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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

March 12, 2023

TO: The Honorable Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair
Senate Committee on Health & Human Services

FROM: Cathy Betts, Director

SUBJECT: [HB 222 HD2](#) – RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES.

Hearing: March 13, 2023, 1:00 p.m.
Conference Room 225 & Via Videoconferencing, State Capitol

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) appreciates the intent of the measure and provides comments on this measure. However, 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 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 Senator Moriwaki and Representative Hashimoto on a similar bill, HB 1438.¹ Rates that do not have Medicare rates for equivalent services, such as all home and community-based waiver services (HCBS), 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 SR 4 legislative 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 when the department reviews rates without medicare comparisons, 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). Each service and scenario can be considered independently. For example, the legislature could choose to fund Residential services at the High scenario (\$12.47M), In-home services at the Low scenario (\$9.86M), and Case Management at the Medium scenario (\$.54M) for a total of \$22.87M. The table below includes all three scenarios with the estimated general funds (in millions) highlighted:

¹ HB1438 was not scheduled for hearing in the House.

Estimated Modeled Comparison Rate Impact (in millions)

Scenarios	Low		Medium		High	
SERVICE CATEGORY	Estimated Payment Change	Estimated General Fund	Estimated Payment Change	Estimated General Fund	Estimated Payment Change	Estimated General Fund
Residential services	\$13.50	\$5.59	\$27.90	\$11.56	\$30.10	\$12.47
In-home services	\$23.80	\$9.86	\$34.70	\$14.38	\$40.40	\$16.74
Case management services	\$0.50	\$0.21	\$1.30	\$0.54	\$2.30	\$0.95
Total Rate Study Services	\$37.90	\$15.71	\$64.00	\$26.52	\$72.90	\$30.21

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.

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HB222, HD2

Chair Joy S. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair Henry J.C. Aquino 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.



Maribel B. Tan
President
AFHA of HI



Carina Ocampo
President
UCH



Lemmy Mabuti
President
CHCAH



Elma Tierra
President
APPCA



Menchie Dawang
President
PH3

ADULT FOSTER HOMECARE ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII

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

March 13, 2023

Maribel Tan
President

Testimony in Strong Support of HB222 HD2 – HUS/HLT – 3/13/23, 1:00 p.m.,
Rm. 225 (Testifier to Appear In-person)

Chair Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair Henry J.C. Aquino, and Members of
the Committees:

The Adult Foster Homecare Association of Hawaii (AFHA) **strongly supports HB222 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.

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.

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."

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. Our industry and profession 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 other type of care home. We need to set a solid foundation for the future.

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 1000 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.

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 HD2.

Very truly yours,

Maribel Tan
President



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facebook.com/AARPHawaii

The State Legislature
Senate Committee on Health and Human Services
Monday, March 13, 2023
Conference Room 225, 1:00 p.m.

TO: The Honorable Joy San Buenaventura, Chair

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

Aloha Chair San Buenaventura 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 impact 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Keali'i S. Lopez".

Keali'i S. López, State Director

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



Alliance of Professional Primary Care Administrators

Re: HB222 HD2 - Testimony in Support

Notice of hearing

DATE: Monday, March 13, 2023

TIME: 1:00 PM

PLACE: Conference room 225

State capitol

415 Beretania Street

HB 222 HD2 (In Support)

My name Elma V. Tierra, Pres. Alliance of Professional Primary Care Administrators. I have been a Community Care Foster Family Caregiver for over 20 years, taking care 2 patients at my home. My job requires 24/7 care for my elderly & fragile patients, with no days off or holidays. Based on 365 days a year I get paid \$ 44.16 per day per patient. That comes out to \$ 1.84 per hour which probably makes me one of the lowest paid workers in Hawaii.

In addition, the Community Care Foster Family Homes saves the State and Federal governments millions of dollars each year that they would otherwise have to pay for the care of these clients if they admitted to an institution like nursing home facilities.

The last increase was about 18 years ago, and the cost of living has soaring significantly without any corresponding increase in payments to us caregivers.

I strongly support HB 222 HD2, which would increase the state supplemental payment and provide of annual adjustments. We thank you for the opportunity to provide our testimony in support of HB222 HD2.

