



STATE OF HAWAI'I  
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAI'I  
STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES  
'A'UNIKE MOKU'ĀPUNI NO KA NĀ KĀWAI KULA  
PRINCESS VICTORIA KAMĀMALU BUILDING  
1010 RICHARDS STREET, Room 122  
HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96813  
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February 5, 2026

The Honorable Representative Lisa Marten, Chair  
House Committee on Human Services & Homelessness  
The Thirty-Third Legislature  
State Capitol  
State of Hawai'i  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Representative Marten and Committee Members:

**SUBJECT:** HB2009 Relating to Family Caregiver Support

The Hawai'i State Council on Developmental Disabilities (DDC) submits this testimony in **SUPPORT of HB2009**, which extends child care subsidies to disabled parents or guardians, regardless of their employment status. Requires the Department of Human Services to evaluate caregiver capacity and dependent-care responsibilities when determining eligibility for medicaid home- and community-based services. Requires the Department of Human Services to update its evaluation form and functional assessment protocols related to level of care and at-risk needs determinations. Appropriates funds.

This measure addresses a specific and well-documented gap affecting parents and guardians with disabilities or serious medical conditions. The bill appropriately focuses on situations where a parent's disability or health-related incapacity limits their ability to provide care, and where existing systems incorrectly presume caregiving capacity. By extending child care subsidies to children of parents with disabilities regardless of employment status, requiring DHS to evaluate caregiver capacity rather than assume it, and prohibiting the denial or reduction of Medicaid services based solely on presumed family support, the measure corrects structural inequities that have placed families with disabilities at risk of service loss, instability, and unnecessary institutionalization.

At the same time, the Council recognizes that other parents may face serious barriers to providing care due to socio-economic factors such as poverty, unstable housing, lack of transportation, or the absence of informal supports. While this measure is intentionally and appropriately narrow in scope, these challenges remain significant for many families and warrant continued legislative attention. Addressing the needs of parents with disabilities through this measure is an important and necessary step, and it should be viewed as part of a broader conversation about strengthening

caregiving supports for all families who are unable to meet caregiving demands without assistance. For these reasons, the

Hawai'i State Council on Developmental Disabilities **supports HB2009**.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Sincerely,



Daintry Bartoldus  
Executive Administrator

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR  
KE KIA'ĀINA



RYAN I. YAMANE  
DIRECTOR  
KA LUNA HO'OKALE

JOSEPH CAMPOS II  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKALE

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

TRISTA SPEER  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKALE

February 4, 2026

TO: The Honorable Representative Lisa Marten, Chair  
House Committee on Human Services & Homelessness

FROM: Ryan I. Yamane, Director

SUBJECT: **HB 2009 – RELATING TO FAMILY CAREGIVER SUPPORT.**

Hearing: Thursday, February 5, 2026, Time 9:30 a.m.  
Conference Room 329, State Capitol

**DEPARTMENT'S POSITION:** The Department of Human Services (DHS) appreciates the intent of the bill and provides comments. DHS respectfully requests that any appropriation not replace or reduce budget priorities identified in the executive budget.

The Department recognizes the need to support families with significant caregiving challenges to ensure the safety and well-being of their children. The proposed measure illustrates the difficulty of achieving uniformity across programs regulated by different federal laws and regulations, and to address gaps in services.

As discussed below, the federal child care subsidy program, Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF), does not provide subsidies or payments to parents who are not in need of child care due to their employment or job training or schooling, as proposed by this measure. To establish such a subsidy or payment would require state general fund appropriations for benefits, administrative, and operational costs.

Importantly, Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) are exclusively intended to serve the needs of the disabled Medicaid recipient, and supports may not directly or indirectly be extended to support the recipient's dependents.

Additionally, for the committee's information, a parent with a disability may apply for financial assistance through the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program or may seek Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) benefits if they meet the Social Security Administration's disability criteria. A child may also be eligible for Supplemental Security Income based on the child's disability or receive dependent benefits if the disabled parent receives SSDI.

