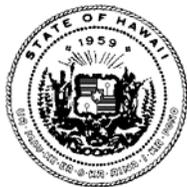


JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR  
KE KIA'ĀINA



RYAN I. YAMANE  
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

TRISTA SPEER  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

March 3, 2026

TO: The Honorable Representative Chris Todd, Chair  
House Committee on Finance

FROM: Ryan I. Yamane, Director

SUBJECT: **HB 2009 HD1 – RELATING TO FAMILY CAREGIVER SUPPORT.**

Hearing: Wednesday, March 4, 2026, Time 10:00 a.m.  
Conference Room 308 & Via Videoconference, 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 of addressing service gaps.

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, 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:

- While the Health and Functional Assessment may be ameliorated to support robust evaluations of the Medicaid recipient for HCBS service needs, including a 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 outside the scope of assessing the Medicaid recipient seeking HCBS.
- 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.
- 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.



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII**  
**STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**  
**'A'UNIKE MOKU'ĀPUNI NO KA NĀ KĀWAI KULA**  
PRINCESS VICTORIA KAMĀMALU BUILDING  
1010 RICHARDS STREET, Room 122  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543  
March 4, 2026

The Honorable Representative Tood Chris, Chair  
House Committee on Finance  
The Thirty-Third Legislature  
State Capitol State of Hawai'i  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Representative Todd and Committee Members:

**SUBJECT:** HB 2009 HD1 Relating to Family Caregiver Support

The Hawai'i State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) provides **comments and appreciates the intent of HB 2009 HD1**, which extends childcare 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 health and functional assessment protocols related to at-risk needs determinations.

We initially understood this measure as addressing a longstanding gap affecting parents and guardians with disabilities whose caregiving capacity may be substantially impaired due to disability or serious medical conditions. However, after reviewing the testimony submitted by the Department of Human Services, we recognize that the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF), which supports Hawai'i's childcare subsidy program, is governed by federal eligibility requirements. These requirements generally limit eligibility to parents who are working, in education, or in job training. CCDF, administered by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services through the Administration for Children and Families, does not currently permit eligibility based solely on parental disability status.

We further understand that if Hawai'i were to expand eligibility to include caregiver capacity without meeting federal CCDF participation requirements, those childcare subsidies would not qualify for federal funding and would instead require 100 percent State general funds for both benefits and administration.

The Council continues to believe that caregiver capacity should be evaluated accurately and not presumed. HB 2009 HD1 raises an important policy question: how Hawai'i can better support parents with disabilities whose access and functional needs affect caregiving, without jeopardizing federal funding streams or creating unintended fiscal consequences.

For example, a single parent who acquires a disability, such as spinal cord injury, may experience a sudden, significant change in their ability to safely lift, transport, or supervise a young child. In these situations, caregiving limitations are real and functional, even if the parent is not engaged in employment, education, or job training under current federal childcare eligibility standards.

The Council encourages dialogue between the Department of Human Services and the Hawai'i Disability Rights Center to explore compliant and fiscally responsible approaches that address the longstanding gap affecting parents and guardians with disabilities whose caregiving capacity may be substantially impaired due to disability or serious medical conditions, while preserving federal funding integrity.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on HB 2009 HD1.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daintry Bartoldus".

Daintry Bartoldus, Executive Administrator



March 4, 2026

Representative Chris Todd, Chair  
Representative Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair  
Committee on Finance

**Re: H.B. 2009, H.D. 1, Relating to Family Caregiver Support**

**Hearing: Wednesday, March 4, 2026, 10:00 AM, Conference Room 308 & Videoconference**

Dear Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and the Members of the Committee:

Hawaii Women Lawyers is a lawyer's trade organization that aims to improve the lives and careers of women in all aspects of the legal profession, influence the future of the legal profession, and enhance the status of women and promote equal opportunities for all.

**Hawaii Women Lawyers submits testimony in support of H.B. 2009, H.D. 1**, which strengthens the safety net for families by extending childcare subsidies to children of disabled parents regardless of employment status, and by requiring the Department of Human Services to fairly evaluate caregiver capacity and dependent-care responsibilities in determining Medicaid eligibility for home- and community-based services.

