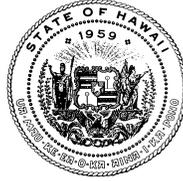


DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



CAROLINE CADIRAO  
PSM MANAGER

BRUCE ANDERSON  
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON AGING**  
NO. 1 CAPITOL DISTRICT  
250 SOUTH HOTEL STREET, SUITE 406  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-2831  
eoa@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony in SUPPORT of SB1025 SD1**  
**Relating to Kupuna Caregivers Program**

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES & HOMELESSNESS  
REPRESENTATIVE JOY A. SAN BUENAVENTURA, CHAIR  
REPRESENTATIVE NADINE K. NAKAMURA, VICE CHAIR

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
REPRESENTATIVE JOHN M. MIZUNO, CHAIR  
REPRESENTATIVE BERTRAND KOBAYASHI, VICE CHAIR

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

Hearing Date: March 20, 2019  
10:00 am

Room Number: 329

- 1 **EOA's Position:** The Executive Office on Aging (EOA), an attached agency to the Department  
2 of Health, supports this measure provided that its enactment does not reduce or replace priorities  
3 within the Administration's base budget.
- 4 **Fiscal Implications:** This measure appropriates an unspecified amount in SFY2020 and in  
5 SFY2021 for the Kupuna Caregivers Program. Governor Ige's budget request maintains a total  
6 base budget of \$1.2 million from SFY2019 through SFY2021.
- 7 **Purpose and Justification:** The purpose of this bill is to change the program allocation ceiling  
8 to allow for more flexibility and appropriates funds for implementation of the program. The  
9 intent is to provide assistance to caregivers to allow them to remain in the workforce while their  
10 loved ones are provided with necessary support services. Hawaii's aging population continues to

1 grow, and caregiver assistance is critical to supporting caregivers' own health as well as the  
2 health of Hawaii's kupuna. Act 102, HSL2017 appropriated \$600,000 for kupuna caregiver  
3 support services in SFY2018. In SFY2019, the Legislature appropriated \$1.2 million which will  
4 only maintain funding for those being served. The Kupuna Caregiver Program is in its infancy  
5 as this past February marked the one-year anniversary of the program serving caregivers. The  
6 program served 110 caregivers statewide as of the end of December 2018.

7 EOA notes that this bill amends the allocation of funds to a weekly amount of \$350 per week,  
8 thus supporting the need for flexibility on how the funds are used.

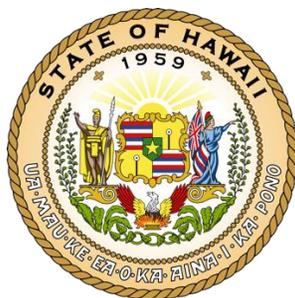
9 Additionally, EOA feels the need to strengthen the program. EOA would support a  
10 recommendation to develop a plan to maximize the number of participants served by the  
11 program. We suggest adding to Section 2 after line 21, the following: (d) Require the executive  
12 office on aging to offer a plan to maximize the number of recipients served by the program and  
13 offer certain core services;

14 The plan would include developing procedures to target those with greatest economic needs.

15 **Recommendations:** The Kupuna Caregivers Program is a part of the Administration's base  
16 budget request. 1) We support advancing this measure provided that its enactment does not  
17 reduce or replace priorities in the Administration's base budget. 2) We support the \$350 a week  
18 allotment. 3) We support the idea of a plan to work on assisting more working caregivers. 4) An  
19 allotment of \$1.2 million will support the current caregivers. An allocation of \$2 million dollars  
20 would expand the number of caregivers served.

21

22 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



Testimony on behalf of the  
Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women  
**Khara Jabola-Carolus, Executive Director**

Prepared for the H. Cmtee. on HSH/HLT

In Support of SB1025 SD1  
Wednesday, March 20, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 329

Dear Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Honorable Members,

The Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women **supports** SB1025, which would appropriate funds for the kupuna caregivers program.

More seniors in Hawai'i live past the age of 65 compared to anywhere else in the United States. Women over 65 and older are much more likely to be poor than men, regardless of race, educational background, and marital status. Thus, women face greater financial pressure to rely on friends and family care as they age. The soaring demand for affordable or free caregiving is predominantly met by women, who do not have the basic supports to allow them to take care of their families while they work. The value of the informal care that women in the United States provide ranges from \$148 billion to \$188 billion annually.<sup>1</sup> The quiet heroism of unpaid women caregivers alone cannot be the primary countervailing factor to our caregiving crisis.

An ethic of care should be funded and normalized into Hawai'i's economic plan. Accordingly, the Commission asks the Committee to pass SB1025.

Sincerely,

Khara Jabola-Carolus

---

<sup>1</sup> Family Caregiver Alliance, *Women and Caregiving: Facts and Figures*, 2003, <https://www.caregiver.org/women-and-caregiving-facts-and-figures>.

**SB-1025-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/15/2019 4:49:44 PM

Testimony for HSH on 3/20/2019 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
GARY SIMON	Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs (PABEA)	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chair Nakamura, Honorable Members of the House Committee on Human Services, Chair Mizuno, Vice Chair Ichiyama, and Honorable Members of the House Committee on Health:

I am Gary Simon, member of the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs (PABEA), which is an appointed board tasked with advising the Executive Office on Aging (EOA).

I am testifying as an individual who has worked in healthcare for over thirty years, and I am offering testimony on behalf of PABEA.

My testimony does not represent the views of the EOA but of PABEA.

***PABEA wholeheartedly supports SB 1025 SD 1.***

Changing the Kupuna Caregivers Program allocation cap from \$70 per day to \$350 per week allows the Area Agencies on Aging more flexibility in using the funds to meet the needs of the working family caregivers and their care recipients.

Funding for the Kupuna Caregiver Program protects working caregivers who are struggling to remain employed while providing caregiving services for a frail or elderly family member. Without this funding, eligible working caregivers can lose income and their employment.

We urge you to support SB 1025 SD 1 and to recommend its passage.

We thank you for seriously considering the bill.

Very sincerely,

Gary Simon

Chairperson, Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs (PABEA)





Testimony of Church of the Crossroads  
Supporting SB 1025 SD 1 with amendments  
Joint House Committee on Human Services & Homelessness and Health  
March 20, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. in Conference Room 329

*The Church of the Crossroads was founded in 1922 and is Hawaii's first intentionally multicultural church.*

The Church of the Crossroads supports the bill, with amendments. The Hawaii Kupuna Caregivers Program was established by the Hawaii Legislature in 2017 and is an important step in creating needed supports to family caregivers. By 2020, nearly 300,000 people in Hawaii will be 65 years of age or older, and the number persons needing some assistance with everyday activities continues to increase.

Family caregivers provide 70% of the care for frail elderly persons and thus bear the major burden and expense of care. The majority of family caregivers are also in the workforce and their employment is necessary to support the needs of their families as well as to assure that they will have sufficient Social Security benefits and savings to support themselves in retirement.

Research in Hawaii as well as nationally has shown that employed caregivers suffer an extraordinary level of stress in trying to balance the obligations of work and eldercare. Consequently, many employed caregivers have reduced productivity at work and many have to limit their hours or drop out of the workforce due the demands of caring.

The Kupuna Caregivers Program is designed to enable family caregivers to continue to participate in the labor force by providing assistance with care for their elder family member. The program offers in-home and community-based services, such as day care, transportation, homemaker services, meals, and personal care services, up to \$70 per day for 5 days a week. Elder persons needing assistance with at least 2 activities of daily living may qualify for the program.

Within a few weeks of the launch of the program, more than 500 persons inquired about it. The program's relatively small budget, however, limited the services to a relatively small number of clients. The current level of funding, unfortunately, is still woefully inadequate to serve the existing need. Legislators, as well as persons in the community, have expressed a strong desire to expand the number of persons being served.

The bill should be amended to insert an appropriation of \$2 million for the program, which will allow it to serve a more significant and meaningful number of family caregivers who also have jobs outside the home. The effective date should also be changed.

With those amendments the Church of the Crossroads supports the bill and urges the committee to pass it.



Luna O Na Papa Alakai

House Committee on Human Services & Homelessness  
House Committee on Health

Pelekikena  
A. Makana Paris

March 20, 2019  
Room 329  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

Hope Pekekikena  
Ekahi  
Randi Fernandez

Hope Pelekikena  
Elua  
Matthew Gumapac

Re: SB1025 SD 1 RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM

Puuku  
Denise Kekuna

Aloha Chair San Buenaventura, Vice-Chair Nakamura, Chair Mizuno, Vice-Chair Kobayashi, and honorable members:

Kakauolelo Hoopaa  
Sai Furukawa

The Prince Kūhiō Hawaiian Civic Club (PKHCC) **SUPPORTS** SB1025 SD1. This bill will change the kupuna caregivers program allocation cap from \$70 per day to \$350 per week and appropriate money.

Kakauolelo Hooholo  
Palapala  
Kamuela Werner

We are proud that our state for creating the Kūpuna Caregivers Program, the first of its kind in the nation. This program is one way in which we care for our elders in our society and for it to be effective we ought to help our caregivers and appropriately fund this program. The Hawaiian wisdom saying, *he mau makana nau keia no makou kupuna*, that we all are presented gifts from our elders, remind us of their importance in our society and that it our blessing to care for them.

Pelekikena Hala  
Koke  
Yvonne 'PeeWee'  
Ryan

Founded in 1964, PKHCC was organized to promote the education and social welfare of people of Hawaiian ancestry and objectives include supporting high ethical standards in business, industry and the professional fields of enterprise.

Luna Alakai  
Kuni Agard  
Puamana Crabbe  
Kanani Pali  
Marlene Sai  
Jennifer Smythe  
Bruce Wong

PKHCC urges the committee to **PASS** SB1025 SD1.