Very truly yours,

Elma V. Tierra (APPCA)

Pres. Alliance of Professional Primary Care Administrators

Community Home Care
Association of Hawaii
P.O. Box 971450, Waipahu HI 96797

LATE

March 13, 2023

To: **Chair Yamane, Ryan , Vice Chair Tam, Adrean and Members of the Committees:**

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

Subject: **HB 222, HD2 – RELATING TO CCFFH**

Hearing: Monday, March 13, 2023, 1:00 pm
Conference Room #225, 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 household 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

LATE

HB-222-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2023 1:30:51 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/13/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mary Rose Velez	Testifying for CCFFH	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a foster home operator for 8 yrs now and had experienced the challenges which the rest of the caregivers experienced and still experiencing. We need to do our job well no matter the situation is. Even if we feel sick, we still need to take care of our clients specially when substitute caregivers are not available. CCFFH is a home setting so we do our regular house chores while taking care of our clients and our families. You all heard the same the rest of the caregivers that we work 24hrs but not compensated well. Well, I will say the same thing. Yes we are less compensated and taken for granted. We follow strict regulations but we're not given what is rightly due for us. We sacrificed so much to the point of missing our own doctor's appointments just to prioritize our client's labs and MD visits. We miss a lot of family affairs since not all the time that there's substitutes are available. We can't afford to hire subs all the time and not many will work with us as we pay less since we earn less. Everything is increasing and yet our pay is not. We are pleading for your help to pass this bill. We are not asking for too much. We are just asking the amount that is rightly due for us. Please, please, please pass this bill. Thank you so much!!!

LATE

HB-222-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2023 8:51:40 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/13/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
MARFE RETUNDO	Testifying for CCFFH	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha mam and sir,

My name is Marfe Retundo. I'm one of a primary caregiver from big island. I support this bill of increase our payment. With everything going up and expensive, i think we deserve an increase like everyone else.

mahalo for your time.

Marfe Retundo

LATE

HB-222-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2023 9:54:08 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/13/2023 1:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support HB222, HD2, because we deserve to have increase due to increase living expenses. Being paid 44.06 per day is way far low than those who work at hospitals and nsg facility and which i know that we provide more good quality of care at home. Our patient became like part our family and we work 24/7 worse if you have difficult patient , but we endure everything. Please allow this bill to pass. Thank you.

LATE

HB-222-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2023 12:15:51 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/13/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marilyn Palisbo	Testifying for AFHA	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Legislator,

I strongly support HB222-HD1 to raise reimbursement rate. We have not received an increase for over 14 years.

It has been hard to keep my foster home open. I struggle to make my bills like mortgage payment, credit cards, water, electric and etc. I keep my home open because I care for my clients. It is not an easy job to take Care clients 24 hours/ seven days a week. We cook thier meals, bathe them, take them to their appointments and assisting with their ADL's. We are responsible with them night and day without days off. We work hard to provide them good quality of care. The cost of living now is so high and we cannot afford to pay secondary caregiver for the pay we are receiving right now which is \$44.16 per day

Our clients live in our home and become like our own family. Please help us , to consider to raise our pay rate.

Thank you for supporting HB222-HD1

MARILYN PALISBO

94-549 APII St, Waipahu, Hi. 96798

Tel: (808) 342-2808

email: marichris0912@gmail. com.

LATE

HB-222-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2023 1:21:59 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/13/2023 1:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Dear Legislator,

I am writing this letter in support of all jfoster caregivers who takes care in their own home 24/7. My mother is currently in a foster home and I know first hand how much dedication is put into a caregiver's job. My mother receives excellent care and attention and is happy where she is. When patients are happy and comfortable where they are, you definitely know that they are given the best care from these caregivers.

These caregivers have taken patients into their own homes and they become a part of their family but the amount of responsibility they carry is endless. I fully support these foster homes caregivers and strongly feel they deserve to be a compensated because of the increase in cost of living and they like all of us need to make ends meet financially within their own families.

Thank you,

Elsie Shimomura

27 Hui Road

Lahaina, Maui, Hawaii 96761

1(808)669-5509

LATE

HB-222-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2023 6:08:27 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/13/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maria Corazon E. Cariaga	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Good afternoon, I am supporting this HB222 on behalf of the caregivers of the Community Care Foster Family Home and the E-ARCH in the State of Hawai'i. Providers of these programs needs to have their re imbursement be raised from the services they are providing due to the high cost of living and high prices of commodities. Thank you for giving me the opportunities in sending my online testimonies.