H.B. 2009, H.D. 1 addresses a critical gap in state policy by ensuring that caregiving responsibilities and limitations of disabled parents are properly recognized and supported. Without these changes, families may face unjust denials of essential services or risk institutionalization of vulnerable household members. This bill upholds the dignity of disabled caregivers, promotes child safety, and aligns with federal guidance affirming that family support must be voluntary and feasible. It advances equity by ensuring that disabled parents are not unfairly excluded from support systems simply because they are unable to work.

**For the above reasons, we support H.B. 2009, H.D. 1 and respectfully request that the Committee pass this measure.**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.



[www.AlohaILHawaii.org](http://www.AlohaILHawaii.org)

Mar 2, 2026

#### MISSION

Aloha Independent Living Hawaii (AILH) dedicated to providing independent living programs and services for persons with disabilities in Hawaii.

We work together with the community and consumers to improve the quality of life through individual choices and access to services.

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Roxanne U. Bolden

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The Honorable Chris Todd, Chair  
House Committee on Finance  
The Thirty-Third Legislature  
State Capitol  
State of Hawaii  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**SUBJECT:** HB2009 HD1, Relating to Family Caregiver Support.

Chair and Members of the Committee:

Aloha Independent Living Hawaii (AILH) **supports HB2009 HD1 with recommendations.**

HB2009 HD1 strengthens Hawaii's safety net by extending child care subsidies to disabled parents regardless of employment status and requiring the Department of Human Services to evaluate caregiver capacity and dependent-care responsibilities when determining eligibility for Medicaid Home- and Community-Based Services.

From a fiscal perspective, this bill addresses a structural vulnerability that can lead to significantly higher public expenditures. When caregiver capacity is presumed rather than affirmatively assessed, families may experience preventable crises that result in emergency care utilization, child welfare intervention, or unnecessary institutionalization. Institutional care and crisis services carry substantially higher long-term costs than appropriately structured community-based supports.

By requiring evaluation of caregiver willingness and ability and prohibiting denial of services based solely on assumed unpaid family support, this measure reduces institutional bias within Medicaid assessment protocols and strengthens service stability.

HB2009 HD1 directly aligns with the State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) FY2025-2027, which prioritizes systems change that supports inclusive and accessible communities and prevents unnecessary institutionalization. The SPIL



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emphasizes strengthening community-based supports and ensuring that individuals with disabilities can remain in their homes and communities with appropriate services. Evaluating caregiver capacity through a person-centered lens reflects these principles and advances long-term independence.

The bill also aligns with statewide workforce development priorities. When disabled parents are denied access to child care subsidies due to rigid employment-based eligibility standards, their ability to pursue education, training, or workforce reentry is constrained. Additionally, caregiver burnout and family instability can reduce labor force participation among other household members. Stabilizing families through accurate HCBS assessments and equitable child care access supports economic resilience and long-term workforce engagement.

AILH respectfully offers the following recommendations:

First, implementation should ensure that documentation and verification requirements do not create excessive administrative burdens for families already navigating disability-related complexities.

Second, sufficient funding must accompany protocol revisions, training requirements, and managed care contract updates to ensure consistent statewide implementation.

Third, periodic reporting to the Legislature on caregiver capacity findings, service adjustments, and institutional diversion outcomes would support fiscal oversight and help evaluate cost-effectiveness over time.

HB2009 HD1 represents a preventative investment in family stability, community integration, and long-term cost containment. By strengthening person-centered Medicaid assessments and supporting disabled parents in maintaining caregiving responsibilities, the State advances both independent living goals and fiscal responsibility.

AILH respectfully urges passage with the above recommendations.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Aloha,



[www.AlohaILHawaii.org](http://www.AlohaILHawaii.org)

*Roxanne U. Bolden*

Roxanne Bolden  
Executive Director

#### **MISSION**

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#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Roxanne U. Bolden

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## 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 Finance  
Re: Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of HB2009 HD1

Dear Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and the Members of Committee,

Members of Indivisible Hawai'i thank you for this opportunity to testify in strong support of HB2009 HD1 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 HD1. It would help disabled caregivers make ends meet.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Younghee 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.*

**HB-2009-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 11:01:39 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/4/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anne Chipchase	Hawai'i Disability Rights Center	Support	In Person

Comments:

I am Anne Chipchase, an advocate at Hawaii Disability Rights Center, the state's designated Protection and Advocacy Agency. I currently have 69 open cases. Although it is hypothetical, many of my clients' life stories mirror the following.

