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GOVERNOR OF HAWAII
KE KIA'ĀINA O KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII

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**Testimony in SUPPORT of SB3383
RELATING TO LONG-TERM CARE**

SENATOR JOY A. SAN BUENAVENTURA, CHAIR
SENATOR HENRY J.C. AQUINO, VICE CHAIR
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

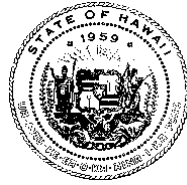
Testimony of Caroline Cadirao
Director, Executive Office on Aging
Attached Agency to the Department of Health

Hearing: Wednesday, February 14, 2024, 1:00 P.M., Conference Room 225

- 1 **EOA Position:** The Executive Office on Aging (EOA), an attached agency to the Department of
- 2 Health (DOH) supports the intent of this measure.
- 3 **Fiscal Implications:** Appropriates funds to EOA. Exceeds the general fund expenditure ceiling.
- 4 **Purpose and Justification:** Hawai'i has the highest average life expectancy in the U.S. with a
- 5 record of 80.7 years. The number of kūpuna living into their 80s, 90s, and even 100s continues
- 6 to grow. The majority of the Silent Generation, born in 1928-1945, have already turned 80 years
- 7 old and the last of the younger Baby Boomers born in 1964 will be turning 60 years of age in
- 8 2024. As a state, we need to invest in addressing the long-term care needs of our community.
- 9 An essential component to meeting the need is a qualified, skilled workforce.

- 1 The strategy includes training paraprofessional to become professionals. The pandemic
- 2 exacerbated the situation, and we are at a critical juncture in addressing workforce and how it
- 3 relates to LTC. This measure would require EOA to conduct a statewide assessment that
- 4 identifies the number of, type of, and competencies needed by workers to fulfill the home- and
- 5 community-based service provider positions throughout the State. The needs assessment will
- 6 help to inform a Master Plan on LTC.
- 7 **Recommendation:** EOA supports the intent of this measure provided that its enactment does
- 8 not reduce or replace priorities with the Administration's budget request.
- 9 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

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**Testimony COMMENTING on SB3383
RELATING TO LONG-TERM CARE.**

SEN. JOY SAN BUENAVENTURA, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Hearing Date: February 14, 2024

Room Number: 225

- 1 **Fiscal Implications:** N/A.
- 2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health (DOH) supports the intent of this measure
- 3 but defers to the Executive Office on Aging regarding details and implementation.
- 4 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



Wednesday, February 14, 2024 at 1:00 pm
Conference Room 225

Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

To: Chair Joy A. San Buenaventura
Vice Chair Henry J.C. Aquino

From: Paige Heckathorn Choy
Associate Vice President, Government Affairs
Healthcare Association of Hawaii

Re: **Testimony in Support**
SB 3383, Relating to Long-Term Care

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii (HAH), established in 1939, serves as the leading voice of healthcare on behalf of 170 member organizations who represent almost every aspect of the healthcare continuum in Hawaii. Members include acute care hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, Medicare-certified home health agencies, hospices, and assisted living facilities. In addition to providing access to appropriate, affordable, high-quality care to all of Hawaii's residents, our members contribute significantly to Hawaii's economy by employing over 30,000 people statewide.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit **support** on the intent of this measure, which would require the Hawaii Executive Office on Aging to complete a statewide assessment of the workforce needs for home- and community-based service (HCBS) providers. The agency would contract with an entity to determine not just the open vacancies, but also identify the types of roles used for HCBS services and the competencies needed to adequately fill those roles. Further, there would need to be recommendations on the expansion or development of training programs, which would be included in any master plan and in a report to the legislature.

Since 2019, HAH has published a similar report on workforce demand based on the needs of our members. HCBS providers are not part of HAH's membership and so a comprehensive view of these needs are not in our report. Completing our biennial survey and report is a monumental, multi-year effort requiring significant staff time, financial investment, and follow-up. Critically, we are only able to secure the necessary data because of the strong response rate by our members with whom we have a close relationship.

We look forward to EOA identifying a lead entity with the knowledge of and relationships with HCBS providers needed for a successful survey. As they undertake this important task, HAH is willing to provide advice to this entity as to how we have conducted our own survey and report so that this information can be available to policy-makers. Thank you for your continued commitment to supporting kupuna in Hawaii.

SB-3383

Submitted on: 2/9/2024 8:24:37 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/14/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
dennis boyd miller	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The state should invest in assisting families to take care of their family members who require assisted living. Not doing so creates significant burdens on families struggling with the cost of assisted living facilities, and results in some elderly being out on the street. Subsidizing assisted living on a sliding scale will be an economic stimulus for every family struggling with the cost of assisted living. It will also reduce the homeless population, saving funds otherwise spent on an unnecessarily large homeless population.

Dennis B Miller

Waikiki