March 11, 2023

LATE

Dear Senate:

I, Cynthia Gima, am sending you my testimony in STRONG SUPPORT HB222, PAY INCREASE which will be held March 13, 2023, 1:00pm, Conference Room 225. We have not received an increase for **15 plus years**. I'm in this business because of my passion to help people who are not able to care for themselves, but it is becoming very hard to survive with the pay we are currently receiving for our services. As much as I love caring for the elderly it's becoming very difficult economically to maintain a balanced life, both to my patients and my family.

The following are just some examples of why we strongly need our pay increases:

- Cost of utilities, electricity, water, sewer costs that clients use.
- Property, general and income taxes
- Food and supply costs for clients.
- Gas used when bringing clients to their doctor appointments.
- Transportation costs for our clients who require assisted transportation, fees average \$70-\$120 depending on the distance.
- Car and Liability Insurance required in the home to follow state regulations.
- Normal way of living for the family is sacrificed with a foster home.
- Caregivers must budget/pay when we; take vacation, are sick (no sick leave), bereavement leave, take clients to their appointments, shop for client needs, attend special occasions, attend meetings, rallies, educational sessions, or just want to spend quality time with my family. We have to budget this on \$44.16/day, which is why we are asking for \$20 plus more per hour.
- Caregivers will work while sick due to not wanting to have to pay for a substitute and average way less sleep than health recommendations.
- Caregivers provide 24/7 care to their clients, we deserve a quality lifestyle also but it's impossible to do so with the pay that we are receiving.
- What type of job hasn't received an increase in pay in **15 plus years**, absolutely everything went up except for our pay and yet we still provide 24/7 care to our clients.

It's not hard to figure out the math, **\$44.16/day received but pay subs \$100 plus/day**, please let us know if there are any other people that you know of in the workforce that is faced with these types of numbers. It's basically we are paying anytime we are not with our clients.

Before you all vote, please put yourself in our shoes providing best care for our Kupuna 24/7 with a pay of \$44.16 daily which came to an effect January 2023. **Prior to January 2023 the daily service pay rate was \$41.06 for over 15 years.**

I strongly believe that in order to maintain the integrity of our profession and to ensure that kupuna are cared for properly caregivers should be rewarded with pay that is indicative of the time, effort and care that they put in. Another key factor on the importance of this bill is to make sure quality caregivers are retained and stay in Hawaii instead of moving to the mainland to work for better pay.

For all these reasons, I strongly support HB222.

Thank you very much!

Cynthia Gima
1320 Anapa Street
Honolulu Hawaii 96818
Cell: 808-271-0557
Email: ausash4@gmail.com

LATE

HB-222-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2023 8:14:27 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/13/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
LIBERTY QUIROGA ALBANO	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The pay for our services is not enough to pay our utilities, high prices of commodities, gas for our car, payment to substitute caregivers when we need them, etc. Everything went up high but not our pay.

LATE

HB-222-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2023 9:15:02 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/13/2023 1:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Caregivers work so hard 24/7, taking care of senior citizen that unable to take care themselves, and also people who are disabled, no raise for so many years, it's about time to increase our pay. I support this bill 100%.

LATE

HB-222-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2023 9:18:19 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/13/2023 1:00:00 PM

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.

LATE

HB-222-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2023 9:33:39 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/13/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carlito P. Farinas	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Carlito Farinas a Secondary Caregiver I help my wife with our CCFFH and I honestly wish to be there personally to support HB222 D2 however because being a caregiver does not provide Health Insurance coverage I need to go work . 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.

LATE

HB-222-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2023 11:48:28 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/13/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mylin R. Smith	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I can't come there to testify in person because I have to take care of the elderly. I request increase in pay appropriate for the amount of hours we put into our work. We take care of the elderly so their families don't have to worry about them at home and they can go to work with peace of mind that their love ones are being taken care of and are safe. Our pay thru the medicaid program is very low that I can't even afford a regular substitute. For my well being and mental health, I need to be able to afford a substitute to be able for me to go out once in a while. Substitute caregivers are usually paid between **\$15.00 to \$20.00 per hour** while we get paid **\$41.06 per day!**. Please make it make sense!

If I have another option (and I am re evaluating my other options) I would probably not continue as a Foster Home operator if \$41.06 per day pay continues. It is not worth continuing as a Foster Home operator in my own opinion. Fifteen years staying at \$41.06 per day pay is not fair for all the hard working caregivers who sacrifice a lot to care for the elderly. Please do something, it's about time!

LATE

HB-222-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2023 11:59:25 PM

Testimony for HHS on 3/13/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Arcelie Weaver	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hi Good day Mr Chair and all!