DHS respectfully notes that the federal Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) cannot be used to implement this eligibility expansion under the federal regulations and the State's approved 2025 – 2027 CCDF Plan. Unfortunately, parents with disabilities are not included in the definition of protective services approved by the federal Office of Child Care. Consequently, federal CCDF funds may not be used to support eligibility based solely on parental disability and would need to be a 100% state funded effort.

For the committee's information, 45 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) section 98.20(a)(3) requires that a child eligible for services:

- (i) Reside with a parent or parents who are working or attending a job training or educational program; or
- (ii) Receive, or need to receive, protective services, which . include specific populations of vulnerable children as identified by the Lead Agency, and reside with a parent or parents other than the parent(s) described in paragraph (a)(3)(i) of this section

In Hawaii's 2025 – 2027 CCDF State Plan, DHS defined "children who receive or need to receive protective services" to include:

- Children in foster care;
- Children in families under court supervision;
- Children in families receiving supports or otherwise engaged with a child welfare agency;
- Children whose family members are deemed essential workers under a governor-declared state of emergency;
- Children experiencing homelessness; and
- Children whose families have been affected by a natural disaster.

Sections 3 and 4 of the bill propose that the household context within which a Medicaid recipient seeking HCBS resides be considered when determining service needs, including the capacity and needs of both potential caregivers and potential dependents of the Medicaid recipient. DHS agrees with the overall goal of considering the caregiver's capacity and

caregiving responsibilities of the Medicaid recipient when developing a person-centered plan for HCBS. DHS currently includes questions to assess the household context in the Health and Functional Assessment, and acknowledges that these questions can be strengthened, and that additional instructions can be provided to ensure that the Medicaid recipient's needs are not inadvertently missed.

The Department offers a number of technical clarifications and identifies sections that would not be feasible to implement:

1. Regarding references to DHS Form 1147, this form is completed to evaluate whether a Medicaid recipient meets a level of care that qualifies the individual for Long Term Services & Supports (LTSS). This form is focused exclusively on evaluating the extent and severity of the member's disability. It is a short form completed by community providers; it is not a detailed assessment of the member's service needs. Once the member has qualified for LTSS, the Health and Functional Assessment is intended to be a more comprehensive evaluation of the member's service needs. Therefore, DHS requests that references to the 1147 form and the requirements to update it be removed from the measure, as the bill's intent is to augment the evaluation of a Medicaid member's service needs who is already deemed eligible for LTSS.
2. While the Health and Functional Assessment may be ameliorated to support robust evaluations of the Medicaid recipient for HCBS service needs, including more in depth understanding of the availability and capacity of potential caregivers, as well as the dependents under the Medicaid recipient's care, by federal regulation, the assessment and service plan must be exclusively member-centered. In other words, it may not seek to assess the dependents or caregivers, either in terms of eligibility for Medicaid or current Medicaid enrollment status, or in terms of their disabilities or other health needs. Collecting such information violates the standards of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The DHS proposes to strengthen the assessment, but would be unable to add questions that go outside of the scope of assessing the Medicaid recipient seeking HCBS.

3. All Medicaid services, by regulation, are specific to the Medicaid recipient. As such, services allocated to a Medicaid recipient may not directly or indirectly be used to support the dependents for whom the Medicaid recipient is responsible.
4. Typically, a health plan's adverse benefit determination is the denial, reduction, or termination of a benefit, service, or payment by a health plan. While denials, reductions, or terminations may be appealed, the non-completion of an evaluation is not, by itself, an appealable adverse decision.

Should this bill progress, in addition to state funding for the proposed subsidy costs, the Department would require system modifications to eligibility and payment systems, updates to administrative rules and program policies, staff training on developing new verification and documentation processes, and the creation of family-friendly informational and outreach materials. DHS would need time and resources to implement this measure.

