SCR 149 / SR 94 – REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII CENTER ON AGING TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO REVIEW IN-HOME CARE SERVICES AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF CARE.

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Tokuda, and members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health:

As Dean of the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work, I am appreciative of the legislature’s recognition of the Center on Aging as a leader in research associated with aging.

We regard the proposed working group as an important step toward gathering necessary data associated with the provision of home care in Hawai‘i. We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Center on Aging’s (COA) role in convening and co-chairing a working group to review the in-home care services and make recommendations to improve the quality of care.

The COA’s mission is to enhance the well-being of older adults through interdisciplinary and collaborative efforts in research, educational programs and service to the community. Its focus is often on applied, translational and community engaged research with attention on the multicultural populations of Hawai‘i and the Asia Pacific Region.

*The Center is challenged with limited resources and personnel,* nonetheless, we look forward in working in partnership with DLIR on this important issue.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on these measures.