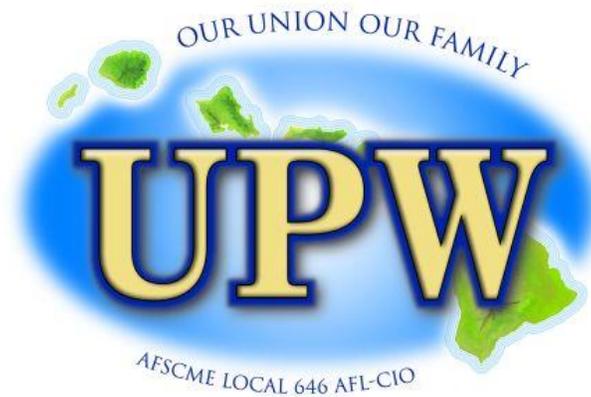
Mailing Address:  
P.O. Box 4728  
Honolulu ~ Hawaii  
96812

www.pkhcc.org

Me ke aloha,

A. Makana Paris  
Pelekikena  
president@pkhcc.org

Founded in 1964  
by Liliuokalani  
Kawananakoa Morris



THE STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The Thirtieth Legislature  
Regular Session of 2019

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES AND HOMELESSNESS

Representative Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair  
Representative Nadine K. Nakamura, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Representative John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

Date of Hearing: Wednesday, March 20, 2019  
Time of Hearing: 10:00 a.m.  
Place of Hearing: Conference Room 329

**TESTIMONY ON SB1025, SD1, RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM**

By DAYTON M. NAKANELUA,  
State Director of the United Public Workers,  
AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO ("UPW")

My name is Dayton M. Nakanelua, State Director of the United Public Workers, AFSCME, Local 646, AFL-CIO (UPW). The UPW is the exclusive bargaining representative for approximately 14,000 public employees, which include blue collar, non-supervisory employees in Bargaining Unit 01 and institutional, health and correctional employees in Bargaining Unit 10, in the State of Hawaii and four counties. The UPW also represents about 1,500 members in the private sector.

SB 1025, SD1 recognizes the problem hundreds of Hawaii families are confronted with in caring for their elderly loved ones. This bill and several others that support Hawaii's elderly are greatly appreciated. SB1025, SD1 changes the Kupuna Caregivers Program allocation cap from \$70 per day to \$350 per week. It appropriates funds for further implementation of the Kupuna Caregivers Program. The UPW **strongly supports** this measure.

Thank you or the opportunity to submit this testimony.

**SB-1025-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/17/2019 11:01:38 AM

Testimony for HSH on 3/20/2019 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Katrina Obleada	Hawaii Psychological Association	Support	No

Comments:

**Hawai'i Psychological Association (HPA) supports this measure which would provide additional funding to expand the Kupuna Caregiver program. It would increase the number of recipients who would benefit from the Kupuna Caregiver program and allow for program flexibility in the use of the funds to address the needs of the caregivers. Additionally, there would be implementation of oversight mechanisms to track and maximize effectiveness for participants.**

**Testimony in Support by Zonta Club Of Hilo for Kupuna Care and Caregivers and Request for the ADRC Bill be heard at the same time**

The **Zonta Club of Hilo supports** the requested appropriation to fund fully Kupuna Care and Kupuna Caregivers without the daily cap in SB 1023, SD 1, and SB1025, SD 1. We request that the Aging and Disability Resource Centers Network bill (SB 1024, SD 1) be set for a hearing at the same time on March 20, 2019. Additionally, we support the Kupuna Caucus-related bills, including the Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias Coordinator and Research, and Healthy Aging. Zonta is an international organization of business and professional women whose mission is to advance the status of women and girls worldwide.

The Zonta Club **voted recently to support Kupuna Caucus bills relating to Aging**, including Kupuna Care, Kupuna Caregivers Support, a "one-stop resource center" for aging and disability services (ADRC), Alzheimer and Dementia Coordinator, and Healthy Aging. As an organization, we realize that aging issues disproportionately impact women for two main reasons; 1) greater social, medical and economic costs associated with longer life-expectancies for women; and 2) women still bear most of the responsibilities of elder caregiving. Many Zontians are "Baby Boomers" who understand the challenges of being an "elder."

To reduce economic and social costs facing the elders, disabled, and their caregivers, we need collaborative, comprehensive implementation of "best practices." The practices must include a government and community "support net" through adequate funding and user-friendly access.

The Kupuna Caucus funding proposals would reduce the overall societal and economic costs by allowing the elders to age-in-place, surrounded by social supports, and avoiding costly institutional care and caregivers' burnout.

The funding will be helpful for Hawaii County, which has the challenge of being the largest county with strained infrastructure. Our super-rurality makes any delivery of services for elders and disabled more challenging. We continue to have the unfortunate status of being the county with the most "challenging" economic and social negative social indicators, including inadequate public transportation and insufficient primary health care services. Hawaii County's growing elder and disabled population is outpacing the current resources. Over 21% of the population is over 60. The Kupuna Caucus funding bills give us hope.

Thank you for your expected support and opportunity to testify. Charlene Iboshi

**TO :** HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES & HOMELESSNESS

**Rep. Joy A San Buenaventura, Chair**  
**Rep. Nadine K. Nakamura, Vice Chair** Vice Chair

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH**  
**Rep. John A. Mizuno, Chair**  
**Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair**

**FROM:** Eldon L. Wegner, Ph.D.  
Board of the Hawaii Family Caregiver Coalition

**SUBJECT: SB 1025 SD1 Relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program**

**HEARING:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019, 10:00 am  
Conference Room 329, Hawaii State Capitol

**POSITION:** The Hawaii Family Caregiver Coalition strongly supports SB 1025, including the change in SD 1 of a benefit up to \$350 a week. We hope the appropriation of \$2 million per year will also be restored.

**THE NEED:**

The Hawaii Kupuna Caregivers Program was established by the 2017 Legislative Session and is an important step in creating needed supports to family caregivers. The number of persons needing some assistance with everyday activities continues to increase. The majority are able to manage without any assistance, but research in Hawaii as well as nationally has shown that employed caregivers suffer an extraordinary level of stress in trying to balance the obligations of work and eldercare. Consequently, many employed caregivers have reduced productivity at work and many have to limit their hours or drop out of the workforce due the demands of caring.

The Kupuna Caregivers Program is designed to enable family caregivers to continue to participate in the labor force by providing assistance with care for their elder family member. The program offers in-home and community-based services, such as day care, transportation, homemaker services, meals, and personal care services, up to 5 days a week. Elder persons needing assistance with at least 2 activities of daily living may qualify for the program.

Within a few weeks of when the program was launched, over 500 persons submitted an inquiry for the program. The program budget this past year was only \$600,000, which , limited the services to a relatively small number of clients. As of the end of December 2018, a total of 110 caregivers and 112 care recipients had been served by the program.

Legislators as well as persons in the community have expressed a strong desire to see this program expand the number of persons being served. **Increasing the funding to \$2 million per year would allow the program to serve a more significant and meaningful number of employed caregivers. HD 1 removed the amount of the appropriation. Furthermore, by allowing up to \$350 per week, the program will**

**have the flexibility to adapt services to the assessed needs of caregivers and the care recipient and also attract more services providers to the program.**

Since its passage, the Hawaii Kupuna Caregiver program has received much national attention in the media, and many other states are now considering similar legislation. We believe this program is a very significant step in meeting the serious needs faced by families needing to provide long-term care for their frail members

Thank you  
Eldon L. Wegner, Ph.D  
Board, Hawaii Family Caregiver Coalition (HFCC)



**Evelyn Hao**  
President

**Rev. Won-Seok Yuh**  
Vice President-  
Clergy

**William Bekemeier**  
Vice President-  
Laity

**Jon Davidann**  
Treasurer

**Deanna Espinas**  
Secretary

**Christy MacPherson**  
Executive  
Director

**Ashleigh Loa**  
Staff Organizer

**Soo San Schake**  
Organizing  
Assistant

**Chairs Joy A. San Buenaventura and John M. Mizuno**  
**Vice Chairs Nadine K. Nakamura and Bertrand Kobayashi**  
**Senate Committee on Ways and Means**

**Wednesday, March 20, 2019**

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1025 SD1, RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM**

Dear Chairs San Buenaventura and Mizuno, Vice Chairs Nakamura and Kobayashi and Members of the Committee,

My name is Evelyn Hao and I am the President of Faith Action for Community Equity (formerly FACE). I am writing to express our support for **Senate Bill 1025 SD1**, relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program. This bill continues the needed funding for the Kupuna Caregivers program, a critical part of the infrastructure to help our kupuna and their caregivers.

The Kupuna Caregivers program is a prevention program, helping people before crisis has struck. It also helps reduce costs to the state by possibly delaying the time that a family may become eligible for medicaid. Studies have also shown that people that age at home with family are more likely to have better health outcomes, reducing hospitalization and ER visits, which ends up saving our state of expensive medical procedures that could have been prevented with adequate care.

This bill will provide the needed \$2 million in funding, which will help cover those people who are still in the waiting list. It will also change the statute so instead of providing \$70 per day in services it would be an average of up to \$350 per week so that the Executive Office on Aging is able to negotiate more freely with vendors and be able to provide more services.

Each year the Hawaii Legislature has shown leadership on this issue by creating and continuing to fund the program. We hope this year will be no different.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

Evelyn Aczon Hao  
President  
Faith Action for Community Equity

## Helping Hawai'i Live Well

To: Representative Joy San Buenaventura, Chair, Representative Nadine Nakamura, Vice Chair, Members, House Committee on Human Services and Homelessness  
Representative John Mizuno, Chair, Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair, Members, House Committee on Health

From: Trisha Kajimura, Executive Director

**Re: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1025 SD1 RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM**

**Hearing: March 20, 2019, 10:00 am, CR 329**

Thank you for hearing **Senate Bill 1025 SD1**, which will provide funds to continue the Kupuna Caregivers program. Through the Kupuna Caregivers program, our dedicated family caregivers will receive the support that they need to help keep kupuna safe at home and their family stress level from becoming unmanageable.

We know that the need for the Kupuna Caregivers program is very high for families across Hawaii. Within just a few weeks of launch, the Executive Office on Aging documented over 500 requests for services. Each of those requests represents friends and neighbors who have few other resources to turn to for caregiving support. Kupuna Caregivers is intended to support those caregiving families who are not eligible for Medicaid but are still struggling to pay for the care services they need. They are working full time, sometimes working multiple jobs, and often taking care of young children and an aging kupuna at the same time.

By providing a care benefit of \$350 per week, Kupuna Caregivers establishes a revised level of funding per family that ensures working families have access to resources to provide care at home and so that the Executive Office on Aging is able to negotiate more freely with vendors and be able to provide more services.

Mental Health America of Hawaii is a 501(c)3 organization founded in Hawai'i 77 years ago, that serves the community by promoting mental health through advocacy, education and service. Kupuna and caregivers are both at-risk for mental health issues due to aging and high levels of stress. The Kupuna Caregivers program supports the mental health of our working and caregiving families.