My name is Arcelie Weaver Fosterhome operaator since 2014,im here writting to you same as my fellow caregivers wishing our saddened voice be heard please we are begging you all and give what is right for us,especially the situation right now the current inflatuition and cost of living in hawaii is not enough we dont demand for high increase we demand for what is right for us and 100% we deserved to be compensated for a decade no increase comparing to the facility we are way behind the community needs us! please help us and help the kopuna!

THANK YOU and GODBLESS

TESTIMONY IN SRONG SUPPORT OF HB222, HD2-CAREGIVER'S PERMANENT PAY INCREASE

Hearing date : March 13, 2023 – 1:00pm-Room 225

LATE

My name is Leticia Dagulo, one of the Foster Home Operator. I strongly support HB222, HD2 to raise the rate services rendered to Medicaid clients. We, the caregivers, have not received an increase for over 14 years.

We live with our clients, providing care 24/7, 365 days a year. We get paid \$1.84 per hour for 24 hours totaling \$44.16 a day and there's no incentives (No health Insurance, no sick leave, no vacation leave, etc.). We were the lowest paid in the nation.

We provide various services, including but not limited to: assisting clients with their activities of daily living, prepping/serving their meals, feeding, bathing, brushing hair/teeth, dressing, nail care, toileting, transferring in and out of their bed/walker/wheelchair, repositioning/turning in bed every 2 to 4 hours, incontinence care, daily skin checks, taking them to medical appointments/shopping/family gatherings, ensuring they take their right medication/dose/time, laundry, taking vital signs= Blood Pressure, Temp, Pulse, Respiration & check glucose, making their bed, changing linens, & entertaining them. We do so much, as well as, treat them like a family, and give them all of our love so they can have some dignity in the final phase of their life.

We work hard to provide care to our Kupunas. The cost of living is so high and we cannot afford to pay our Secondary Caregiver for the pay we are receiving right now which is \$44.16 effective January 1, 2023 per day.

Please dear Senate hears and help us, we are struggling because the price for everything is going up.

Thank you in advance for supporting HB222-HD2.

Leticia Dagulo
95-528 Wailoa Loop
Mililani, HI 96789
Tel. # 808-383-9106

HB-222-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2023 7:27:32 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/13/2023 1:00:00 PM



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

Comments:

March 13, 2023

To Whom It may Concern,

I strongly agree and support the increasement of the medicaid clients being placed in the community such as Care Homes and Foster Homes (CCFFH) due to the following reasons:

1. Due to highly cost of living in Hawaii, there are lots of elderly people living on the streets because family is unable to take care of them.
2. Government spend more money for the HOSPITALS, NURSING FACILITIES if they are unable to place patients to a CCFFH (FOSTER HOME).
3. Caregivers are big impact and help to the community because caregivers offer their homes to take care of elderly but Government doesnt see those sweats and hardwork for each caregiver that take care of elderly at their place.
4. Living in Hawaii is very expensive and caregivers are trying their best to fit the needs of each individual clients that they have.
5. Base on my researched and as I continue to attend our organization's meeting, caregivers have not had any increasement for so long and seems like the Government forget about the small bussiness like foster home.
6. If other home care setting for elderly such as DD and Care homes has a better pay, Government should do equally for the foster home community that this is the time for caregivers foster home to get an increasement because without foster homes, Government will be spend more dollars for each individual that are being place in nursing facilities.

Thank You,

Mayrose Abadilla, CNA, CCFFH OperatoR

CONTACT: 808 778 4730

FAX: 808 772 4018

EMAIL: mnm8684@gmail.com

Organization: United Caregivers of Hawaii

LATE

HB-222-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2023 7:35:01 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/13/2023 1:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

March 13, 2023

To Whom It may Concern,

I strongly agree and support the increasement of the medicaid clients being placed in the community such as Care Homes and Foster Homes (CCFFH) due to the following reasons:

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3. Caregivers are big impact and help to the community because caregivers offer their homes to take care of elderly but Government doesnt see those sweats and hardwork for each caregiver that take care of elderly at their place.
4. Living in Hawaii is very expensive and caregivers are trying their best to fit the needs of each individual clients that they have.
5. Base on my researched and as I continue to attend our organization's meeting, caregivers have not had any increasement for so long and seems like the Government forget about the small bussiness like foster home.
6. If other home care setting for elderly such as DD and Care homes has a better pay, Government should do equally for the foster home community that this is the time for caregivers foster home to get an increasement because without foster homes, Government will be spend more dollars for each individual that are being place in nursing facilities.