Consider this ...

- You are the 47year-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 14year-old son who is beginning to display mildly anti-social behaviors at home and at school.
- You work 5060 hours a week as a caregiver for an elderly gentleman who suffers from dementia. It is a 45minute 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!
  - 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
  - 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. 2009 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.

*Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks! is a nonpartisan 501c4 nonprofit committed to advocating for children and their families. Our core issues are safety, health, and education.*

To: House Committee on Finance  
Re: **HB 2009 HD1 – Relating to Family Caregiver Support**  
Hawai'i State Capitol room 308 & Via Videoconference March 4,  
2026, 10:00 AM

Dear Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Respected Committee Members,

On behalf of Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!, I am writing in **STRONG SUPPORT of HB 2009 HD1**. 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 HD1 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 PASS HB 2009.**

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE  
Rep. Chris Todd, Chair  
Rep. Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair

HEARING:  
Wednesday, March 4, 2026 at 10:00 am  
Conference Room 308 and Via Videoconference

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 2009, HD1 - RELATING TO FAMILY CAREGIVER SUPPORT.**

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, Rep. Miyake for my district, Rep. Yamashita 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, HD1, relating to family caregiver support.** House Bill 2009, HD1 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, HD1** 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-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/2/2026 2:22:59 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/4/2026 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kristy Arias	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I support this bill. Please put yourselves in a care givers shoes.

Mahalo

**HB-2009-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/2/2026 7:37:24 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/4/2026 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lily Troy MD	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB2009 HD1

Eileen Cain  
720 Mahi'ai St., Apt. E  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96826-5635  
eileencaïn808@gmail.com  
March 2, 2026

Representative Chris Todd, Chair, Committee on **Finance**  
Representative Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair,  
and Members of the Committee on **Finance**

**Testimony in Favor of HB2009 HD1, Relating to Family Caregiver Support**

Passing this bill would ease the burden on families who need to have a family member function as a caregiver. This law would allow caregivers who are themselves unable to work to receive the subsidies for childcare.

Disabled caregivers should not be penalized by not being made ineligible to receive these subsidies. Being disabled is a hardship already.

**Please vote yes on HB2009 HD1.**

Mahalo,

Eileen Cain  
Mō'ili'ili, Honolulu, Hawai'i

**HB-2009-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/2/2026 8:41:24 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/4/2026 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jaymen Laupola	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair and Members of the Committee,

I strongly support H.B. 2009 because families should not be denied critical services based on unrealistic assumptions about unpaid caregiving. This bill ensures that disabled parents and caregivers receive child care assistance and Medicaid support based on actual capacity, not presumed availability of family members.

By recognizing caregiver limitations and dependent-care responsibilities, this measure helps keep families safe, stable, and together while preventing unnecessary institutionalization. It is a practical and compassionate correction to gaps in our current system.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Jaymen Laupola, Honolulu

**HB-2009-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/2/2026 9:43:24 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/4/2026 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kehaulani Coleman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you

**HB-2009-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 9:50:59 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/4/2026 10:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

As a retired physician, a resident of Kapolei, and a member of Indivisible Hawaii, I strongly support bill HB2009. Its purpose is to extend child care subsidies to children of disabled parents regardless of their employment status, to require the department of human services to evaluate caregiver capacity and dependent-care responsibilities when determining eligibility for medicaid home and community-based services, and to require the department of human services to update its evaluation form and functional assessment protocols to ensure that families with disabled caregivers receive appropriate and timely support.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

Robert Justice, M.D.

**HB-2009-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 11:32:02 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/4/2026 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jessica Kuzmier	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I am writing in support of HB 2009 HD1. I believe it is a necessary and humane policy. Mahalo for your consideration.

**HB-2009-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 1:02:21 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/4/2026 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
James E Raymond	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you. I am a member of Indivisible Windward.

**HB-2009-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 1:35:57 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/4/2026 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Doris Segal Matsunaga	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB 2009 HD1