Thank you for considering my **testimony in support of SB 1025 SD1**. Please contact me at [trisha.kajimura@mentalhealthhawaii.org](mailto:trisha.kajimura@mentalhealthhawaii.org) or (808)521-1846 if you have any questions.

**Chair Joy San Buenaventura  
Vice Chair Nadine Nakamura  
House Committee on Human Services & Homelessness**

**Chair John Mizuno  
Vice Chair Bertrand Kobayashi  
House Committee on Health**

**Wednesday, March 20, 2019**



**CARING  
ACROSS  
GENERATIONS**

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1025, SD1  
RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM**

My name is Pedro Haro, and I wish to testify on behalf of Caring Across Generations in strong support of Senate Bill 1025, SD1.

Caring Across Generations is a national movement of families, caregivers, people with disabilities and aging Americans working to transform the way we care in this country, calling for policy solutions that enable all of us to live and age with dignity and independence. Caring Across Generations has worked with partners in Hawai'i for years in support of legislation that will help make quality long-term care accessible to everyone, and we believe that this bill is an important step toward that goal.

There is little disagreement that the lack of long-term care coverage is a critical issue facing our country. For the vast majority of families without private long term care insurance, the only choices available are to either spend down their life savings in order to qualify for Medicaid, or to rely on unpaid family caregivers. Neither choice is sustainable. In Hawai'i, the issue is even more devastating as our cost of home health care is on average \$10,000 more than on the continental U.S. To adequately meet the care needs of families, and of the direct care workforce, we need to support the caregiving infrastructure that the Kupuna Caregivers provides.

Senate Bill 1025, SD1 will continue the funding for the Kupuna Caregivers program and will provide the needed respite care that our kūpuna caregivers deserve and the support our working families and businesses need. Study after study shows that the value of unpaid, and often under-recognized, family care is astronomical, and when family caregivers are forced to leave the workforce to provide care for an aging loved one, they risk their own retirement security. No one should be forced to choose between earning a living to provide for their family or leaving a job to provide long term care. **Our own research showed that 1 in 5 people indicated that they or someone in the household has had to leave a job or the workforce to help care for an aging loved one.**

The benefit offered in this legislation will help ensure that aging adults in Hawaii will have access to the care they need, in a setting where they are already comfortable. And, importantly,

family members in the workforce will be able to continue working, which improves their economic security and also stabilizes the workforce for business owners.

Care is a universal issue, and anyone in this room who is not currently providing some form of care to a family member has almost certainly done so in the past...or will do so in the future. Caring Across Generations urges this committee to support Senate Bill 1025, SD1 and help ensure that all families have the support they need to provide the care our kūpuna deserve.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

**Pedro Haro**  
**Advocacy Director, Hawaii**  
**Caring Across Generations**  
**[pedro@caringacross.org](mailto:pedro@caringacross.org)**



State of Hawaii House Committee on Human Services and Homelessness  
The Honorable Representative Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair  
The Honorable Representative Nadine K. Nakamura, Vice Chair

State of Hawaii House Committee on Health  
The Honorable Representative John Mizuno, Chair  
The Honorable Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

Hawaii State Legislature  
Wednesday, March 20, 2019, 10 am  
Room 329

**SB 1025, SD1, Relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program**

Good morning Chairs San Buenaventura and Mizuno, Vice Chairs Nakamura and Kobayashi, and Members of the Committees:

Lanakila Meals on Wheels is in support of SB 1025, SD1 which funds and also establishes greater oversight for the Kupuna Caregivers program. As Hawaii’s largest and only island-wide home delivered meal provider to kupuna, we see the great need in the kupuna community and the increased demand on working caregivers. The Kupuna Caregivers program provides needed support to caregivers and kupuna and we are pleased SB 1025, SD1 seeks to ensure all core services, including Home Delivered Meals, are utilized under Kupuna Caregivers so caregivers and kupuna have all available options to meet their family’s needs.

As the committee considers how to implement or limit core services such as Home Delivered Meals, Transportation, or Personal Assistance, please consider how these services are delivered so they can make a significant enough impact to allow a caregiver to remain in the workforce. Instead we propose allowing the Executive Office on Aging to create a plan to reach more people and to maximize the number of recipients served perhaps by capping the dollar amount available to each household on a needs-based sliding scale or implementing different caps for each core service.

The Kupuna Caregivers program is a prevention program, seeking to provide relief to working caregivers who are supporting their kupuna in aging in-place. Working caregivers will continue to provide revenue to the State of Hawaii in taxes related to their work productivity and keeping kupuna at home potentially helps reduce costs to the State by delaying the time when the kupuna would draw on Medicaid.

Please support Hawaii’s working caregivers and kupuna by passing SB 1025, SD1 and ensuring the core services it seeks to provide will serve those most in need.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Rona Fukumoto  
President and CEO

  
Lori Lau  
Director, Lanakila Meals on Wheels

**Lanakila Pacific Board**  
Scott Nahme, *Chair*  
Carl Hinson, *Vice Chair*  
Kristi O’Heron, *Secretary*  
Dwayne Takeno, *Treasurer*  
Bob Toyofuku  
Suzanne Kaulukukui

JoAnn Yosemite  
Savan Patel  
Tom Hutton  
Maria Borje-Bonkowski  
Sherri Yim  
Dawn Hirano  
Paige Choy  
Frank Ho

**Foundation Board**  
Ryan Yamamoto, *Chair*  
Cleo Brown, *Vice Chair*  
Alton Murakami,  
*Treasurer/Secretary*  
Bill Kern  
Ed Sugimoto

Jackson Nakasone  
Jodi Endo Chai  
Scott Kavanaugh  
Mike Robinson  
Bryan Kapeckas  
Emmit Kane

**President and CEO**  
Rona Yagi Fukumoto





# HAWAII APPLESEED

## CENTER FOR LAW & ECONOMIC JUSTICE

Testimony of Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice  
In SUPPORT of SB 1025 SD1 – Relating to the Kūpuna Caregivers Program  
House Committees on Human Service & Homelessness and on Health  
Wednesday, March 20, 2019, 10:00 AM, conference room 329

---

Dear Chairs San Buenaventura and Mizuno, Vice Chairs Nakamura and Kobayashi, and members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **SUPPORT** of **SB 1025 SD1**, which would change the Kūpuna Caregivers Program allocation cap from \$70 per day to \$350 per week as well as appropriate funding for implementation of the program.

We commend you for creating the Kūpuna Caregivers Program, the first of its kind in the nation. This groundbreaking program is a crucial way to both provide a safety net for Hawai'i's family caregivers and invest in our paid care workforce.

It is essential that the program continue to be funded adequately in order to help many of our working families, who are in desperate need of the financial support that the program can provide.

According to a MetLife survey, the cost of home health aide services are significantly higher in Hawai'i than the national average. Ninety percent of people over age 65 say they would prefer to remain stay in their homes as long as possible. Our extended 'ohana are often loving caregivers, but providing that care can often create financial and emotional stress.

When the caregiver is working full-time, adding care duties adds significant personal strain for the caregiver. As a result, many caregivers make the difficult decision to leave their job or reduce their work hours to care for an aging family member.

Supporting home caregiving means Hawai'i can honor the wishes of our seniors, improve their health outcomes, and reduce the cost of long-term care for both family caregivers and the state.

**Please pass SB 1025 SD1 with the funding set at \$2 million.** We appreciate your consideration of this testimony.

---

*The Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice is committed to a more socially just Hawai'i, where everyone has genuine opportunities to achieve economic security and fulfill their potential. We change systems that perpetuate inequality and injustice through policy development, advocacy, and coalition building.*

House  
Committee on Human Services and Homelessness &  
Committee on Health  
Wednesday, March 20, 2019  
10:00 a.m.  
Conference Room 329

To: Representative Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair; Representative John M. Mizuno,  
Chair

RE: Strong Support for SB1025, SD1, Relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program

Aloha Chairs Buenaventura and Mizuno and Members of the Committees:

My name is Jessica Wooley and I am the Advocacy Director for AARP Hawaii. AARP is a membership-based organization of people age fifty and over with about 150,000 members in Hawaii. AARP advocates for issues that matter to Hawaii families, including the high cost of long-term care, access to affordable, quality health care for all generations and serving as a reliable information source on issues critical to people over the age of fifty.

AARP Hawaii strongly supports SB1025, SD1 which appropriates \$2,000,000 to Hawaii's Kupuna Caregivers program for the fiscal year 2019-2020 and the same for 2020-2021, to help Hawaii's working caregivers stay in the workforce. This is a landmark program that is helping vulnerable *kupuna* and the working caregivers who care for them (often working women, struggling to keep their jobs while caring for loved ones), providing significant benefits to the community.

We urge you to maintain, not eviscerate, this nationally recognized and much needed program to provide services to our most needy and the caregivers taking care of our most vulnerable.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of SB1025, SD1.



**CGPTA**  
**Chinatown Gateway Plaza**  
**Tenant Association**  
**Since 2006**

**To: Committees on Human Services & Homelessness (HSH) and Health (HLT)**

**From: Chinatown Gateway Plaza Tenant Association (CGPTA)**

Date: Wednesday, March 20, 2019, 10:00 AM

Place: Conference Room 329, State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street

**Re: Strong Support for SB1025 SD1**, Relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program.

Aloha e Chairs San Buenaventura and Mizuno, Vice Chairs Nakamura and Kobayashi, and Members of the Committees on HSH and HLT,

My name is Steve Lohse, I'm a resident of Chinatown Gateway Plaza (CGP), a 200-unit, city-owned, affordable housing property in Chinatown. I'm also chair of the CGP Tenant Association (CGPTA), organized by CGP residents in 2006 to keep ourselves informed and engaged in matters of concern to our community. On behalf of the CGPTA, thank you for this opportunity to submit written testimony in **Strong Support for SB1025 SD1**.

If your family is like mine, then you have seen family and community elders grow frail and in need of care, and you know that kupuna caregivers, especially in working families, need help to sustain their caregiving roles.

How can we possibly justify not helping? Please, generously fund caregivers and the Kupuna Caregivers Program. Let's have no regrets when our turn comes to need this care!

Please, do the right thing, and fund Kupuna Caregivers. Thank you!