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



# Protect Democracy Move Forward

[www.indivisiblehawaii.org](http://www.indivisiblehawaii.org)  
[info@indivisiblehawaii.org](mailto:info@indivisiblehawaii.org)

To: Hawai'i State House Committee on Human Services and Homelessness  
Re: Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of HB2007

Dear Chair Marten, Vice Chair Olds, and the Members of Committee,

Members of Indivisible Hawai'i thank you for this opportunity to testify in strong support of HB2009 which extends child care subsidies to disabled parents or guardians, regardless of their employment status.

Childcare subsidies for disabled caregivers generally require that the parent be employed, in training, or in school, with eligibility often extending to children under 13 (or up to 18 if disabled). These eligibility rules often assume that family members can provide care for another household member without evaluating caregiver capacity, leaving families vulnerable when caregivers themselves face significant health or functional limitations. This gap can result in denial of essential services, increased caregiver strain, unsafe conditions for children or dependents, and even family separation or institutionalization.

Please pass HB2009. It would help disabled caregivers make ends meet.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Younghée Overly  
Indivisible Hawai'i Working Families Team

*The mission of the 14-chapter Indivisible Hawai'i Statewide Network (IHSN) is to protect Hawai'i and democracy by defending civil rights, communities and values, most importantly, Hawai'i's Constitutionally protected spirit of Aloha. In October 2025, IHSN with other partners turned out over 22,000 residents on all major islands to say No Dictators! and to stand up for democracy. This call-to-action was part of Indivisible national's mobilization of more than 7 million across the country as the voice of the people, committed to election integrity and to evolving as a place of equity, opportunity and peace.*

I am Anne Chipchase, an advocate at Hawaii Disability Rights Center, the state's designated Protection and Advocacy Agency. I currently have 64 open cases. Although it is hypothetical, many of my clients' life stories mirror the following.

Consider this ...

- You are the 47-year-old mother of a 12-year-old daughter who has intellectual and developmental disabilities. She is a lovely girl, but can be very physical, demanding and uncooperative.
- You are also the mother of a 14-year-old son who is beginning to display mildly anti-social behaviors at home and at school.
- You work 50-60 hours a week as a caregiver for an elderly gentleman who suffers from dementia. It is a 45-minute bus ride each way from home to work
- Your husband and the father of your children gave up five years ago and just left. At least he did arrange for a legal divorce before disappearing from your and your children's lives. You get no financial support from him.
- Your health insurance company has just informed you that your daughter does not qualify for personal services because she has you to perform all her needed assistance.

Certainly, you would be distraught. You'd be thinking ...

- Can I do this? For how long?
- Count it!
  - o Hours in a week = 168
    - Less 49 hours for 7 hours sleep/night = 119
    - Less 50 hours for 6 days' work = 69
    - Less 9 hours travel for 6 days' work = 60
    - Less 14 hours for 7 days for Personal Care for Daughter = 46
    - Less 12 hours for 4 days for academic support for both children = 34
    - Less 3 hours for 1 day for laundry = 31
    - Less 12 hours for 7 days for grocery shopping/cooking, etc. = 19
    - Less 1 hour for 6 days supervising breakfast and dinner = 7
    - Less 5 hours for picking up and vacuuming, etc./week = 2
    - Less 7 hours for Mother's personal care = -5
  - o Adds up to minus 5 hours ... bad but not totally horrid!
- I maybe could do it for a little while ...

Ultimately, you would have to conclude that you need help! But the insurance company has informed you that they can't provide anything because you are the natural support for your daughter and it is your responsibility to provide for her.

But is it? Federal Medicaid regulations (42 C.F.R. § 441.301) explicitly define "natural supports" as voluntary. You cannot "volunteer" someone against their will. That is not compliance with the spirit or the letter of federal law.

Second, the current system is fiscally short-sighted and damaging. To put it bluntly, the current approach is "penny-wise and pound-foolish." When you make a mother choose between financially supporting her family and physically doing for the one child in exceptional need, you ultimately cost her the job that supports the entire family and the whole family is forced to welfare. Just as when you force a 70-year-old to lift her husband because the State refuses to authorize hours, you don't save money. You create two patients.

