



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

Testimony Commenting on House Concurrent Resolution 145

**REQUESTING THE CONVENING OF A FAMILY CAREGIVERS WORKING
GROUP TO EXAMINE AND ASSESS LEGISLATION RELATING TO THE ROLE
OF CAREGIVERS OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM HOSPITALS.**

REPRESENTATIVE DELLA AU BELATTI, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Hearing Date: Friday, March 27, 2015

Room Number: 329

1 **Department Testimony:** Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on HCR 145.

2 During the 2014 legislative session, HCR 78 was passed that requested DOH to convene
3 a Working Group to study the similar subject matter contained in this resolution and to submit a
4 report to the 2015 Legislature. DOH was a member of the Working Group. The department
5 feels that the process established by the legislature to request a Working Group study and report
6 and for the legislature to review the report should continue to be followed. This will help to
7 ensure the integrity of the prior legislatively-requested process and help to maintain the public's
8 trust. The HCR 78 report was submitted to the legislature via the department's internal process
9 on March 20, 2015, following the Group's final meeting on January 12, 2015, and following
10 subsequent revisions at the request of the Group's co-chairs.

11 The department recommends the legislature review the Working Group's report in its
12 entirety and consider all its findings, conclusions, and recommendations before proceeding on
13 this resolution. For example, the draft report identifies five recommendations based on twenty
14 findings. Contrary to the claim of the 9th whereas contained in this resolution, four of the

1 recommendations were unanimously agreed upon by the Working Group, and a small minority
2 disagreed on the other recommendation. By examining the report, the legislature could find that
3 the recommendations could be a more prudent next step.

4 The Department does not currently have the resources to provide administrative and
5 logistical support to the co-chairs of the Family Caregivers Working Group and prepare and draft
6 any reports produced by the Family Caregivers Working Group.

7 As a result, the department hopes these comments provide your committee and the
8 legislature with a prudent rationale for the need to review the Working Group's report in its
9 entirety as part of its careful deliberation on HCR 145.

10 Thank you for the opportunity to provide Comments on HCR 145.

Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr.
Mayor



Ludvina K. Takahashi
Executive on Aging

Nadine K. Nakamura
Managing Director

AGENCY ON ELDERLY AFFAIRS
County of Kaua'i, State of Hawai'i
4444 Rice Street, Suite 330, Līhu'e, Hawai'i 96766
TEL (808) 241-4470 FAX (808) 241-5113

To: House Committee on Health, Rep. Della Belatti, Chair

Date: Friday, March 27, 2015

Re: HCR 145, REQUESTING THE CONVENING OF A FAMILY CAREGIVERS
WORKING GROUP TO EXAMINE AND ASSESS LEGISLATION RELATING TO
THE ROLES OF CAREGIVERS OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM HOSPITALS

Chair Rep. Della Belatti and members of the committees:

My name is Kealoha Takahashi of County of Kaua'i, Agency on Elderly Affairs and I am writing in **STRONG SUPPORT** of HCR 145, requesting the convening of a family caregivers working group to examine and assess legislation relating to the roles of caregivers of patients discharged from hospitals.

I am in support of this resolution for the following reasons:

- Hawaii's 247,000 family caregivers need assistance to properly take care of their loved ones.
- These family caregivers spend an average of 20 hours a week providing unpaid care and spend an annual average of over \$5,000 on out-of-pocket expenses.
- When their loved ones are discharged from the hospital, many of these caregivers don't have as much information as they need to provide proper care.
- The family caregivers working group that was created last year to study this problem had twice as many hospital representatives as caregiver advocates. It also had an end date (June 2016) that was way too far into the future.
- This resolution addresses many of the challenges that exist with the current working group by providing an even balance of working group members between caregiver advocates and hospitals and ensuring that this new working group ends before the start of the next legislative session.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in strong support of HCR 145.

Sincerely,

Kealoha Takahashi
Executive on Aging

An Equal Opportunity Employer

Hawaii Alliance for Retired Americans (HARA)
An Affiliate of the Alliance for Retired Americans
1953 South Beretania Street, Suite 5C, Honolulu, HI 96826

TO: Della Au Belatti, Chair, Health Committee
House of Representative, State of Hawaii

FROM: John M. Hayakawa, Hawaii Alliance for Retired Americans (HARA)

SUBJECT: Testimony in favor of HCR 145

DATE: Wednesday, March 25, 2015

The Hawaii Alliance for Retired Americans (HARA) strongly supports HCR 145 to establish a working group to examine and assess legislation relating to the role of caregivers of patients discharged from hospitals.

