

STATE OF HAWAI'I

STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

1010 RICHARDS STREET, Room 122 HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96813 TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543

March 23, 2023

The Honorable Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair House Committee on Health & Homelessness The Thirty-Second Legislature State Capitol State of Hawai'i Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Representative Belatti and Committee Members:

SUBJECT: HCR34-HR35

The Hawai'i State Council on Developmental Disabilities **supports HCR34/HR35**, which requests the Legislative Reference Bureau to conduct a study on the adequacy of elder care on Molokai and Lanai, and in East Maui.

A focus of our Council is on improving aging services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). As health care technology and services have improved, individuals with I/DD are living longer, their lifespans are close or equal to those individuals without I/DD. However, evidence has shown that aging programs at both the State and Federal levels have not been prepared to provide comprehensive and appropriate services to the I/DD population. We were awarded a Bridging I/DD and Aging grant that brings together agencies to give our State the opportunity to develop best practices, systems change, policy change, and other changes that can be replicated across the country to enhance and improve aging services for individuals with I/DD. We have struggled finding data and stories of lived experiences on the adequacy of elder care in the rural areas of our State.

In conjunction with our grant the Council supports this effort to study the care that our kupuna are receiving on Molokai, Lanai, and East Maui. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HCR34/HR35.

Sincerely,

Daintry Bartoldus

Executive Administrator