Aloha no,  
Steve Lohse, Chair  
Chinatown Gateway Plaza Tenant Association (CGPTA)  
[CGP.Tenant.Association@gmail.com](mailto:CGP.Tenant.Association@gmail.com)

The Thirtieth Legislature  
Regular Session of 2019

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Committee on Human Services and Homelessness

Rep. Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair

Rep. Nadine K. Nakamura, Vice Chair

Committee on Health

Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair

Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

State Capitol, Conference Room 329  
Wednesday, March 20, 2019; 10:00 a.m.

**STATEMENT OF THE ILWU LOCAL 142 ON S.B. 1025, SD1  
RELATING TO KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM**

The ILWU Local 142 **supports** S.B. 1025, SD1, which appropriates funds to continue the Kupuna Caregivers Program and changes the allocation cap from \$70 per day to \$350 per week.

The Kupuna Caregivers Program was established in the 2017 session as the first of its kind in the nation. Starting with an appropriation of \$600,000 and increased to \$1.2 million in 2018, funding is used to assist family caregivers with support services for their loved ones in order to allow caregivers to retain their own employment. While services are provided to the kupuna, **the “client” is the employed family caregiver, who needs assistance to remain in the workforce.** With assistance to care for a loved one, the caregiver can work to protect his or her own financial security now and into the future. Another beneficiary of this program is the caregiver’s employer, who is spared the upheaval of absenteeism and premature retirement or resignation due to an employee’s caregiving responsibilities.

Although a range of services are available, adult day care has been determined the most cost-effective. Kupuna can receive services at an adult day care facility from professional staff who provide meals and a safe and healthful environment but also facilitate opportunities for socialization during the day while the caregiver is at work. This is good for the kupuna but affords the caregiver peace of mind that the kupuna is well cared for and allows the caregiver to retain his or her own employment.

The relatively nominal cost of adult day care allows kupuna to remain in their own homes, as they prefer, and keeps them out of costly institutional care, which can run more than \$11,000 a month and usually requires kupuna to apply for Medicaid, half of which is funded by the State and taxpayers.

S.B. 1025, SD1 will also allow for flexibility in payments to assist frail and vulnerable elderly who need care. Instead of \$70 a day, the amount will be capped at \$350 a week.

More, not less, must be provided for programs such as Kupuna Caregivers. The problems of an aging population continue to grow and efforts must be made to address them NOW. The ILWU urges passage of S.B. 1025, SD1. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.



Chair Joy San Buenaventura  
Vice Chair Nadine Nakamura  
House Committee on Human Services & Homelessness

Chair John Mizuno  
Vice Chair Bertrand Kobayashi  
House Committee on Health

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

Dear Chairs San Buenaventura and Mizuno, Vice Chairs Nakamura and Kobayashi, and Members of the Committees:

My name is Kathleen Wyatt with Hale Hau`oli Hawai`i, a non-profit organization with an adult day care center. We take care of 40 clients daily with some level of dementia, and I talk to their caregivers frequently. I also facilitate caregiver support groups around the island. Hearing the stories from the caregivers about their fear, frustration, and many other emotions stemming from caregiving an elder with dementia is heart-rending. Added to the stress of holding a full-time job and other family to care for is distressing. They need this program to be funded fully in order to keep their jobs and still be able to care for their loved ones.

I am writing to express my support for Senate Bill 1025, SD1, relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program. This program needs and deserves continued funding to help our kupuna and their caregivers.

By now we know that the need is there. The Executive Office on Aging reported that thousands of new calls came into its lines when the program was first launched. And we know why they are calling. The cost of professional caregiving continues to rise and our families simply cannot afford to take care of a loved one and remain fully employed. This program helps those in the gap group who are not eligible for Medicaid or Medicare to help with the costs, but are still barely making it, at times at risk of losing their jobs or having to reduce hours at work because the duties at home are too great. This reduces the income earning power of the caregivers, their social security benefits, at times risking their insurance coverage, and placing them closer and closer into poverty.

The Kupuna Caregivers program is a prevention program, helping people before crisis has struck. It also helps reduce costs to the state by possibly delaying the time that a family may become eligible for Medicaid. Studies have also shown that people that age at home with family are more likely to have better health outcomes, reducing hospitalization and ER visits, which

ends up saving our state of expensive medical procedures that could have been prevented with adequate care.

This bill will change the statute so instead of providing \$70 per day in services it would be an average of up to \$350 per week (the same as \$70 per day for 5 days a week) so that the Executive Office on Aging is able to negotiate more freely with vendors and be able to provide more services. I ask to please provide the needed \$2 million in total funding, which will help cover those people who are still on the waiting list.

Each year the Hawaii Legislature has shown leadership on this issue by creating and continuing to fund the program. We hope this year you will once again step up and continue to fund this critical program.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Wyatt  
Hale Hau`oli Hawai`i  
98-1247 Kaahumanu Street, Suite 207  
Aiea, HI 96701

**LATE**

**SB-1025-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/19/2019 10:05:43 PM  
Testimony for HSH on 3/20/2019 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ann S Freed	Hawaii Women's Coalition	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair San Buenaventura, Chair Mizuno and members,  
The Hawaii Women’s Coalition is in strong support of this measure.  
Ann S. Freed  
Co-Chair, Hawaii Women’s Coalition

The Thirtieth Legislature  
Regular Session of 2019



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Committee on Human Services and Homelessness

Rep. Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair

Rep. Nadine K. Nakamura, Vice Chair

Committee on Health

Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair

Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

State Capitol, Conference Room 329  
Wednesday, March 20, 2019; 10:00 a.m.

**STATEMENT OF THE ILWU LOCAL 142 ON S.B. 1025, SD1  
RELATING TO KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM**

The ILWU Local 142 **supports** S.B. 1025, SD1, which appropriates funds to continue the Kupuna Caregivers Program and changes the allocation cap from \$70 per day to \$350 per week.

The Kupuna Caregivers Program was established in the 2017 session as the first of its kind in the nation. Starting with an appropriation of \$600,000 and increased to \$1.2 million in 2018, funding is used to assist family caregivers with support services for their loved ones in order to allow caregivers to retain their own employment. While services are provided to the kupuna, **the “client” is the employed family caregiver, who needs assistance to remain in the workforce.** With assistance to care for a loved one, the caregiver can work to protect his or her own financial security now and into the future. Another beneficiary of this program is the caregiver’s employer, who is spared the upheaval of absenteeism and premature retirement or resignation due to an employee’s caregiving responsibilities.

Although a range of services are available, adult day care has been determined the most cost-effective. Kupuna can receive services at an adult day care facility from professional staff who provide meals and a safe and healthful environment but also facilitate opportunities for socialization during the day while the caregiver is at work. This is good for the kupuna but affords the caregiver peace of mind that the kupuna is well cared for and allows the caregiver to retain his or her own employment.

The relatively nominal cost of adult day care allows kupuna to remain in their own homes, as they prefer, and keeps them out of costly institutional care, which can run more than \$11,000 a month and usually requires kupuna to apply for Medicaid, half of which is funded by the State and taxpayers.

S.B. 1025, SD1 will also allow for flexibility in payments to assist frail and vulnerable elderly who need care. Instead of \$70 a day, the amount will be capped at \$350 a week.

More, not less, must be provided for programs such as Kupuna Caregivers. The problems of an aging population continue to grow and efforts must be made to address them NOW. The ILWU urges passage of S.B. 1025, SD1. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

TO: Representative Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair  
Representative Nadine K. Nakamura, Vice Chair  
Members of the Committee on Human Services &  
Homelessness

Representative John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Committee on Health

DATE: Wednesday, March 20, 2019

TIME: 10:00 AM

PLACE: Conference Room 329

**Re: SB 1025, SD 1 Relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program**

**Position: Support**

Dear Representatives San Buenaventura, Nakamura, Mizuno and Kobayashi, and Committee Members,

I am writing to support SB 1025, SD1 to continue the \$2 million in total funding for the Kupuna Caregivers program. The need for this program is demonstrated by those currently receiving services as well as the long waiting list of families who need the assistance. This bill also provides additional flexibility for the program to get the services to those who in need.

As a physician, there are times when patients delay their own health care and needs because they are too busy taking care of their elders or family to come in for their own care. Working mothers put aside their own needs to care for their children and their parents.

As a caregiver for my parents, I experienced the emotional and physical stresses placed on families who are doing their best to provide the love and support our parents deserve. Please help us, the caregivers, by providing a little more support, so we can create and enjoy our final moments of joy with our loved ones.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Cynthia J. Goto, M.D.

**SB-1025-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2019 6:34:28 PM

Testimony for HSH on 3/20/2019 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Randolph Hack	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Randolph Hack, and I am in **strong support** of this measure. This bill continues the needed funding for the Kupuna Caregivers Program, a critical part of the infrastructure to help our kupuna and their caregivers. The need is there...thousands of calls came in to the Executive Office on Aging when the program was launched. Kupuna Caregivers proposes an allowance of \$70/day up to \$350/week to a family that needs this service. This program needs more capacity...previously the statute only provided for \$70/day. The increase would allow the Executive Office on Aging to negotiate more freely with vendors and be able to provide more services. Please provide the needed \$2 million in total funding, which will help cover those on the waiting list.

I would like to thank the Legislature for their demonstrated leadership in funding this program. Please expand this vitally needed program.

**SB-1025-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/16/2019 6:05:26 PM

Testimony for HSH on 3/20/2019 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lea Minton	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support this bill and encourage legislators to pass this bill. Funding for Kupuna Caregiver programs is vital to the health and function of our community.

Chair Joy San Buenaventura  
Vice Chair Nadine Nakamura  
House Committee on Human Services & Homelessness

Chair John Mizuno  
Vice Chair Bertrand Kobayashi  
House Committee on Health

Wednesday, March 20, 2019  
10:00am  
Conference Room 329

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1025, SD1, RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM

Dear Chairs San Buenaventura and Mizuno, Vice Chairs Nakamura and Kobayashi, and Members of the Committees,

My name is Linda Dorset, and I am writing to express my support for Senate Bill 1025, SD1, relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program. This bill continues the needed funding for the Kupuna Caregivers program, a critical part of the infrastructure to help our kupuna and their caregivers.

The Kupuna Caregivers program is a prevention program, helping people before crisis has struck. It also helps reduce costs to the state by possibly delaying the time that a family may become eligible for Medicaid. Studies have also shown that people that age at home with family are more likely to have better health outcomes, reducing hospitalization and ER visits, which ends up saving our state of expensive medical procedures that could have been prevented with adequate care.

