which will ensure the achievement of fair and full funding of medicaid medical care and longterm supports and services providers.

In a 2021 study among Hawai'i residents age 45 and older, an overwhelming number of individuals expressed a desire to remain in their homes and community as they age. Apparently the majority of the Medicaid budget is currently for payments to HMOs and prepaid health plans and not for adult foster care homes. Since I see that many foster care caregivers have testified that they have not received a pay increase in over 14 years and are having difficulty continuing to provide care, I feel this is in direct negligence to the needs of our seniors.

Hawaii should expand funding for a wide range of home and community based services (HCBS) through Medicaid, and that state should fund the services needed to meet individuals' long term care services and support needs and allow seniors to remain in the community.

Linda Dorset Wailuku Resident

Submitted on: 2/23/2023 4:53:50 PM Testimony for FIN on 2/24/2023 11:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
tyler green	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Community-based care homes are a vital part of the State's long-term health care continuum that provide round-the-clock care to over twelve thousand patients, many of whom are Medicaid patients. If only large hospitals and large nursing centers receive Medicaid reimbursement equal to the Medicare reimbursement rate, this would cause a substantial reduction of the number of community-based care homes in the State and will lead to a significant number of patients transferring from these care homes to large nursing centers and hospitals, which would not be able to accept the thousands of new patients. The legislature therefore finds it is vital to ensure support, with fair pay, to licensed community-based caregivers, including but not limited to community care foster homes, type-I adult residential care homes, expanded adult residential care homes.

We are the community caregivers, providing essential long-term healthcare services to thousands of Kupuna and disabled. We respectfully request that you pass this bill and ensure a fair pay increase of our caregivers.

We thank you for allowing us the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB222, HD2.

Caring Hand's Foster Home, Mila D Pasamonte & Tyler K Green

Submitted on: 2/23/2023 7:23:51 PM Testimony for FIN on 2/24/2023 11:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Norma Subia Tagatac	Norma Tagatac Adult Foster Home	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

i support this bill because it is important for our providers to be compensated highest amount in the medical services provided and reimbursements for long term - supports and services. Cost of living in hawaii is very high therefor, every provider needs to received higher reimbursements. LATE *Testimony submitted late may not be considered by the Committee for decision making purposes.

<u>HB-222-HD-2</u>

Submitted on: 2/23/2023 8:32:54 PM Testimony for FIN on 2/24/2023 11:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
rufelia s tomas	Community Care Family Foster Home	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB222 HD2 bill.

ADULT FOSTER HOMECARE

ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII

P.O. Box 970092, Waipahu, Hawai'i 96797

Feb. 24, 2023

Testimony in Strong Support of HB222 HD2-FIN - 2/24/23, 11:30 a.m., Rm. 308 (In Person)

Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and Members of the Committee:

The Adult Foster Homecare Association of Hawaii (AFHA) **strongly supports HB222 HD1**, which adjusts the method by which the department of human services shall calculate payments to providers of medical care and long-term supports and services.

Community care foster family homes (CCFFHs), which supplies over 2,000 beds statewide to elderly and disabled Hawai'i residents, have not seen any increase in reimbursement for over 14 years. We've borne the brunt of inflation and other cost increases. 14 years – we are at a loss for words.

We applaud the state for commissioning the Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Rate Study Report by Milliman last year. Finally, someone has validated what we have been saying for the last 14 years. For years, it's as if no one has taken us seriously, taking us for granted. Finally, someone is recognizing our plight as an industry and the challenges we face.

Based on the Milliman Report, the Department of Human Services, Med-Quest Division (Med-Quest) concluded: "It is also important to focus on HCBS providers who serve groups with high utilization of services and who have gone the longest without a rate update such as case management agencies, **community care foster family homes**, and adult day health and day care centers." (Emphasis added.)