In both cases, you break the caregiver, you burn out the family, and you force the person with a disability into far less than optimal care, which pointedly costs the State exponentially more.

H.B. 1674 fixes this by simply requiring the State to ascertain that a caregiver is capable before denying services.

This protects families! It protects the State from liability.

Please pass this bill. Thank you.

To: House Committee on Health and Human Services  
Re: **HB 2009 – Relating to Family Caregiver Support**  
Hawai'i State Capitol room 329 & Via Videoconference  
Thursday, February 5, 2026, 9:30 AM

Dear Chair Marten, Vice Chair Olds, and Committee Members,

On behalf of Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!, I am writing in **STRONG SUPPORT of HB 2009**. This bill extends child care subsidies to disabled parents or guardians, regardless of their employment status. Requires the Department of Human Services to evaluate caregiver capacity and dependent-care responsibilities when determining eligibility for medicaid home- and community-based services, and requires the Department of Human Services to update its evaluation form and functional assessment protocols related to level of care and at-risk needs determinations.

HCAN is dedicated to advancing policies that improve the well-being of Hawai'i's children and families, particularly by increasing access to affordable child care and strengthening support systems for those facing economic or health-related challenges. HB2009 is significant to our mission because it expands child care subsidies to disabled parents or guardians, regardless of employment status, and requires a more holistic approach to evaluating caregiver capacity for Medicaid home- and community-based services. These provisions directly address barriers that many families encounter when seeking care and support for their children.

Expanding child care subsidies to disabled parents or guardians, irrespective of employment status, recognizes the unique caregiving burdens faced by these families. Many disabled parents are unable to engage in traditional employment due to their health conditions, yet still require reliable child care to manage daily responsibilities and participate in their communities. By removing employment status as a barrier, the bill aligns with best practices in inclusive child welfare policy and helps ensure that all children, regardless of their parents' abilities, have access to safe and nurturing care environments.

Requiring the Department of Human Services to consider caregiver capacity and dependent-care responsibilities in Medicaid eligibility determinations is a positive step toward a more accurate and compassionate assessment process. Families with significant caregiving responsibilities often face complex needs that are not fully captured by current evaluation tools. Updating assessment protocols to reflect these realities will help ensure that families receive the appropriate level of support, reducing the risk of unnecessary institutionalization and promoting family stability.

This bill helps to ensure that children are cared for and caregivers are supported in equitable and concrete ways, improving the lives of keiki and families throughout the state.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony. Please **SUPPORT HB 2009**.

**HB-2009**

Submitted on: 2/2/2026 8:01:52 PM  
Testimony for HSH on 2/5/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gina Borgman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you

**HB-2009**

Submitted on: 2/2/2026 8:20:06 PM  
Testimony for HSH on 2/5/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tanya Aynessazian	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

**Comments:**

I support HB 2009 because it expands essential child-care subsidy access to disabled parents and guardians regardless of employment status, recognizing that caregiving responsibilities and family wellbeing should not hinge solely on whether someone is employed. By requiring the Department of Human Services to evaluate caregiver capacity and dependent-care responsibilities in Medicaid eligibility determinations, this bill ensures that families facing complex care needs are treated with dignity and fairness. HB 2009 strengthens our social safety net in a way that promotes economic inclusion, supports working families, and invests in the long-term health and stability of our communities.

**HB-2009**

Submitted on: 2/2/2026 10:32:46 PM  
Testimony for HSH on 2/5/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tim Huycke	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

**Comments:**

I support HB2009.

**HB-2009**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 8:47:28 AM  
Testimony for HSH on 2/5/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michelle Bonk	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

**Comments:**

As a supporter of Indivisible Hawai'i I ask you to pass this bill.  
Thank you.

**HB-2009**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 10:24:04 AM  
Testimony for HSH on 2/5/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nanea Lo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

**Comments:**

Hello Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Nanea Lo, and I am writing in strong support of HB1674 / HB2009 / SB2682.