And we know that the need is there; caregivers should not have to choose between staying fully employed or providing adequate care for their loved one. Thousands of calls have flooded the Executive Office on Aging to enroll in the Kupuna Caregivers Program. More funding is needed to provide services to the families on this wait list because the cost of professional caregiving continues to rise. This program helps those in the gap group who are not eligible for Medicaid or Medicare to help with the costs, but are still barely making it, at times at risk of losing their jobs or having to reduce hours at work because the duties at home are too great. This reduces the income earning power of the caregivers, their social security benefits, at times risking their insurance coverage, and placing them closer and closer into poverty.

This bill will change the statute so instead of providing \$70 per day in services it would be an average of up to \$350 per week (the same as \$70 per day for 5 days a week) so that the Executive Office on Aging is able to negotiate more freely with vendors and be able to provide more services. I ask to please provide the needed \$2 million in total funding for this critical program without a cap on days of service.

Our local population is aging more rapidly, and living longer, than any other state. By 2020, nearly 300,000 people will be age 65 or older in Hawai'i. Because the demographic makeup of our state is changing, we need to change the way we provide care for our kūpuna. Just think, at some point most of us will either be caregivers or need care.

Testimony Supporting SB 1025  
Joint House Committees on Human Services & Homelessness and Health  
March 20, 2019 at 10:00am in Conference Room 329

Aloha:

My name is Rev. David Baumgart Turner, and I am the pastor of Church of the Crossroads, Hawaii's first intentional multi-ethnic congregation, founded in 1923. I testify in support of SB 1025 for the following reasons:

Hawaii's elder population continues to grow faster than younger populations. Many of the elderly are or will be in need of long-term care in one form or another. Most people cannot afford the cost of institutional care but, more importantly, they prefer to remain in their own homes.

Family caregivers provide 70% of the care for frail elderly persons and thus bear the major burden and expense of care. The majority of family caregivers are also in the workforce because their employment is necessary to support their families and to assure that they will have enough to support themselves in retirement.

There are an estimated 150,000 unpaid family caregivers in Hawaii, with the average caregiver being a 62-year-old married woman who cares for an elderly parent or husband while still working. Research in Hawaii as well as nationally has shown that employed caregivers suffer an extraordinary level of stress in trying to balance the obligations of work and eldercare. Consequently, many employed caregivers have reduced productivity at work, and many must limit their work hours or drop out of the workforce due the demands of caring.

In 2017, Hawaii created the Kupuna Caregivers Program, which helps family caregivers who work at jobs outside the home by providing a \$70/day benefit in services to care for disabled elderly people. These services include adult day care, chore services, personal care, respite care, and transportation.

The goal of Kupuna Caregivers is twofold: to support families in Hawaii in their desire to care for their loved ones, and to do it in an innovative, systematic manner that saves the State money in the long run. Without Kupuna Caregivers, the disabled elderly may have to be institutionalized, and the average cost of nursing home care in Hawaii exceeds \$130,000 per year. As a result, many nursing home residents deplete their savings and qualify for Medicaid, which is a State program.

The Kupuna Caregivers program has proven to be effective. However, the need is much greater than the current funding. I urge the committee to pass the bill.

**SB-1025-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2019 11:27:46 PM

Testimony for HSH on 3/20/2019 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gil A Penaranda	AARP	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Gil Penaranda and I submitting testimony in support of SB1025 SD1. The many caregivers do caregiving to their loved ones and at the same time maintain a job to support themselves and their families We need this bill in order to prevent a crisis. These caregivers are themselves in a crisis because they cannot provide the necessary time to both do caregiving and hold onto a full time job. This bill help the caregivers with their caregiving and be able to maintain the full time job that they need.

Let's continue the funding to help our caregivers maintain their jobs and provide the peace of mind that their loved ones are being taken care of.

Re: SB1023 Related to Aging March 20, 2019 10:00 Rm. 329

Aloha Chairs San Buenaventura and Mizuno, Vice Chairs Nakamura and Kobayashi and committee members

I am a senior citizen and a resident of House District 19 and Senate District 9. I am a member of AARP, Kokua Council, the Hawaii Alliance for Retired Americans and serve on the PABEA Legislative Committee.

I am writing in strong support of SB1023 to ask for full funding for the Kupuna Care program. Since 1999, this program has been successful through allowing Kupuna to remain in their own homes and not be forced into nursing homes, which cost upwards of \$150,000 per year. Kupuna are provided services such as homemaker and chore, Adult Day Care, home-delivered meals and case management. Since nursing home costs are often borne by taxpayers through Medicaid, Kupuna Care is definitely cost-effective.

Please approve SB1023 to provide full funding of Kupuna Care at \$9M. This amount has not increased for at least 5 years, while the number of Kupuna is the fastest growing segment of our society.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Barbara J. Service MSW

**March 19, 2019**

**To : House Committee on Human Services and Homelessness  
Rep. Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair  
Rep. Nadine K. Nakamura, Vice Chair**

**To: House Committee on Health  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Koboyashi, Vice Chair**

**RE: SB 1025 SD1 – Relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program**

**Hearing: March 20, 2019 – 10:00AM – Rm 329**

Most Honorable Chairs, Vice Chairs and Committee Members:

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT of SB 1025 SD1**

I support measure **SB1025 SD1** and ask your committee members to vote in favor of this bill.

The Caregiver Bill for working caregivers is a landmark program – a very successful program initiated first in the nation in the State of Hawaii.

SB1025 SD1 allocates the funding needed for fiscal year 2019-2020 providing \$2 Million for kupuna services coordinated by ADRC. The bill also addresses a change to the prior bill, allowing the use of services totaling up to \$350/week to provide the employed caregiver the ability to maintain a consistent schedule at work--while care is provided for their loved one at home.

This is a needed program--used most heavily by kupuna over 85 years of age who are the most frail in their needs.

Please vote YES to continue the Kupuna Care Program.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Olah  
Resident of Honolulu

**SB-1025-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/16/2019 8:08:18 AM

Testimony for HSH on 3/20/2019 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ellen Godbey Carson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill, which will help caregivers stay at work while caring for kupuna at home. It saves our state and residents very expensive care that would otherwise be need to be provided in institutional settings.

**Chair Joy San Buenaventura  
Vice Chair Nadine Nakamura  
House Committee on Human Services & Homelessness**

**Chair John Mizuno  
Vice Chair Bertrand Kobayashi  
House Committee on Health**

**Wednesday, March 20, 2019**

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1025 for the HSH-HLT hearing on March 20, 2019  
at 10:00 A.M., Room 329**

Dear Chairs San Buenaventura and Mizuno, Vice Chairs Nakamura and Kobayashi, and Members of the Committees,

My name is Alison Hayama, and I am writing to express my support for **Senate Bill 1025, SD1**, relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program. This bill continues the needed funding for the Kupuna Caregivers program, a critical part of the infrastructure to help our kupuna and their caregivers.

This bill will change the statute so instead of providing \$70 per day in services it would be an average of up to \$350 per week (the same as \$70 per day for 5 days a week) so that the Executive Office on Aging is able to negotiate more freely with vendors and be able to provide more services. I ask to please provide the needed \$2 million in total funding, which will help cover those people who are still on the waiting list.

I speak first hand as a caregiver of my mother who is 96 years old. I depend on Maluhia Adult Day Health Center to care for her 5 days a week when I am at work. My mother does not qualify for Medicaid since she falls in the gap group. Capping services to once per week will hurt my mother and me. If services are capped I could lose my full-time job, as well as my health benefits. In addition, I will not be able to pay for our home, utilities, food, and health care expenses. In addition, if I lose my full-time job, I will not be contributing to social security thus affecting my benefits in the future.

Each year the Hawaii Legislature has shown leadership on this issue by creating and continuing to fund the program. We hope this year you will once again step up and continue to fund this critical program.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

**Alison Hayama  
45-656 Apapane Street**

## **nakamura1 - Nichol**

---

**From:** Avery Fukunaga <averyfukunaga@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 18, 2019 6:40 PM  
**To:** HSHtestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in Support of SB 1025 for the HSH-HLT hearing on March 20, 2019 at 10:00 A.M., Room 329.

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Chair Joy San Buenaventura**  
**Vice Chair Nadine Nakamura**  
**House Committee on Human Services & Homelessness**

**Chair John Mizuno**  
**Vice Chair Bertrand Kobayashi**  
**House Committee on Health**

**Wednesday, March 20, 2019**

### **TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1025, SD1, RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM**

Dear Chairs San Buenaventura and Mizuno, Vice Chairs Nakamura and Kobayashi, and Members of the Committees,

My name is Avery Fukunaga and I am writing to express my support for **Senate Bill 1025, SD1**, relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program. This bill continues the needed funding for the Kupuna Caregivers program, a critical part of the infrastructure to help our kupuna and their caregivers.

By now we know that the need is there. The Executive Office on Aging reported that thousands of new calls came into its lines when the program was first launched. And we know why they are calling. The cost of professional caregiving continues to rise and our families simply cannot afford to take care of a loved one and remain fully employed. This program helps those in the gap group who are not eligible for medicaid or medicare to help with the costs, but are still barely making it, at times at risk of losing their jobs or having to reduce hours at work because the duties at home are too great. This reduces the income earning power of the caregivers, their social security benefits, at times risking their insurance coverage, and placing them closer and closer into poverty.

The Kupuna Caregivers program is a prevention program, helping people before crisis has struck. It also helps reduce costs to the state by possibly delaying the time that a family may become eligible for medicaid. Studies have also shown that people that age at home with family are more likely to have better health outcomes, reducing hospitalization and ER visits, which ends up saving our state of expensive medical procedures that could have been prevented with adequate care.

This bill will change the statute so instead of providing \$70 per day in services it would be an average of up to \$350 per week (the same as \$70 per day for 5 days a week) so that the Executive Office on Aging is able to

negotiate more freely with vendors and be able to provide more services. I ask to please provide the needed \$2 million in total funding, which will help cover those people who are still on the waiting list.

Each year the Hawaii Legislature has shown leadership on this issue by creating and continuing to fund the program. We hope this year you will once again step up and continue to fund this critical program.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

**Avery Fukunaga**

**3740 W. 112<sup>th</sup> Ave Apt 204**

**Westminster, CO 80031**

**(Son of Florence Fukunaga who lives in Honolulu and is dependent on this fortunate benefit)**

--

Thank you,

Avery Fukunaga

**CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE:**

This message and accompanying documents are covered by the Electronic Communications Privacy Act, 18 U.S.C. §§ 2510-2521, and Colorado State Statutes 18-9-301 to 305 C.R.S. and contains information intended for the specified individual(s) only. This information is confidential. If you are not the intended recipient or an agent responsible for delivering it to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that you have received this document in error and that any review, dissemination, distribution, copying, or the taking of any action based on the contents of this information is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by e-mail, and delete the original message.