Since most discharged hospital patients need follow up care at home, it is important that caregivers are prepared for this task. Unfortunately, most families are not prepared for this sudden critical demand. Few caregiving families are either properly trained or equipped to provide this aftercare. The gap between the highly trained professionals in the hospital setting and the home situation is significant.

HCR 145 is an appropriate first step in addressing the problem. A working group headed by co-chairs appointed by the House and Senate with broad community representation to present recommendations to the legislature would address the concerns of the hospital as well as the community sectors.

HARA urges the Health Committee to adopt House Concurrent Resolution 145.

Sincerely, John M. Hayakawa, Legislative Committee, Hawaii Alliance for Retired Americans (HARA)



March 27, 2015

House Committee on Health
Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair
Representative Richard Creagan, Vice Chair

Re: **HCR 145, REQUESTING THE CONVENING OF A FAMILY CAREGIVERS WORKING GROUP TO EXAMINE AND ASSESS LEGISLATION RELATING TO THE ROLE OF CAREGIVERS OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM HOSPITALS**

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Creagan, and members of the committees:

AARP is a membership organization of people fifty and over with nearly 150,000 members in Hawaii alone. 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; providing the tools needed to save for retirement; and serving as a reliable information source on issues critical to people over the age of fifty.

AARP Hawaii strongly supports HCR 145, requesting the convening of a family caregivers working group to examine and assess legislation relating to the role of caregivers of patients discharged from hospitals.

Since 2013 a coalition of family caregiver advocates has supported legislation that would provide Hawaii's 247,000 family caregivers with the assistance they need to properly take care of their loved ones. These family caregivers spend an average of 20 hours a week providing unpaid care, and also spend an annual average of over \$5,000 on out-of-pocket expenses. However, when their loved ones are discharged from the hospital, many of these caregivers don't have as much information as they need to provide proper care. The legislation the advocates have supported would address that.

SB 2264, Relating to Caregiving, was introduced during the 2014 legislative session. The purpose of the bill was to accomplish three things: (1) provide the opportunity for a patient to designate a family caregiver in the patient's medical record; (2) notify the designated caregiver prior to their loved one's discharge from the hospital; and (3) provide the caregiver with an opportunity to receive instruction on after-care tasks prior to discharge. When SB 2264 failed to advance, a family caregivers working group was created by HCR 78 to try to bring the various stakeholders together, assess the matter, and develop solutions.

While well-intended, HCR 78 unfortunately created a structure that made it difficult for the stakeholders to agree on key elements critical to solving this problem. Specifically, the working

group created by HCR 78 contained approximately twice as many hospital or hospital representative members as it did members representing caregivers. Additionally, the term of the working group continued until June 2016. This caused confusion because the working group was also supposed to submit a report to the Legislature twenty days prior to the convening of the 2015 session. Reconciling these two separate deadlines was challenging.

SB 296, Relating to Caregiving, was introduced this year in the legislature. This bill contained many of the same aspects of SB 2264, but also sought to address the concerns that were raised last year. For example, SB 296 contained limited liability language and eliminated some of the more precise timing mechanisms that were contained in SB 2264. SB 296 was deferred by the Senate Health Committee and this resolution rebalances the working group, continues efforts to address issues in the bill and bring the stakeholders together to find common ground in advance of next year's legislative session.

While our preference is the enactment of SB 296 as originally introduced, this resolution is a step in the right direction as it addresses the need to help caregivers and addresses the structural issues that exist with the current working group. We have always been in favor of collaborating with all stakeholders to achieve a solution that everyone can support and which provides the necessary support to caregivers. Specifically, we support the provisions of this resolution, which, among other things:

- Requests the members to examine and assess the issues contained in SB 296, including designation, notification, and instruction of family caregivers;
- Provides an even balance of working group members between caregiver advocates and hospitals;
- Ensures that this new working group ceases to exist prior to the start of the next legislative session; and
- Terminates the existing working group once this resolution is enacted.

We urge the committee to pass this resolution and thank you for the opportunity to testify.