I serve as a Board Member for the [Hawai‘i Workers Center](#), a member of the [Honolulu Tenants Union](#), and a member of the [Hawai‘i Tax Fairness Coalition](#). My work across these organizations has shown me that the struggles our community faces—whether in the workplace, in their homes, or in navigating state systems—are deeply interconnected.

**Why This Legislation is Crucial:**

- **Worker & Caregiver Rights:** As a board member for the Hawai‘i Workers Center, I see how our current systems penalize those who cannot work due to disability. By extending child care subsidies to disabled parents regardless of employment status, we recognize that caregiving is labor and that disabled parents deserve the same security and support as any other worker.
- **Tenant Stability:** Housing and childcare are the two largest expenses for Hawai‘i families. When a disabled caregiver is denied essential subsidies, the resulting financial strain often leads to missed rent and housing instability. Supporting caregivers is a direct way to prevent family separation and keep tenants in their homes.
- **Tax & Economic Fairness:** Through the Hawai‘i Tax Fairness Coalition, we advocate for a system that doesn't place a regressive burden on our most vulnerable. Current [Department of Human Services](#) rules often assume family members can provide care without actually evaluating their physical or mental capacity. This bill forces the state to update these outdated protocols and ensures that public funds are directed where they are needed most.

**The Interconnection:**

My work is about building a Hawai‘i where everyone has the right to thrive. We cannot achieve worker justice if we exclude disabled parents. We cannot achieve housing justice if families are forced to choose between childcare and rent. And we cannot achieve tax fairness while our social safety net remains full of gaps that ignore the reality of disabled caregivers.

This package of bills strengthens the safety net for our most vulnerable ohana, prevents unnecessary institutionalization, and ensures that families can remain safe and together.

I urge you to pass HB1674, HB2009, and SB2682.

me ke aloha ‘āina,

Nanea Lo, 96826  
Board Member, Hawai‘i Workers Center  
Member, Honolulu Tenants Union  
Member, Hawai‘i Tax Fairness Coalition

**HB-2009**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 11:34:36 AM  
Testimony for HSH on 2/5/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Amber Kanehailua	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

**Comments:**

I support HB2009 because I have a sister with an intellectual disability and believe this will help caregivers a lot financially. Also help their capacity for care and be able to continue to do so.

**HB-2009**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 11:56:59 AM  
Testimony for HSH on 2/5/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jessica Kuzmier	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

**Comments:**

Aloha, I am testifying in support for HB 2009. I support extending childcare subsidies to our disabled population. Mahalo for your taking my views into consideration.

**HB-2009**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 12:02:54 PM  
Testimony for HSH on 2/5/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kaili Swan	Individual	Support	In Person

**Comments:**

I am in strong support of this HB2009 because i live with my mom and she take good care of me and she helps become more independent in the community please pass this HB2009 thank you

**HB-2009**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 12:11:41 PM  
Testimony for HSH on 2/5/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Martha Nakajima	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

**Comments:**

I support this bill. Often even a small subsidy for help with childcare will enable a disabled person to raise a beloved child whom they might otherwise lose. Thank you. Martha Nakajima, Honolulu, member of Indivisible.

**HB-2009**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 12:57:22 PM  
Testimony for HSH on 2/5/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Addie Berliner	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

**Comments:**

Thank You for Supporting this bill to extend child care subsidies to children of disabled parents regardless of their employment status!

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES & HOMELESSNESS

Rep. Lisa Marten, Chair

Rep. Ikaika Olds, Vice Chair

Rep. Terez Amato (Maui)

HEARING:

Thursday, February 5, 2026 at 9:30 am

VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

Conference Room 329

Hawai'i State Capitol

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT : HB 2009 - RELATING TO FAMILY CAREGIVER SUPPORT.**

Aloha Chair Marten, Vice Chair Olds, Rep. Amato of Maui, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Christine Andrews and I am a long-term resident of Wailuku, Maui. I write to you today in **strong support of HB 2009, relating to family caregiver support.** HB2009 extends child care subsidies to disabled parents or guardians, regardless of their employment status. It also requires the Department of Human Services to evaluate caregiver capacity and dependent-care responsibilities when determining eligibility for medicaid home- and community-based services. Finally, it requires the Department of Human Services to update its evaluation form and functional assessment protocols related to level of care and at-risk needs determinations.