Ironically, the recognition of our hardship comes from an outside consultant from out-of-state. Perhaps a broader national perspective accentuates how far behind CCFFHs lag behind and how we are undervalued. We emphatically join Med-Quest in their observation that it is time "to revise how providers of long-term care are reimbursed to better meet current and future needs." Now is the time!

We were already the lowest paid in the nation – below even the "low" end of the spectrum according to Milliman. Inflation, which spiraled out-of-control, has exacerbated the challenges.

About AFHA

The Adult Foster Home Association of Hawaii (AFHA) is the industry trade association of providers under the Community Care Foster Family Home program under the Department of Human Services, State of Hawaii. With a membership of almost 1,000 providers, AFHA's mission is to promote the interests of providers as well as resident clients. AFHA members provide 24-hour care to resident clients 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

Our industry is one in which the younger generation in our country have little interest. Rarely does a young person today have ambitions to become a CCFFH or to open a care home. We need to set a solid foundation for the future.

With our aging population and as "patient preferences have shifted away from institutional settings to home- and community-based" settings, this is an issue that will potentially lead to a crisis in the future. We implore you to support this measure for the future of Hawaii.

Please SUPPORT HB 222 HD1.

Very truly yours,

Maribel Tan

President

About AFHA

The Adult Foster Home Association of Hawaii (AFHA) is the industry trade association of providers under the Community Care Foster Family Home program under the Department of Human Services, State of Hawaii. With a membership of almost 1,000 providers, AFHA's mission is to promote the interests of providers as well as resident clients. AFHA members provide 24-hour care to resident clients 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

Submitted on: 2/23/2023 11:11:26 PM Testimony for FIN on 2/24/2023 11:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Inam Rahman	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

HB222

Aloha!

My name is Inam Ikeda Rahman Perreira. I am a medical doctor with a private practice in Honolulu for 30 years.

I am submitting my testimony in support of HB 222 which will allow Department of Human Services to adjust Hawaii Medicaid fee schedule equal to Medicare fee schedule

I believe passage of this bill is important as it will eventually help our elderly, poor and vulnerable communities, healthcare businesses as well as State.

We have growing elderly population in Hawaii which require more Adult-care homes and Foster-care home services to take care of them properly. Unfortunately there is a shortage of these services due to many Adult-care and Foster care Homes being closed and not enough new ones opening to meet the demand.

Foster-care homes and Adult-care homes are not able to sustain their businesses due to underpayment by the State.

I believe that increasing the Medicaid payment equal to medicare will not only benefit our elderly, poor and vulnerable community but also help the businesses from closing down to provide essential services to our elderly

Additionally, it will benefit State to save million of dollars not forcing it to find very expensive alternate entities to take care of our elderly. The cost of alternate will be much to State.

The same scenario applies to all health care providers including physicians, Nurse practitioners, psychologists and others which are in very much shortage and many are not willing to take medicaid patients due to

Low payments.

I respectfully submit that this bill should be approved for the benefit of our community, State tax payers

Respectfully,

Inam Ikeda Rahman Perreira MD

Aloha,

Care Home caregivers across the state of Hawaii need your support to help pass a bill that will increase the pay for providers of Medicaid recipients. Currently, caregivers are getting paid \$41.06 a day for the past 14 years. This roughly translates to \$2.00/hr for a 24/7 workload with no pay rate increase adjusted for inflation. Care home caregivers also do not have vacation, sick pay or respite care. In order to take a day off, caregivers need to find their own alternate or substitute caregivers at a minimum wage of \$15/ hr which is more than what the state is paying them. Caregivers also do not have access to health insurance, retirement plan or disability benefits. These had prompted a lot of care home operators to close their doors to Medicaid patients and either abandon their business completely or turn their business into private pay patients only. With the upcoming influx of retirees with no retirement account or significant assets but needing 24/7 care, a lot of our kupunas and their families will be faced with having to compete for an open Medicaid bed or pay out of pocket. Private pay can be upwards of \$4k to 8k/ month and this is not affordable to most families in Hawaii. We cannot afford for another Medicaid care home to close as more and more Medicaid patients are being held in hospitals and are unable to be discharged to the community for lack of "beds". Let's help our community hospitals open up much needed in-patient beds for the acutely sick, infirmed or trauma patients. Let's bring our stable "kupunas" and stable "ohanas" not needing acute care back to the community and into a loving care home. LET'S KEEP OUR COMMUNITY CARE HOMES OPEN. HELP US IN OUR PETITION TO PASS THIS BILL.