From: Anthony Lenzer <tlenzer@hawaii.rr.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2015 9:33 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Subject: Testimony in support of HCR 145

To: House Committee on Health
Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair

From: Anthony Lenzer, PhD, Member
Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs

Subject: Support for HCR 145

Hearing: Friday, March 27, 2015, 9:15 a.m.
Conference Room 329

The Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs (PABEA) strongly supports HCR 145, the purpose of which is to create a family caregivers working group to examine legislation relating to the role of caregivers of patients discharged from hospitals. PABEA serves as the advisory body to the Executive Office on Aging, and as an advocate for Hawaii's older citizens and their families. However, in this testimony we do not speak for the Executive Office on Aging

This Resolution is important because it directs attention to the needs of Hawaii's 247,000 family caregivers, many of whom will have responsibility for caring for a parent or grandparent after discharge from a hospital. In fact, families provide 80% of the care required by Hawaii's Kupuna. In recent years, hospitals have been discharging patients after shorter stays than in the past, due to changes in federal laws and financing requirements. Older patients often have more complex needs for post hospital care, including medication management, injections, infection control, and other medical and nursing procedures. Families often lack the skills required to carry out these procedures effectively. Without proper post hospital care, patients are often readmitted to hospitals within a short period of time.

During the past two years, legislation was introduced to help provide family caregivers with the information needed to provide such care. PABEA strongly supported these bills, which unfortunately did not pass. A family caregivers working group was created last year (HCR 78) to study the problem. However this group had a disproportionate number of hospital representatives compared to caregiver advocates, and it was unable to reach consensus on the role of hospitals in preparing family caregivers to provide post hospital care. HCR 145 addresses many of the challenges that exist with the current working group by providing an even balance of working group members between caregiver advocates and hospitals, and ensuring that the new group ends before the start of the next legislative session. The new working group will replace the group created under last year's resolution.

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

TO: Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair of Committee on Health
Representative Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair, Committee on Health
Members of Committee on Health

DATE: Friday, March 27, 2015
PLACE: Conference Room 329, State Capitol
TIME: 9:15 am
SUBJECT: HCR 145 - Requesting the Convening of a Family Caregivers Working Group to
Examine and Assess Legislation Relating to the Role of Caregivers of Patients
Discharged From Hospitals.

Project Dana, a volunteer caregivers program, strongly supports the convening of a family caregivers working group to examine and assess legislation relating to the role of caregivers of a patient's discharge from hospitals.

Patients who are being discharged from hospitals deserve a post- discharge care plan prior to going home in order that family caregivers could provide the much needed care patients deserve.

Please support HCR 145.

Thank you very much,

Rose Nakamura,

Project Dana

creagan1 - Dannah

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 26, 2015 11:29 AM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: tjdavies@juno.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR145 on Mar 27, 2015 09:15AM
Attachments: HCR 145 Family Caregivers Working Group.wps

HCR145

Submitted on: 3/26/2015

Testimony for HLT on Mar 27, 2015 09:15AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
T.J. Davies	Kokua Council & AARP 60	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 26, 2015 9:15 AM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: barbarajservice@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR145 on Mar 27, 2015 09:15AM

HCR145

Submitted on: 3/26/2015

Testimony for HLT on Mar 27, 2015 09:15AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara J. Service	Kokua Council	Support	Yes

Comments: Please support this measure. I am the Kokua Council representative to the Working Group created by HCR 78. HCR 145 continues the discussion to provide support to family caregivers who are instrumental to the ability of kupuna to age in place. Family caregivers need to be part of the hospital record and provided instruction at hospital discharge to prevent readmission. Thank yo for the opportunity to provide testimony. Barbara J. Service Kahala Rep District 19; Senate District 9

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TO : HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
Rep Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair

FROM: Eldon L. Wegner, Ph.D.,
PABEA (Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs)

SUBJECT: **HCR 145 Requesting Convening A Family Caregivers Working Group to Assess Legislation Relating to the Role of Caregivers in Hospital Discharge**

HEARING: Friday, March 27, 2015, 9:30 am
Conference Room 329, Hawaii State Capitol

POSITION: The Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs (PABEA) **strongly supports HCR which would create a family caregivers working group to assess the issues and propose legislation relating to the role of caregivers in hospital discharge.**

RATIONALE:

I am offering testimony on behalf of the The Policy Board for Elder Affairs which has a statutory obligation to advocate on behalf of the senior citizens of Hawaii. While we advise the Executive Office on Aging, we do not speak on behalf of the Executive Office of Aging.