## **nakamura1 - Nichol**

---

**From:** Brian Fujimoto <bf96744@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 19, 2019 6:55 AM  
**To:** HSHtestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB1025, SD1; 3/20/19 HSH-HLT Hearing, 10am, Rm 329

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Chair Joy San Buenaventura  
Vice Chair Nadine Nakamura  
House Committee on Human Services & Homelessness

Chair John Mizuno  
Vice Chair Bertrand Kobayashi  
House Committee on Health

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

### TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1025, SD1, RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM

Dear Chairs San Buenaventura and Mizuno, Vice Chairs Nakamura and Kobayashi, and Members of the Committees,

My name is Brian Fujimoto, and I am writing to express my support for Senate Bill 1025, SD1, relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program. This bill continues the needed funding for the Kupuna Caregivers program, a critical part of the infrastructure to help our kupuna and their caregivers.

By now we know that the need is there. The Executive Office on Aging reported that thousands of new calls came into its lines when the program was first launched. And we know why they are calling. The cost of professional caregiving continues to rise and our families simply cannot afford to take care of a loved one and remain fully employed. This program helps those in the gap group who are not eligible for medicaid or medicare to help with the costs, but are still barely making it, at times at risk of losing their jobs or having to reduce hours at work because the duties at home are too great. This reduces the income earning power of the caregivers, their social security benefits, at times risking their insurance coverage, and placing them closer and closer into poverty.

The Kupuna Caregivers program is a prevention program, helping people before crisis has struck. It also helps reduce costs to the state by possibly delaying the time that a family may become eligible for medicaid. Studies have also shown that people that age at home with family are more likely to have better health outcomes, reducing hospitalization and ER visits, which ends up saving our state of expensive medical procedures that could have been prevented with adequate care.

This bill will change the statute so instead of providing \$70 per day in services it would be an average of up to \$350 per week (the same as \$70 per day for 5 days a week) so that the Executive Office on Aging is able to negotiate more freely with vendors and be able to provide more services. I ask to please provide the needed \$2 million in total funding, which will help cover those people who are still on the waiting list.

Each year the Hawaii Legislature has shown leadership on this issue by creating and continuing to fund the program. We hope this year you will once again step up and continue to fund this critical program.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,  
Brian Fujimoto  
bf96744@gmail.com

## **nakamura1 - Nichol**

---

**From:** Danny Fujimoto <dflashball@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 19, 2019 7:24 AM  
**To:** HSHtestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB1025, SD1; 3/20/19 HSH-HLT Hearing, 10am, Rm 329

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Chair Joy San Buenaventura  
Vice Chair Nadine Nakamura  
House Committee on Human Services & Homelessness

Chair John Mizuno  
Vice Chair Bertrand Kobayashi  
House Committee on Health

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

### TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1025, SD1, RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM

Dear Chairs San Buenaventura and Mizuno, Vice Chairs Nakamura and Kobayashi, and Members of the Committees,

My name is Danny Fujimoto, and I am writing to express my support for Senate Bill 1025, SD1, relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program. This bill continues the needed funding for the Kupuna Caregivers program, a critical part of the infrastructure to help our kupuna and their caregivers.

By now we know that the need is there. The Executive Office on Aging reported that thousands of new calls came into its lines when the program was first launched. And we know why they are calling. The cost of professional caregiving continues to rise and our families simply cannot afford to take care of a loved one and remain fully employed. This program helps those in the gap group who are not eligible for medicaid or medicare to help with the costs, but are still barely making it, at times at risk of losing their jobs or having to reduce hours at work because the duties at home are too great. This reduces the income earning power of the caregivers, their social security benefits, at times risking their insurance coverage, and placing them closer and closer into poverty.

The Kupuna Caregivers program is a prevention program, helping people before crisis has struck. It also helps reduce costs to the state by possibly delaying the time that a family may become eligible for medicaid. Studies have also shown that people that age at home with family are more likely to have better health outcomes, reducing hospitalization and ER visits, which ends up saving our state of expensive medical procedures that could have been prevented with adequate care.

This bill will change the statute so instead of providing \$70 per day in services it would be an average of up to \$350 per week (the same as \$70 per day for 5 days a week) so that the Executive Office on Aging is able to negotiate more freely with vendors and be able to provide more services. I ask to please provide the needed \$2 million in total funding, which will help cover those people who are still on the waiting list.

Each year the Hawaii Legislature has shown leadership on this issue by creating and continuing to fund the program. We hope this year you will once again step up and continue to fund this critical program.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,  
Danny Fujimoto  
1112 Kemole Lane #1C  
Honolulu, HI 96826  
United States

[dflashball@yahoo.com](mailto:dflashball@yahoo.com)

## **nakamura1 - Nichol**

---

**From:** Deanna Espinas <espihawaii@juno.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 19, 2019 12:55 PM  
**To:** HSHtestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB1025, SD1; 3/20/19 HSH-HLT Hearing, 10am, Rm 329

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Chair Joy San Buenaventura  
Vice Chair Nadine Nakamura  
House Committee on Human Services & Homelessness

Chair John Mizuno  
Vice Chair Bertrand Kobayashi  
House Committee on Health

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

### TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1025, SD1, RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM

Dear Chairs San Buenaventura and Mizuno, Vice Chairs Nakamura and Kobayashi, and Members of the Committees,

My name is Deanna Espinas, and I am writing to express my support for Senate Bill 1025, SD1, relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program. This bill continues the needed funding for the Kupuna Caregivers program, a critical part of the infrastructure to help our kupuna and their caregivers.

By now we know that the need is there. The Executive Office on Aging reported that thousands of new calls came into its lines when the program was first launched. And we know why they are calling. The cost of professional caregiving continues to rise and our families simply cannot afford to take care of a loved one and remain fully employed. This program helps those in the gap group who are not eligible for medicaid or medicare to help with the costs, but are still barely making it, at times at risk of losing their jobs or having to reduce hours at work because the duties at home are too great. This reduces the income earning power of the caregivers, their social security benefits, at times risking their insurance coverage, and placing them closer and closer into poverty.

The Kupuna Caregivers program is a prevention program, helping people before crisis has struck. It also helps reduce costs to the state by possibly delaying the time that a family may become eligible for medicaid. Studies have also shown that people that age at home with family are more likely to have better health outcomes, reducing hospitalization and ER visits, which ends up saving our state of expensive medical procedures that could have been prevented with adequate care.

This bill will change the statute so instead of providing \$70 per day in services it would be an average of up to \$350 per week (the same as \$70 per day for 5 days a week) so that the Executive Office on Aging is able to negotiate more freely with vendors and be able to provide more services. I ask to please provide the needed \$2 million in total funding, which will help cover those people who are still on the waiting list.

Each year the Hawaii Legislature has shown leadership on this issue by creating and continuing to fund the program. We hope this year you will once again step up and continue to fund this critical program.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,  
Deanna Espinas  
2103 Palolo Avenue  
Honolulu, HI 96816  
United States

[espihawaii@juno.com](mailto:espihawaii@juno.com)

## **nakamura1 - Nichol**

---

**From:** Jan Pappas <jpappas60@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 19, 2019 4:24 AM  
**To:** HSHtestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB1025, SD1; 3/20/19 HSH-HLT Hearing, 10am, Rm 329

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Chair Joy San Buenaventura  
Vice Chair Nadine Nakamura  
House Committee on Human Services & Homelessness

Chair John Mizuno  
Vice Chair Bertrand Kobayashi  
House Committee on Health

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

### TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1025, SD1, RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM

Dear Chairs San Buenaventura and Mizuno, Vice Chairs Nakamura and Kobayashi, and Members of the Committees,

My name is Jan Pappas, and I am writing to express my support for Senate Bill 1025, SD1, relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program. This bill continues the needed funding for the Kupuna Caregivers program, a critical part of the infrastructure to help our kupuna and their caregivers.

By now we know that the need is there. The Executive Office on Aging reported that thousands of new calls came into its lines when the program was first launched. And we know why they are calling. The cost of professional caregiving continues to rise and our families simply cannot afford to take care of a loved one and remain fully employed. This program helps those in the gap group who are not eligible for medicaid or medicare to help with the costs, but are still barely making it, at times at risk of losing their jobs or having to reduce hours at work because the duties at home are too great. This reduces the income earning power of the caregivers, their social security benefits, at times risking their insurance coverage, and placing them closer and closer into poverty.

The Kupuna Caregivers program is a prevention program, helping people before crisis has struck. It also helps reduce costs to the state by possibly delaying the time that a family may become eligible for medicaid. Studies have also shown that people that age at home with family are more likely to have better health outcomes, reducing hospitalization and ER visits, which ends up saving our state of expensive medical procedures that could have been prevented with adequate care.

This bill will change the statute so instead of providing \$70 per day in services it would be an average of up to \$350 per week (the same as \$70 per day for 5 days a week) so that the Executive Office on Aging is able to negotiate more freely with vendors and be able to provide more services. I ask to please provide the needed \$2 million in total funding, which will help cover those people who are still on the waiting list.

Each year the Hawaii Legislature has shown leadership on this issue by creating and continuing to fund the program. We hope this year you will once again step up and continue to fund this critical program.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,  
Jan Pappas  
98-1287 Akaaka St.  
Aiea, HI 96701  
United States

[jpappas60@gmail.com](mailto:jpappas60@gmail.com)

## **nakamura1 - Nichol**

---

**From:** karen Yamaguchi <skyy@hawaii.rr.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 19, 2019 6:52 AM  
**To:** HSHtestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB1025, SD1; 3/20/19 HSH-HLT Hearing, 10am, Rm 329

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Chair Joy San Buenaventura  
Vice Chair Nadine Nakamura  
House Committee on Human Services & Homelessness

Chair John Mizuno  
Vice Chair Bertrand Kobayashi  
House Committee on Health

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

### TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1025, SD1, RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM

Dear Chairs San Buenaventura and Mizuno, Vice Chairs Nakamura and Kobayashi, and Members of the Committees,

My name is [Karen Fujimoto], and I am writing to express my support for Senate Bill 1025, SD1, relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program. This bill continues the needed funding for the Kupuna Caregivers program, a critical part of the infrastructure to help our kupuna and their caregivers.