Mahalo!

Sheillamari Prepuse, RN

86-218 Leihoku St. Waianae HI 96792 info@eolacarehome.com

Submitted on: 2/23/2023 11:57:33 PM Testimony for FIN on 2/24/2023 11:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marylo Farinas	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I honestly wish to be there personally to support HB222 D2 however because not only I cannot afford to pay a SCG but also NO SCG is available to watch my client who are bedbound and wheelchair bound. Our current pay for a Medicaid level 2 client is \$44.16/day \$1.84/hour, and if I were to pay a SCG that would cost me \$20.00 hourly. Very difficult to survive and keep our CCFFH open. We bathe, cook, feed, toileting, bring them to doctors, brush their teeth, and many more. Most of the time we give up our social life, put ourselves last because we want to take care our client first. I strongly believed that HB222 D2 has been long overdue, that may I ask the committee to please push forward HB222 D2 to the next level.

I STRONGLY SUPPORT HB222 D2! Thank you.

Submitted on: 2/24/2023 2:42:31 AM Testimony for FIN on 2/24/2023 11:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ruthie Agbayani	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in strong support of HB222 HD2.

Submitted on: 2/24/2023 6:57:45 AM Testimony for FIN on 2/24/2023 11:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mayrose Abadilla	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony for HB222, HD2

Date: 02/24/2023

I strongly support the Pay Increase for Community Care Family Foster Home due to the following reasons:

- Hospitals, Nursing Facilities are having a hard time finding a placement for Medicaid clients due their challenging behavioral issues and declining health status that requires 2 persons assist.
- Government will spend more money for Medicaid clients who stay at the hospital for a longer period because hospitals are unable to find a proper placement for them.
- Primary Caregivers are having a hard time looking for a Secondary Caregivers due to their high demand of higher pay per hour and most of the time, Primary Caregivers has no choice but to agree with their price just to get the help they need to provide the best care for their clients.
- Expenses Daily are becoming more expensive and it is the client's right from My Choice My Way to request the foods, drinks etc that they want as long as it goes within their diet.
- Primary Caregivers are becoming more wiser by choosing an easy client to be in their place because of the low and same rate like the rest of the Medicaid clients.
- Community Care Family Foster Home are in demand for Medicaid clients which the government should think about the rational amount of pay.

Mayrose Abadilla, CNA/ CCFFH Operator

808 778 4730

Mnm8684@gmail.com

Submitted on: 2/24/2023 7:04:01 AM Testimony for FIN on 2/24/2023 11:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Magdalena Duldulao	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony for HB222, HD2

Date: 02/24/2023

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- Community Care Family Foster Home are in demand for Medicaid clients which the government should think about the rational amount of pay.

Magdalena Duldulao, CNA/CCFFH Operator

808 391 5092

Mitchingz808@gmail.com

Submitted on: 2/24/2023 7:08:55 AM Testimony for FIN on 2/24/2023 11:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
maricel napoles	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony for HB222, HD2

Date: 02/24/2023

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- Community Care Family Foster Home are in demand for Medicaid clients which the government should think about the rational amount of pay.

