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Testimony in SUPPORT of SB 1372, SD1
Relating to the Executive Office on Aging

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
SENATOR KARL RHOADS, CHAIR
SENATOR MIKE GABBARD, VICE CHAIR

Testimony of Caroline Cadirao
Director, Executive Office on Aging
Attached Agency to the Department of Health

Hearing Date: March 1, 2023
9:30 AM

Room Number: 016
Via Videoconference

EOA's Position: The Executive Office on Aging (EOA), an attached agency to the Department of Health, strongly supports the SB1372, SD1, Relating to the Executive Office on Aging Kupuna Care Program.

Purpose and Justification: The purpose of this bill is to clarify the definitions of "caregiver support services", "kupuna care services", and "respite care" in section 349-16 HRS.

In 2022, Act 160 combined the Kupuna Care and Kupuna Caregiver programs. Currently, as written, the definitions for "caregiver support services" and "respite care" only apply to employed caregivers. This measure will allow for all caregivers (employed and not employed) to receive caregiver support services and respite care. Additionally, the definition for "Kupuna care services" will be amended to be available to all care recipients, caregivers and employed caregivers.

Fiscal Implications: This measure does not request an appropriation.

Recommendation: EOA is in strong support of this administrative bill. If this bill does not pass, care recipients and their non-employed caregivers will not be able to access services and supports under Kupuna Care.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.