PABEA has supported bills to enact the Care Act for the past two years and urge your approval of this resolution which would establish a new working group on family caregiving to examine issues of the role of family caregivers in transitions from hospital to home. The proposals of the Care Act aim to improve the quality of care of family caregivers and reduce the incidence and associated costs of hospital readmissions.

- Family caregivers provide 70% of the care for frail elderly persons and thus bear the major burden and expense of care. However, they also need to have the knowledge and skills to perform the tasks expected of them.
- The shift from hospital and institutional care to maintaining patients in their homes has greatly increased the demands on family caregivers. At the same time, hospitals have reduced their discharge planning and role in assuring adequate post-hospital care. Consequently, the rate of re-admissions due largely to inadequate care at home has greatly increased.
- These re-admissions also result in costly fines for hospitals. Hospitals have a responsibility to address this problem to minimize risk to patients as well as to control their costs.
- Caregivers need to be identified, included in the discharge planning, and trained in the tasks which will be expected of them.

- The current bill creates a new taskforce which has a balance of membership between caregiver advocates and the hospital-related organizations. The expectation is that this new group will work towards sensible solutions to addressing these issues and would propose legislation for the 2016 session.

I urge you to pass this much needed resolution. Thank you for allowing me to offer testimony.



THE QUEEN'S HEALTH SYSTEMS

To: Chair Della Au Belatti
Vice Chair Richard P. Creagan
House Committee on Health

From: Paula Yoshioka
Senior Vice President
The Queen's Health Systems

Re: HCR 145, Requesting the Convening of a Family Caregivers Working Group to Examine and Assess Legislation Relating to the Role of Caregivers of Patients Discharged from Hospitals
Hearing—March 27, 2015 at 9:15 AM

The Queen's Health Systems would like to stand behind comments submitted by the Healthcare Association of Hawaii regarding HCR 145, which would continue a working group to discuss issues related to caregivers and post-acute care in the community.

We would like to affirm our support for programs that help patients and families receive needed post-acute care in the comfort of their homes, including the aging and disability resource centers, which connects patients and their families with appropriate post-acute care in the community.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

The mission of The Queen's Health Systems is to fulfill the intent of Queen Emma and King Kamehameha IV to provide in perpetuity quality health care services to improve the well-being of Native Hawaiians and all of the people of Hawai'i.



Friday, March 27, 2015 – 9:15 a.m.
Conference Room #329

House Committee on Health

To: Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Richard Creagan, MD, Vice Chair

From: George Greene, President & CEO
Healthcare Association of Hawaii

Re: **Testimony Providing Comments**
HCR145: REQUESTING THE CONVENING OF A FAMILY CAREGIVERS WORKING GROUP TO EXAMINE AND ASSESS LEGISLATION RELATING TO THE ROLE OF CAREGIVERS OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM HOSPITALS

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii's 160 member organizations include all of the acute care hospitals in Hawaii, all public and private skilled nursing facilities, all the Medicare-certified home health agencies, all hospices, all assisted living facilities, durable medical equipment suppliers and home infusion/pharmacies. Members also represent other healthcare providers from throughout the continuum including case management, air and ground ambulance, blood bank, dialysis, and more. In addition to providing quality care to all of Hawaii's residents, our members contribute significantly to Hawaii's economy by employing over 20,000 people statewide.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide **comments** on HCR145, which requests the convening of a family caregivers working group to examine and assess legislation relating to the role of caregivers of patients discharged from hospitals.

First of all, HAH recognizes the very important role that family caregivers play along the healthcare continuum, and we applaud their selfless commitment to caring for their loved ones. While we testified in opposition to [SB296](#) (Relating to Caregiving) in the Senate earlier this session, we provide the following comments on this resolution.

As the committee is well aware, [HCR78 HD1 SD1](#) was passed by this legislative body in 2014, which established a Family Caregivers Working Group to look at many of the issues outlined in this resolution over a two-year period. HAH, along with many of our members, served as active participants in the Working Group and attended all 8 meetings during the interim.

Although most of the attention focused on the Working Group's recommendation to not introduce legislation on this matter in 2015 (by a 16-8 vote), there were several other recommendations put forth that merit further consideration by the legislature. Chief among those were to increase funding options for county offices on aging and Aging and Disability Resource Centers statewide to enhance their capabilities with post-hospitalization care to patients who are discharged. To that end, HAH has been supportive of [SB964 SD2 HD1](#) (Relating to Aging) this session to provide such funding.