Maricel Napoles, CAN/CCFFH Operator

808 797 7988

Mnapoles81@gmail.com

Submitted on: 2/24/2023 7:13:31 AM Testimony for FIN on 2/24/2023 11:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jonalyn Robles	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony for HB222, HD2

Date: 02/24/2023

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- Expenses Daily are becoming more expensive and it is the client's right from My Choice My Way to request the foods, drinks etc that they want as long as it goes within their diet.
- Primary Caregivers are becoming more wiser by choosing an easy client to be in their place because of the low and same rate like the rest of the Medicaid clients.
- Community Care Family Foster Home are in demand for Medicaid clients which the government should think about the rational amount of pay.

Jonalyn Robles, NA/CCFFH Operator

808 277 6422

Jonalyn.robles12@gmail.com

Submitted on: 2/24/2023 7:19:05 AM Testimony for FIN on 2/24/2023 11:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maricor Malvar	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony for HB222, HD2

Date: 02/24/2023

I strongly support the Pay Increase for Community Care Family Foster Home due to the following reasons:

- Hospitals, Nursing Facilities are having a hard time finding a placement for Medicaid clients due their challenging behavioral issues and declining health status that requires 2 persons assist.
- Government will spend more money for Medicaid clients who stay at the hospital for a longer period because hospitals are unable to find a proper placement for them.
- Primary Caregivers are having a hard time looking for a Secondary Caregivers due to their high demand of higher pay per hour and most of the time, Primary Caregivers has no choice but to agree with their price just to get the help they need to provide the best care for their clients.
- Expenses Daily are becoming more expensive and it is the client's right from My Choice My Way to request the foods, drinks etc that they want as long as it goes within their diet.
- Primary Caregivers are becoming more wiser by choosing an easy client to be in their place because of the low and same rate like the rest of the Medicaid clients.
- Community Care Family Foster Home are in demand for Medicaid clients which the government should think about the rational amount of pay.

Maricor Malvar, CAN/CCFFH Operator

808 388 2831

ronaldpalting@yahoo.com

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02-23.23

Hawaii State Capitol House Committee on Finance Kyle Yamashita - Chair Hse Diskick 12 - Fox \$08 - 586 - 6331 Hsa Kitagawa-Vchair Hse District 48 - F9 808 - 586 - 8544 John Mizupo - chair Hse District 29 - tot \$08 - 586 - 6051

SIR/ MAM,

We CEFFH Operators / Caregivers Strongly Support the HB 322 Bins. We commend the consulter in these House Bills that engrowers CEFFH caregivers take pride off what we do with bur Hupunae, in working own own small facilities with so much Aloka. We are begezing to ask of we described to have raise pay commensurate own 24/7 pervices of bandwork equivalent to nome level off work in the bealts care go system. Your tonow, may these Testimonies be granted and touch you hearts he may we continue returned 24/7.

Thank you I may such pleased us All ..

Note: see attached Name of Carriginans in festimony ×

By: Oppen Bernaditi Firme (UCH Treasurer)

Submitted on: 2/24/2023 9:31:45 AM Testimony for FIN on 2/24/2023 11:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cherille Balagat	Afha	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

First of all, i want to say thank you for to all the board ,for giving time to review this bill. I,m one of a caregiver who taking care difficult patients and un expected behavior happens at time, we don't have help/support like those who stayed at nursing homes but we manage to handle. But the problem is our pay is way lower than those in the nursing home. Some caregivers suffer depression , anxiety and lost there good quality of life and we do our job 24/7 just to give the best care for our patient. Please , im begging all the board to pass this bill, so that way we can past this business to next generation. Thank you and God Bless you all.

Submitted on: 2/24/2023 10:27:29 AM Testimony for FIN on 2/24/2023 11:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carina Ocampo	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

House Committee on Finance,

On behalf of our caregiver members and our families, we humbly urge this committee to support and pass this measure because it is long overdue. There has not been a viable pay increase in our healthcare industry in over 20 years. Even with the combination of state and federal funds for Medicare and Medicaid in long term care services, caregivers and underpaid, delayed paid, and many times not paid.

Sincerely,

Carina Ocampo