By now we know that the need is there. The Executive Office on Aging reported that thousands of new calls came into its lines when the program was first launched. And we know why they are calling. The cost of professional caregiving continues to rise and our families simply cannot afford to take care of a loved one and remain fully employed. This program helps those in the gap group who are not eligible for medicaid or medicare to help with the costs, but are still barely making it, at times at risk of losing their jobs or having to reduce hours at work because the duties at home are too great. This reduces the income earning power of the caregivers, their social security benefits, at times risking their insurance coverage, and placing them closer and closer into poverty.

The Kupuna Caregivers program is a prevention program, helping people before crisis has struck. It also helps reduce costs to the state by possibly delaying the time that a family may become eligible for medicaid. Studies have also shown that people that age at home with family are more likely to have better health outcomes, reducing hospitalization and ER visits, which ends up saving our state of expensive medical procedures that could have been prevented with adequate care.

This bill will change the statute so instead of providing \$70 per day in services it would be an average of up to \$350 per week (the same as \$70 per day for 5 days a week) so that the Executive Office on Aging is able to negotiate more freely with vendors and be able to provide more services. I ask to please provide the needed \$2 million in total funding, which will help cover those people who are still on the waiting list.

Each year the Hawaii Legislature has shown leadership on this issue by creating and continuing to fund the program. We hope this year you will once again step up and continue to fund this critical program.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

Karen Yamaguchi

47-217 Miomio Loop, Kaneohe 96744

skyy@hawaii.rr.com

## **nakamura1 - Nichol**

---

**From:** Kathleen Jaycox <jaycox@hawaii.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 18, 2019 8:28 PM  
**To:** HSHtestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB1025, SD1; 3/20/19 HSH-HLT Hearing, 10am, Rm 329

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Chair Joy San Buenaventura  
Vice Chair Nadine Nakamura  
House Committee on Human Services & Homelessness

Chair John Mizuno  
Vice Chair Bertrand Kobayashi  
House Committee on Health

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

### TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1025, SD1, RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM

Dear Chairs San Buenaventura and Mizuno, Vice Chairs Nakamura and Kobayashi, and Members of the Committees,

My name is Kathleen Jaycox, and I am writing to express my support for Senate Bill 1025, SD1, relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program. This bill continues the needed funding for the Kupuna Caregivers program, a critical part of the infrastructure to help our kupuna and their caregivers.

By now we know that the need is there. The Executive Office on Aging reported that thousands of new calls came into its lines when the program was first launched. And we know why they are calling. The cost of professional caregiving continues to rise and our families simply cannot afford to take care of a loved one and remain fully employed. This program helps those in the gap group who are not eligible for medicaid or medicare to help with the costs, but are still barely making it, at times at risk of losing their jobs or having to reduce hours at work because the duties at home are too great. This reduces the income earning power of the caregivers, their social security benefits, at times risking their insurance coverage, and placing them closer and closer into poverty.

The Kupuna Caregivers program is a prevention program, helping people before crisis has struck. It also helps reduce costs to the state by possibly delaying the time that a family may become eligible for medicaid. Studies have also shown that people that age at home with family are more likely to have better health outcomes, reducing hospitalization and ER visits, which ends up saving our state of expensive medical procedures that could have been prevented with adequate care.

This bill will change the statute so instead of providing \$70 per day in services it would be an average of up to \$350 per week (the same as \$70 per day for 5 days a week) so that the Executive Office on Aging is able to negotiate more freely with vendors and be able to provide more services. I ask to please provide the needed \$2 million in total funding, which will help cover those people who are still on the waiting list.

Each year the Hawaii Legislature has shown leadership on this issue by creating and continuing to fund the program. We hope this year you will once again step up and continue to fund this critical program.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,  
Kathleen Jaycox  
559 Pauku St  
Kailua, HI 96734  
United States

[jaycox@hawaii.edu](mailto:jaycox@hawaii.edu)

## **nakamura1 - Nichol**

---

**From:** Laughlin Tanaka <laughlint53@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 19, 2019 4:26 AM  
**To:** HSHtestimony  
**Subject:** estimony in Support of SB 1025 for the HSH-HLT hearing on March 20, 2019 at 10:00 A.M., Room 329.

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I support this bill for Kapuna Care.

Laughlin Tanaka  
1774 Hoohulu St.  
Pearl City, HI 96782  
Ph. 383-7961



Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

## **nakamura1 - Nichol**

---

**From:** Marissa Adachi <marissa.triple2@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 19, 2019 9:42 AM  
**To:** HSHtestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB1025, SD1; 3/20/19 HSH-HLT Hearing, 10am, Rm 329

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Chair Joy San Buenaventura  
Vice Chair Nadine Nakamura  
House Committee on Human Services & Homelessness

Chair John Mizuno  
Vice Chair Bertrand Kobayashi  
House Committee on Health

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

### TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1025, SD1, RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM

Dear Chairs San Buenaventura and Mizuno, Vice Chairs Nakamura and Kobayashi, and Members of the Committees,

My name is Marissa Adachi, and I am writing to express my support for Senate Bill 1025, SD1, relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program. This bill continues the needed funding for the Kupuna Caregivers program, a critical part of the infrastructure to help our kupuna and their caregivers.

By now we know that the need is there. The Executive Office on Aging reported that thousands of new calls came into its lines when the program was first launched. And we know why they are calling. The cost of professional caregiving continues to rise and our families simply cannot afford to take care of a loved one and remain fully employed. This program helps those in the gap group who are not eligible for medicaid or medicare to help with the costs, but are still barely making it, at times at risk of losing their jobs or having to reduce hours at work because the duties at home are too great. This reduces the income earning power of the caregivers, their social security benefits, at times risking their insurance coverage, and placing them closer and closer into poverty.

The Kupuna Caregivers program is a prevention program, helping people before crisis has struck. It also helps reduce costs to the state by possibly delaying the time that a family may become eligible for medicaid. Studies have also shown that people that age at home with family are more likely to have better health outcomes, reducing hospitalization and ER visits, which ends up saving our state of expensive medical procedures that could have been prevented with adequate care.

This bill will change the statute so instead of providing \$70 per day in services it would be an average of up to \$350 per week (the same as \$70 per day for 5 days a week) so that the Executive Office on Aging is able to negotiate more freely with vendors and be able to provide more services. I ask to please provide the needed \$2 million in total funding, which will help cover those people who are still on the waiting list.

Each year the Hawaii Legislature has shown leadership on this issue by creating and continuing to fund the program. We hope this year you will once again step up and continue to fund this critical program.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,  
Marissa Adachi  
45-656 Apapane Street  
Kaneohe, HI 96744  
United States

[marissa.triple2@gmail.com](mailto:marissa.triple2@gmail.com)

## **nakamura1 - Nichol**

---

**From:** Nanette Arigo <n4n3tt3@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 19, 2019 7:56 AM  
**To:** HSHtestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB1025, SD1; 3/20/19 HSH-HLT Hearing, 10am, Rm 329

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Chair Joy San Buenaventura  
Vice Chair Nadine Nakamura  
House Committee on Human Services & Homelessness

Chair John Mizuno  
Vice Chair Bertrand Kobayashi  
House Committee on Health

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

### TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1025, SD1, RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM

Dear Chairs San Buenaventura and Mizuno, Vice Chairs Nakamura and Kobayashi, and Members of the Committees,

My name is [Nanette Arigo], and I am writing to express my support for Senate Bill 1025, SD1, relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program. This bill continues the needed funding for the Kupuna Caregivers program, a critical part of the infrastructure to help our kupuna and their caregivers.

By now we know that the need is there. The Executive Office on Aging reported that thousands of new calls came into its lines when the program was first launched. And we know why they are calling. The cost of professional caregiving continues to rise and our families simply cannot afford to take care of a loved one and remain fully employed. This program helps those in the gap group who are not eligible for medicaid or medicare to help with the costs, but are still barely making it, at times at risk of losing their jobs or having to reduce hours at work because the duties at home are too great. This reduces the income earning power of the caregivers, their social security benefits, at times risking their insurance coverage, and placing them closer and closer into poverty.

The Kupuna Caregivers program is a prevention program, helping people before crisis has struck. It also helps reduce costs to the state by possibly delaying the time that a family may become eligible for medicaid. Studies have also shown that people that age at home with family are more likely to have better health outcomes, reducing hospitalization and ER visits, which ends up saving our state of expensive medical procedures that could have been prevented with adequate care.

This bill will change the statute so instead of providing \$70 per day in services it would be an average of up to \$350 per week (the same as \$70 per day for 5 days a week) so that the Executive Office on Aging is able to negotiate more freely with vendors and be able to provide more services. I ask to please provide the needed \$2 million in total funding, which will help cover those people who are still on the waiting list.

Each year the Hawaii Legislature has shown leadership on this issue by creating and continuing to fund the program. We hope this year you will once again step up and continue to fund this critical program.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,  
Nanette Arigo  
Waipio  
n4n3tt3@hotmail.com

## **nakamura1 - Nichol**

---

**From:** Susan Wurtzburg <susan.wurtzburg@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 18, 2019 4:54 PM  
**To:** HSHtestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB1025, SD1; 3/20/19 HSH-HLT Hearing, 10am, Rm 329

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Chair Joy San Buenaventura  
Vice Chair Nadine Nakamura  
House Committee on Human Services & Homelessness

Chair John Mizuno  
Vice Chair Bertrand Kobayashi  
House Committee on Health

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

### TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1025, SD1, RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM

Dear Chairs San Buenaventura and Mizuno, Vice Chairs Nakamura and Kobayashi, and Members of the Committees,

My name is Susan Wurtzburg, and I am writing to express my support for Senate Bill 1025, SD1, relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program. This bill continues the needed funding for the Kupuna Caregivers program, a critical part of the infrastructure to help our kupuna and their caregivers.

By now we know that the need is there. The Executive Office on Aging reported that thousands of new calls came into its lines when the program was first launched. And we know why they are calling. The cost of professional caregiving continues to rise and our families simply cannot afford to take care of a loved one and remain fully employed. This program helps those in the gap group who are not eligible for medicaid or medicare to help with the costs, but are still barely making it, at times at risk of losing their jobs or having to reduce hours at work because the duties at home are too great. This reduces the income earning power of the caregivers, their social security benefits, at times risking their insurance coverage, and placing them closer and closer into poverty.