While we certainly have no issue with an even balance of membership as the resolution purports to seek, we feel that some key stakeholders were excluded, perhaps unintentionally, in an effort to strike that balance. At a minimum, we believe neighbor island acute hospitals and long-term care facilities should continue to be represented on the Working Group.

If the committee is inclined to pass out this resolution, we respectfully request that the objectives be amended to require the Working Group to assess community-based resources that are currently available statewide (including identifying gaps in caregiver training programs) and quantify the impact that funding cuts over the years to various state and county programs have had on caregiver initiatives.

In closing, HAH remains committed to maintaining dialogue with all stakeholders on the important issue of providing support to caregivers in our community, and look forward to continuing our involvement with the Working Group that was established last year.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on HCR145.

The Twenty-Eighth Legislature
Regular Session of 2015

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Committee on Health

Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair

Rep. Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair

State Capitol, Conference Room 329

Friday, March 27, 2015; 9:15 a.m.

**STATEMENT OF THE ILWU LOCAL 142 ON H.C.R. 145
REQUESTING THE CONVENING OF A FAMILY CAREGIVERS
WORKING GROUP TO EXAMINE AND ASSESS
LEGISLATION RELATING TO THE ROLE OF CAREGIVERS
OF PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM HOSPITALS**

The ILWU Local 142 supports H.C.R. 145 for another working group to be convened to address the role of family caregivers when patients are discharged from the hospital.

The first working group convened last year to address this issue could not arrive at consensus on the issues. Nevertheless, S.B. 296 was introduced this session to address the issue and included language to exempt hospitals from liability, which had been a major concern for the hospitals. However, hospital representatives were not appeased and vehemently testified in opposition to S.B. 296, resulting in deferral of the measure.

H.C.R. 145 is another attempt at discussion on the issue, hopefully with more balanced representation from hospital representatives and caregiver advocates and with a better outcome.

If liability is the main concern for hospitals, we remind them that they may be open to lawsuits whenever something goes wrong—whether they are at fault or not. Furthermore, hospitals risk penalties from the federal Hospital Readmissions Reduction Program when patients fare poorly due to inadequate care at home and must be readmitted to the hospital. It is in the hospitals' best interest to provide as much assistance as possible to family caregivers to ensure that patients are not readmitted and may be cared for in their own homes. Alternative institutionalization will be far more costly to the patients, their families, and taxpayers.

The ILWU urges passage of H.C.R. 145 and convening of another working group. Thank you for considering our views and concerns.

Friday – March 27, 2015 – 9:15 am
Conference Room 329

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

To: Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair
Representative Richard Creagan, Vice Chair

From: Michael Robinson
Executive Director
Government Relations & Community Partnerships

Re: HCR 145 - Requesting The Convening Of A Family Caregivers Working Group
Comments

My name is Michael Robinson, Executive Director of Government Relations & Community Partnerships at Hawai'i Pacific Health (HPH). Hawai'i Pacific Health is a not-for-profit health care system, and the state's largest health care provider and non-governmental employer. Hawai'i Pacific Health is committed to providing the highest quality medical care and service to the people of Hawai'i and the Pacific Region through its four hospitals, more than 50 outpatient clinics and service sites, and over 1,600 affiliated physicians. Hawai'i Pacific Health's hospitals are Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children, Pali Momi Medical Center, Straub Clinic & Hospital and Wilcox Memorial Hospital.

In 2014, HCR78 HD1 SD1 was passed by this legislative body, establishing a Family Caregivers Working Group to look at many of the issues outlined in this resolution over a two-year period. HPH actively participated in the Working Group.

The Working Group's recommendation was to not introduce legislation on this matter in 2015 (by a 16-8 vote). However, several other recommendations were put forth that merit further consideration by the legislature. Chief among those were to increase funding options for county offices on aging and Aging and Disability Resource Centers statewide to enhance their capabilities with post-hospitalization care to patients who are discharged.

While we certainly have no issue with an even balance of membership as the resolution purports to seek, we feel that some key stakeholders were excluded in an effort to strike that balance. At a minimum, neighbor island acute hospitals and long-term care facilities should continue to be represented on the Working Group so that we may understand the needs of the neighbor islands.