Thank You,

Magdalena Duldulao, CNA, CCFFH OperatoR

CONTACT: 808 391 5092

Organization: United Caregivers of Hawaii

LATE

HB-222-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2023 7:36:53 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/13/2023 1:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

March 13, 2023

To Whom It may Concern,

I strongly agree and support the increasement of the medicaid clients being placed in the community such as Care Homes and Foster Homes (CCFFH) due to the following reasons:

1. Due to highly cost of living in Hawaii, there are lots of elderly people living on the streets because family is unable to take care of them.
2. Government spend more money for the HOSPITALS, NURSING FACILITIES if they are unable to place patients to a CCFFH (FOSTER HOME).
3. Caregivers are big impact and help to the community because caregivers offer their homes to take care of elderly but Government doesnt see those sweats and hardwork for each caregiver that take care of elderly at their place.
4. Living in Hawaii is very expensive and caregivers are trying their best to fit the needs of each individual clients that they have.
5. Base on my researched and as I continue to attend our organization's meeting, caregivers have not had any increasement for so long and seems like the Government forget about the small bussiness like foster home.
6. If other home care setting for elderly such as DD and Care homes has a better pay, Government should do equally for the foster home community that this is the time for caregivers foster home to get an increasement because without foster homes, Government will be spend more dollars for each individual that are being place in nursing facilities.

Thank You,

Jonalyn Robles, CCFFH OperatoR

CONTACT: 808 277 6422

Organization: United Caregivers of Hawaii

LATE

HB-222-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2023 7:39:16 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/13/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joenalyn Solmerin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am supporting the HB222 and kindly asking you all to please consider this bill. Thank you so much

LATE

HB-222-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2023 7:41:50 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/13/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joel Solmerin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello, I am supporting this billand kindly asking you all to please consider this bill. Thank you

LATE

HB-222-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2023 7:43:37 AM
Testimony for HHS on 3/13/2023 1:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

March 13, 2023

To Whom It may Concern,

I strongly agree and support the increasement of the medicaid clients being placed in the community such as Care Homes and Foster Homes (CCFFH) due to the following reasons:

1. Due to highly cost of living in Hawaii, there are lots of elderly people living on the streets because family is unable to take care of them.
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3. Caregivers are big impact and help to the community because caregivers offer their homes to take care of elderly but Government doesnt see those sweats and hardwork for each caregiver that take care of elderly at their place.
4. Living in Hawaii is very expensive and caregivers are trying their best to fit the needs of each individual clients that they have.
5. Base on my researched and as I continue to attend our organization's meeting, caregivers have not had any increasement for so long and seems like the Government forget about the small bussiness like foster home.
6. If other home care setting for elderly such as DD and Care homes has a better pay, Government should do equally for the foster home community that this is the time for caregivers foster home to get an increasement because without foster homes, Government will be spend more dollars for each individual that are being place in nursing facilities.

Thank You,

Maricel Napoles, CNA, CCFFH OperatoR

CONTACT: 808 797 7988

Organization: United Caregivers of Hawaii

LATE

HB-222-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2023 7:51:58 AM

Testimony for HHS on 3/13/2023 1:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

March 13, 2023

To Whom It may Concern,

I strongly agree and support the increasement of the medicaid clients being placed in the community such as Care Homes and Foster Homes (CCFFH) due to the following reasons:

1. Due to highly cost of living in Hawaii, there are lots of elderly people living on the streets because family is unable to take care of them.
2. Government spend more money for the HOSPITALS, NURSING FACILITIES if they are unable to place patients to a CCFFH (FOSTER HOME).
3. Caregivers are big impact and help to the community because caregivers offer their homes to take care of elderly but Government doesnt see those sweats and hardwork for each caregiver that take care of elderly at their place.
4. Living in Hawaii is very expensive and caregivers are trying their best to fit the needs of each individual clients that they have.

5. Base on my researched and as I continue to attend our organization's meeting, caregivers have not had any increase for so long and seems like the Government forget about the small business like foster home.

6. If other home care setting for elderly such as DD and Care homes has a better pay, Government should do equally for the foster home community that this is the time for caregivers foster home to get an increase because without foster homes, Government will be spend more dollars for each individual that are being place in nursing facilities.

Thank You,

Maricor Malvar, CNA, CCFFH OperatoR

CONTACT: 808 388 2831

Organization: Afha