Child care subsidies are government-funded financial assistance programs designed to help low-income working families, or those in training/education, pay for, or reduce the cost of, childcare services. These programs, which may include vouchers or certificates, are usually managed at the state level to cover care in licensed facilities, homes, or before/after-school programs.

Child care subsidies for disabled caregivers generally require that the parent be employed, in training, or in school, with eligibility often extending to children under 13 (or up to 18 if disabled).

Unfortunately, eligibility rules often assume that family members are able to provide care for another household member without evaluating caregiver capacity. This leaves families vulnerable when caregivers themselves face significant health or functional limitations. This can result in denial of essential services, increased caregiver strain, unsafe conditions for children or dependents, and even family separation or institutionalization. Furthermore, federal medicaid rules do not provide clear guidance on evaluating caregiver capacity.

**I request your support of HB2009** so that we can fill some of these gaps in child care subsidies in ways that better serve the real-life needs of disabled caregivers and their families. We all want a Hawai'i where our communities are able to have their basic needs met, where caregivers are supported, and where families are able to thrive.

Mahalo for what you do for your constituents and Hawai'i families,

Christine L. Andrews, J.D.

Wailuku, Maui

**HB-2009**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 4:02:37 PM  
Testimony for HSH on 2/5/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lucille Frances	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

**Comments:**

allow financial support to disabled without the requirement of employment.

**HB-2009**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 7:45:32 PM  
Testimony for HSH on 2/5/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Judith White	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

**Comments:**

Family caregivers have been a neglected part of our communities' foundations. Please support this bill.

Judith White, Psy.D.

Member, Hawaii Indivisible

**HB-2009**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 9:23:56 PM  
Testimony for HSH on 2/5/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robert Justice, M.D.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

**Comments:**

As a retired physician and member of Indivisible Hawaii I support this bill. A disabled parent may or may not be able to provide adequate childcare. It is only rational that disabled parents be evaluated for their eligibility and need for Medicaid or community-based services.

**HB-2009**

Submitted on: 2/3/2026 9:38:06 PM  
Testimony for HSH on 2/5/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nancy D Moser	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you

**HB-2009**

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 1:35:51 AM  
Testimony for HSH on 2/5/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Thomas Brandt	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strong support.

**HB-2009**

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 6:28:34 AM  
Testimony for HSH on 2/5/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alicia Hedlesky	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

02/04/2026  
Committee on Human Services and Homelessness  
Rep. Lisa Marten, Chair  
Rep. Ikaika Olds, Vice Chair

**RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB2009**

Dear Chair Marten, Vice Chair Olds, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Alicia Hedlesky, a resident of Moloa'a, Kauai and a member of Indivisible Hawaii. I am writing to strongly support HB2009, which would help some of Hawaii's most vulnerable families secure child care.

Thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to testify on this important issue,

Alicia Hedlesky

**HB-2009**

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 8:30:27 AM  
Testimony for HSH on 2/5/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David Cuthbert	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

**Comments:**

For me the operative word is dependents and they must be cared for regardless of the health status of their primary caregiver.

LATE \*Testimony submitted late may not be considered by the Committee for decision making purposes.

**HB-2009**

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 10:13:51 AM  
Testimony for HSH on 2/5/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lori Kizer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill and ask my elected officials to approve/pass. Mahalo.

LATE \*Testimony submitted late may not be considered by the Committee for decision making purposes.

**HB-2009**

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 11:26:22 AM

Testimony for HSH on 2/5/2026 9:30:00 AM

**LATE**

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Wendy Dame	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is important to ensure that those who are disabled can access the resources necessary to care for their family, rather than run the risk that some family members could be institutionalized.