Therefore, we respectfully request that the objectives of the resolution be amended to require the Working Group to assess community-based resources that are currently available statewide (including identifying gaps in caregiver training programs) and quantify the impact that funding cuts over the years to various state and county programs have had on caregiver initiatives.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

creagan1 - Dannah

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, March 27, 2015 7:50 AM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: cory.chun@cancer.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR145 on Mar 27, 2015 09:15AM

HCR145

Submitted on: 3/27/2015

Testimony for HLT on Mar 27, 2015 09:15AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cory Chun	American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network	Support	No

Comments: We support re-balancing the caregiver working group to provide a greater voice to caregivers and community groups.

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March 25, 2015

House Committee on Health
Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair
Representative Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair

RE: HCR 145, Requesting the convening of a family caregivers working group to examine and assess legislation relating to the role of caregivers of patients discharged from hospitals.

Most distinguished Chairs Belatti and Creagan and Members of the Committee:

I STRONGLY **SUPPORT** HCR 145.

This resolution to reorganize and create an evenly-balanced working group comprised of a variety of representatives in the medical field seated side by side with caregiver organizations will help balance the discussion about the patient and caregiver needs upon hospital discharge.

Bringing together the experience and talent of professionals who can identify problems from the viewpoints of both the hospital setting and the home environment setting will help formulate answers for the 247,000+ caregivers in Hawaii who need direction for the care of the patients in their charge.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Olah
Honolulu Resident

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2015 5:02 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: maucrowe@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR145 on Mar 27, 2015 09:15AM

HCR145

Submitted on: 3/25/2015

Testimony for HLT on Mar 27, 2015 09:15AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
james crowe	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support establishing a family caregiver working group. The results of a working group can be so efficient and effective for a firm, timely health recovery. I am a senior, I understand from experience how significant the proper recovery instructions are.

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March 26, 2015

To: Members of House HLT and Finance Committees

From: Sylvia Ching

I support the passage of HCR No. 145.

A working committee studying issues related to medical facilities giving adequate caregiving information to family and other unpaid caregivers should be convened. This committee should have an equitable make up and not favor medical corporate interests.

Thank you.

Sylvia Ching

523-1798

1611 Miller St., #340

Honolulu, HI 96813

creagan1 - Dannah

From: Mark <mak221@aol.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 26, 2015 2:12 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Subject: WRITING IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HCR 145

Dear Members,

I am writing in STRONG SUPPORT of HCR 145.

The only reason that could explain the non-passage of the eminently sensible Caregivers Act is the stacking of the working group with Hospital supporters.

In fact, the Caregivers Act HELPS hospitals by reducing pre-30 day re-admissions.

These re-admissions cost us and the hospitals money and reduce their ratings.

It seems they are not focused on the real gain to them.

The working group must be properly constituted.

Mahalo

Mark Koppel
Umauma

3920 Hunakai St.
Lihue, HI 06766
March 26, 2015

House Committee on Health
Rep. Della Belatti, Chair

Re: HCR 145 (to create a new family caregivers working group)

Dear Members of the House Committee on Health:

I understand the resolution is to restructure the family caregivers working group. I was disappointed the CARE Act didn't pass and I pray the restructure resolution will fix the problem of balance between hospitals and caregiver advocates.

Hawaii's family caregivers need assistance to properly take care of their loved ones. Three years ago my 49 year old son developed Necrotizing Fasciitis and was disabled for over six months. I wish I had the information on how to care for him when he returned home from Oahu. There was no advice on diet, wound care (although supplies were given to take home and I was shown how there were not written instruction. I had to hire a private CNA to assist as his local surgeon said he needed dressings changed twice a day, every day which the insurance company could not address). He had to change his dressings for almost a year.

I strongly support the legislation that was introduced the last two years to help provide family caregivers with the information they need from hospitals. I will continue to support that legislation and work to pass it, but in the meantime we need to pass this resolution. There should be a balance of members. Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Janice S. Bond

Janice S. Bond

To: Committee Chair on Health Representative Chair Della Au Belatti

Date: March 27, 2015, 0915 AM, House Conference, Rm 329

Re: HCR 145, Requesting the convening of a family caregivers working group to examine and assess legislation relating to the roles of caregivers of patients discharged from hospitals.

Chair Belatti,

Thank you very much for the opportunity to hear my **STRONG SUPPORT** to the resolution. I am a registered nurse and an Advocacy Volunteer for AARP.

Family caregivers play significant role in the delivery of healthcare services. It is very important when patients go back to their places of residence that the identified caregivers, whether a family member or a friend, are well-informed about the after-care or post-hospitalization care of that patient discharged from the hospital. By doing so, the re-admission rates to the hospitals could be lowered to a great extent, saving those much needed tax dollars.