The Kupuna Caregivers program is a prevention program, helping people before crisis has struck. It also helps reduce costs to the state by possibly delaying the time that a family may become eligible for medicaid. Studies have also shown that people that age at home with family are more likely to have better health outcomes, reducing hospitalization and ER visits, which ends up saving our state of expensive medical procedures that could have been prevented with adequate care.

This bill will change the statute so instead of providing \$70 per day in services it would be an average of up to \$350 per week (the same as \$70 per day for 5 days a week) so that the Executive Office on Aging is able to negotiate more freely with vendors and be able to provide more services. I ask to please provide the needed \$2 million in total funding, which will help cover those people who are still on the waiting list.

Each year the Hawaii Legislature has shown leadership on this issue by creating and continuing to fund the program. We hope this year you will once again step up and continue to fund this critical program.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,  
Susan Wurtzburg  
155 Kuuala Street  
Kailua, HI 96734  
United States

[susan.wurtzburg@gmail.com](mailto:susan.wurtzburg@gmail.com)

## **nakamura1 - Nichol**

---

**From:** Suzanne Kitashima <tynsuz@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 19, 2019 10:35 AM  
**To:** HSHtestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB1025, SD1; 3/20/19 HSH-HLT Hearing, 10am, Rm 329

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Chair Joy San Buenaventura  
Vice Chair Nadine Nakamura  
House Committee on Human Services & Homelessness

Chair John Mizuno  
Vice Chair Bertrand Kobayashi  
House Committee on Health

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

### TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1025, SD1, RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM

Dear Chairs San Buenaventura and Mizuno, Vice Chairs Nakamura and Kobayashi, and Members of the Committees,

My name is Suzanne Kitashima, and I am writing to express my support for Senate Bill 1025, SD1, relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program. This bill continues the needed funding for the Kupuna Caregivers program, a critical part of the infrastructure to help our kupuna and their caregivers.

By now we know that the need is there. The Executive Office on Aging reported that thousands of new calls came into its lines when the program was first launched. And we know why they are calling. The cost of professional caregiving continues to rise and our families simply cannot afford to take care of a loved one and remain fully employed. This program helps those in the gap group who are not eligible for medicaid or medicare to help with the costs, but are still barely making it, at times at risk of losing their jobs or having to reduce hours at work because the duties at home are too great. This reduces the income earning power of the caregivers, their social security benefits, at times risking their insurance coverage, and placing them closer and closer into poverty.

The Kupuna Caregivers program is a prevention program, helping people before crisis has struck. It also helps reduce costs to the state by possibly delaying the time that a family may become eligible for medicaid. Studies have also shown that people that age at home with family are more likely to have better health outcomes, reducing hospitalization and ER visits, which ends up saving our state of expensive medical procedures that could have been prevented with adequate care.

This bill will change the statute so instead of providing \$70 per day in services it would be an average of up to \$350 per week (the same as \$70 per day for 5 days a week) so that the Executive Office on Aging is able to negotiate more freely with vendors and be able to provide more services. I ask to please provide the needed \$2 million in total funding, which will help cover those people who are still on the waiting list.

Each year the Hawaii Legislature has shown leadership on this issue by creating and continuing to fund the program. We hope this year you will once again step up and continue to fund this critical program.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,  
Suzanne Kitashima  
Honolulu  
tynsuz@yahoo.com

## **nakamura1 - Nichol**

---

**From:** Troy Siruno <tsiruno@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 19, 2019 3:31 PM  
**To:** HSHtestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB1025, SD1; 3/20/19 HSH-HLT Hearing, 10am, Rm 329

Chair Joy San Buenaventura  
Vice Chair Nadine Nakamura  
House Committee on Human Services & Homelessness

Chair John Mizuno  
Vice Chair Bertrand Kobayashi  
House Committee on Health

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

### TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1025, SD1, RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM

Dear Chairs San Buenaventura and Mizuno, Vice Chairs Nakamura and Kobayashi, and Members of the Committees,

My name is Troy Siruno, and I am writing to express my support for Senate Bill 1025, SD1, relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program. This bill continues the needed funding for the Kupuna Caregivers program, a critical part of the infrastructure to help our kupuna and their caregivers.

By now we know that the need is there. The Executive Office on Aging reported that thousands of new calls came into its lines when the program was first launched. And we know why they are calling. The cost of professional caregiving continues to rise and our families simply cannot afford to take care of a loved one and remain fully employed. This program helps those in the gap group who are not eligible for medicaid or medicare to help with the costs, but are still barely making it, at times at risk of losing their jobs or having to reduce hours at work because the duties at home are too great. This reduces the income earning power of the caregivers, their social security benefits, at times risking their insurance coverage, and placing them closer and closer into poverty.

The Kupuna Caregivers program is a prevention program, helping people before crisis has struck. It also helps reduce costs to the state by possibly delaying the time that a family may become eligible for medicaid. Studies have also shown that people that age at home with family are more likely to have better health outcomes, reducing hospitalization and ER visits, which ends up saving our state of expensive medical procedures that could have been prevented with adequate care.

This bill will change the statute so instead of providing \$70 per day in services it would be an average of up to \$350 per week (the same as \$70 per day for 5 days a week) so that the Executive Office on Aging is able to negotiate more freely with vendors and be able to provide more services. I ask to please provide the needed \$2 million in total funding, which will help cover those people who are still on the waiting list.

Each year the Hawaii Legislature has shown leadership on this issue by creating and continuing to fund the program. We hope this year you will once again step up and continue to fund this critical program.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,  
Troy Siruno  
4300 Waiialae Avenue, #B1101  
Honolulu, HI 96816  
United States

[tsiruno@gmail.com](mailto:tsiruno@gmail.com)

**LATE**

**SB-1025-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/20/2019 6:51:18 AM

Testimony for HSH on 3/20/2019 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Leimomi Khan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Continue to support. I am a kupuna and for the reasons stated in SB1025, I fully support this bill, especially to help those with limited resources with additional resources to cover a variety of support services, such as adult day care, assisted transportation, homemaker services, etc.

**From:** Diane Ware <volcanogetaway@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 19, 2019 7:10 PM  
**To:** HSHtestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB1025, SD1; 3/20/19 HSH-HLT Hearing, 10am, Rm 329

Chair Joy San Buenaventura  
Vice Chair Nadine Nakamura  
House Committee on Human Services & Homelessness

Chair John Mizuno  
Vice Chair Bertrand Kobayashi  
House Committee on Health

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1025, SD1, RELATING TO THE KUPUNA CAREGIVERS PROGRAM

Dear Chairs San Buenaventura and Mizuno, Vice Chairs Nakamura and Kobayashi, and Members of the Committees,

My name is Diane Ware, and I am writing to express my support for Senate Bill 1025, SD1, relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program. This bill continues the needed funding for the Kupuna Caregivers program, a critical part of the infrastructure to help our kupuna and their caregivers.

By now we know that the need is there. The Executive Office on Aging reported that thousands of new calls came into its lines when the program was first launched. And we know why they are calling. The cost of professional caregiving continues to rise and our families simply cannot afford to take care of a loved one and remain fully employed. This program helps those in the gap group who are not eligible for medicaid or medicare to help with the costs, but are still barely making it, at times at risk of losing their jobs or having to reduce hours at work because the duties at home are too great. This reduces the income earning power of the caregivers, their social security benefits, at times risking their insurance coverage, and placing them closer and closer into poverty.

The Kupuna Caregivers program is a prevention program, helping people before crisis has struck. It also helps reduce costs to the state by possibly delaying the time that a family may become eligible for medicaid. Studies have also shown that people that age at home with family are more likely to have better health outcomes, reducing hospitalization and ER visits, which ends up saving our state of expensive medical procedures that could have been prevented with adequate care.

This bill will change the statute so instead of providing \$70 per day in services it would be an average of up to \$350 per week (the same as \$70 per day for 5 days a week) so that the Executive Office on Aging is able to negotiate more freely with vendors and be able to provide more services. I ask to please provide the needed \$2 million in total funding, which will help cover those people who are still on the waiting list.

Each year the Hawaii Legislature has shown leadership on this issue by creating and continuing to fund the program. We hope this year you will once again step up and continue to fund this critical program.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,  
Diane Ware  
99-7815 Kapoha Pl.  
Volcano, HI 96785  
United States

[volcanogetaway@yahoo.com](mailto:volcanogetaway@yahoo.com)

**From:** Wade Hayama <whayama@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 19, 2019 7:32 PM  
**To:** HSHtestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in Support of SB 1025 for the HSH-HLT hearing on March 20, 2019 at 10:00 A.M., Room 329

Chair Joy San Buenaventura  
Vice Chair Nadine Nakamura  
House Committee on Human Services & Homelessness  
Chair John Mizuno  
Vice Chair Bertrand Kobayashi  
House Committee on Health  
Wednesday, March 20, 2019  
TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1025 for the HSH-HLT hearing on March 20, 2019  
at 10:00 A.M., Room 329

Dear Chairs San Buenaventura and Mizuno, Vice Chairs Nakamura and Kobayashi, and Members of the Committees,

My name is Wade Hayama, and I am writing to express my support for Senate Bill 1025, SD1, relating to the Kupuna Caregivers Program. This bill continues the needed funding for the Kupuna Caregivers program, a critical part of the infrastructure to help our kupuna and their caregivers.

This bill will change the statute so instead of providing \$70 per day in services it would be an average of up to \$350 per week (the same as \$70 per day for 5 days a week) so that the Executive Office on Aging is able to negotiate more freely with vendors and be able to provide more services. I ask to please provide the needed \$2 million in total funding, which will help cover those people who are still on the waiting list.

I speak first hand as a caregiver of my mother-in-law who is 96 years old. I depend on Maluhia Adult Day Health Center to care for her 5 days a week when I am at work. My mother-in-law does not qualify for Medicaid since she falls in the gap group. Capping services to once per week will hurt my mother and me. If services are capped I could lose my full-time job, as well as my health benefits. In addition, I will not be able to pay for our home, utilities, food, and health care expenses. In addition, if I lose my full-time job, I will not be contributing to social security thus affecting my benefits in the future.

Each year the Hawaii Legislature has shown leadership on this issue by creating and continuing to fund the program. We hope this year you will once again step up and continue to fund this critical program.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

Wade Hayama  
45-656 Apapane Street