Last year, a working group was created to address the issues of family caregiving. It was unfortunate that there was no equal representation from the hospital systems and the family caregiving advocates.

This resolution attempts to correct the mistake done. Let's do the right thing this time around, and no waste time and other valuable resources.

Mahalo.

Ramon Sumibcay

creagan1 - Dannah

From: Marv and Michele Paularena <marvshel@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2015 6:16 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Subject: I support HCR 145

Aloha,

We really need this Family Caregiver Study Group. My husband has been in the hospital three times in the past year and each time we needed discharge instructions. It can be very stressful caring for a loved one if we are not given adequate discharge instructions.

Mahalo,
Michele Paularena
Kahului

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 26, 2015 8:30 AM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: katadaj001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR145 on Mar 27, 2015 09:15AM

HCR145

Submitted on: 3/26/2015

Testimony for HLT on Mar 27, 2015 09:15AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
jerry katada	Hawaii Alliance of Retired Americans	Support	No

Comments: My name is Jerry Katada and a member of the HARA legislative committee. I would like to express my strong support for HCR 145. Thank you for your consideration for further discussion on this important matter.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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To: House Committee on Health, Rep. Della Belatti, Chair

Date: Friday, March 27, 2015

Re: HCR 145, Requesting the convening of a family caregivers working group to examine and assess legislation relating to the roles of caregivers of patients discharged from hospitals

My name is Chalintorn N. Burian, Ph.D. and I am writing in **STRONG SUPPORT** of HCR 145, Requesting the convening of a family caregivers working group to examine and assess legislation relating to the roles of caregivers of patients discharged from hospitals.

I am a family caregiver and I know how important it is for caregivers to get the training needed to care for their loved ones. I believe that Hawaii's 247,000 family caregivers need assistance to properly take care of their loved ones. When their loved ones are discharged from the hospital, many of these caregivers don't have as much information as they need to provide proper care. I strongly support the legislation that was introduced the last two years to help provide family caregivers with the information they need from hospitals. I will continue to support that legislation and work to pass it, but in the meantime we need to pass this resolution.

The family caregivers working group that was created last year to study this problem had twice as many hospital representatives as caregiver advocates. It also had an end date (June 2016) that was way too far into the future. This resolution addresses many of the challenges that exist with the current working group by providing an even balance of working group members between caregiver advocates and hospitals and ensuring that this new working group ends before the start of the next legislative session.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in strong support of HCR 145.

Sincerely,

Chalintorn N. Burian, Ph.D.

Paauilo-Mauka, The Big Island
Phone: (808)775-1064

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2015 4:29 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: sburley@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR145 on Mar 27, 2015 09:15AM

HCR145

Submitted on: 3/25/2015

Testimony for HLT on Mar 27, 2015 09:15AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stewart Burley	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I strongly support the legislation that was introduced the last two years to help provide family caregivers with the information they need from hospitals.

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Napualani Young

From: Stu Burley <sburley@hawaii.rr.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2015 4:33 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Subject: HCR 145

I strongly support the legislation that was introduced the last two years . Family caregivers MUST have specific information from the hospitals. I will continue to support this legislation, but in the meantime we need to pass this resolution.

Mahalo!

Stu Burley
sburley@hawaii.rr.com
(808) 651-1111

To: Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair of the Committee on Health

Representative Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair of the Committee on Health

Members of the Committee on Health

Date: March 27, 2015

Place: Conference Room 329

Time: 9:15 am

Subject: Testimony in support of HCR 145 – Family Caregivers Working Group

Chair Belatti and members of the Committee on Health,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of HCR 145 – Family Caregivers Working Group.

My name is Maria Raiza Morales. I am an undergraduate student from the School of Social Work at University of Hawaii at Manoa, and a resident of Ewa Beach.

Family caregivers receiving appropriate and thorough education and training on continued care at home is a current crucial need in our state. This need will only continue to grow with the increase of the elderly population in our state, and thus, the number of family caregivers who will take on the responsibility of caring for our elders at home. Passing this resolution is important for the further assessment and planning on how to best fulfill this need. Including equal representation of stakeholders and advocates in the working group is necessary to reach the ultimate goal.

Please support Hawai'i's family caregivers, their care recipient, and overall, and the citizens of Hawai'i.

Maria Raiza Morales

Ewa Beach Resident