



HAWAII STATE HEALTH PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
1177 Alakea Street, Suite 402 • Honolulu, HI 96813 • Phone: (808) 587-0788 • www.shpda.org
Kauai County Subarea Health Planning Council

DRAFT

Meeting Minutes
May 20, 2026
12:30 PM Hawaii Time

Virtual Zoom Meeting and Physical Location at the
 Keoni Ana Building, 1177 Alakea Street, Suite 402

- MEMBERS:** Nicholas Pananganan, Jen Chahanovich, Tricia Yamashita
- GUESTS:** Kurt Akamine (Chief Operating Officer, HHSC), Lauren Guest (Acting District Health Officer Kauai, DOH)
- MEMBERS ABSENT:** None
- SHPDA:** John Lewin, Terry Visperas

ATTENDANCE RECORD OF APPOINTED MEMBERS

Date	3/17/22	6/20/22	8/18/22	2/14/23	3/14/23	6/13/23	8/8/23	2/13/24	4/9/24	12/16/24
Jen Chahanovich	X	X	X	O	X	X	X	X	X	O
Nicholas Pananganan**	O	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	O	X
Tricia Yamashita										X

Legend: X=Present; O=Absent; /=No Meeting *-Chair, **-Vice Chair

Meeting recording:

<https://www.zoomgov.com/rec/share/WkLmPXgPX6-gDTN36E0WXLUEM0Rd8n7pQPfen9k5DrMW4tAA1wXzmhhqV0J3Oim.wG2YVkuXZvCJw9wk>
 Passcode: ?j\$VG6h.

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Call to Order	The meeting was called to order at 10:08 a.m. T. Visperas, SHPDA facilitating	
Row Call/Introductions	KCSAC Members: Jen Chahanovich, Nicholas Pananganan, Tricia Yamashita Guests: Kurt Akamine (Chief Operating Officer, HHSC), Lauren Guest (Acting District Health Officer Kauai, DOH)	
Meeting Minutes	Motion to accept the minutes from December 16, 2024, meeting. Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried. Call for public testimony – none.	
Administrator’s Report	Dr. Jack Lewin – SHPDA Administrator Provided an extensive update covering two major federal grants and statewide health system initiatives: AHEAD Grant (All-Payer Health Efficiency Approaches and Design) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will transform payment models statewide beginning in 2028. • \$12M planning funds awarded to Hawai‘i; one of six participating states. • Focuses on population health improvements, primary care investment, alternative payment models, and data-driven health improvement. • Potential \$200M/year in incentives for participating providers and hospitals. • High interest from major systems (HPH, HMSA, Queens). Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP) – Nearly \$1B over 5 years <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hawai‘i awarded approx. \$189M/year; Kaua‘i is a priority rural county. • Emphasis on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Workforce expansion (physicians, nurses, trainees) 	

- Statewide telehealth platform (Pili Ola)
- Respite care programs
- EMS upgrades (first-year focus)
- Community-based services in future years
- SHPDA manages two major funding buckets:
 - Rural Health Information Network (EHR upgrades, statewide interoperability improvements, HIE investments)
 - Rural Value-Based Initiative (\$25M/year to accelerate AHEAD participation)

Electronic Health Records (EHR) Upgrades

- Goal: Fully interoperable statewide system.
- Funding for upgrading or adopting EHRs including connecting HHSC facilities.

Clinically Integrated Network (CIN) / Management Services Organization (MSO)

- MSO will support independent physicians, clinics, hospitals in value-based models.
- Vendor selected through RFP; must take on all downside risk.
- CIN participants may include ACOs, independents, FQHCs, etc.
- Vendor only profits from shared savings; no state funds to the vendor.

Legislative Updates

- SHPDA tracked 130 bills; 30 passed.
- Significant activity in prior authorization reform.
- Developing statewide reporting databases for claims, denials, and APCD.

Upcoming Requirement

- SHPDA must conduct review of the HMSA–HPH partnership proposal.
- Public hearings will be required; council feedback requested.

Council Responsibilities

- Federal agencies will consider KCSAC council input on how grant funds impact Kaua'i.
- Need for more frequent council meetings (every other month) Or more as needed for CON or other Priorities.

KCSAC Members and Guests
to share updates from their
communities

- SHPDA leadership intends to visit Kaua‘i for in-person sessions.
- Tricia Yamashita**
- Asked detailed questions about CIN/MSO structure and provider participation.
 - Clarified risk-bearing mechanisms—confirmed the MSO carries downside risk, not providers.
 - Identified concerns about how patient panel sizes affect value distribution.
 - Promoted Kaua‘i Hospice’s July 4th Concert in the Sky.

Lauren Guest

- Announced the upcoming CASPER community needs assessment survey (June 15–19).
- Will share future results with the council.

Kurt Akamine

- Shared information about HHSC’s annual golf tournament (June 6).

Nick Pananganan

- Offered firefighter labor support for community events (including Hospice’s July 4th event).

Jen Chahanovich

- Offered Wilcox Health as host for future in-person meetings.
 - Requested alternative dates due to Wednesday conflicts.
- Public testimony – none.

Proposed Future Meeting
Schedule

Proposed Future 2025 KCSAC Meeting Dates:

- Explore alternate July meeting dates (13th or 14th instead of 15th)
- September 16th at 10AM
- November 18th at 10AM

Attachments:

2026 SHPDA Legislative Highlights

2026 Civil Beat Kupuna Write up

2026 Legislative Highlights

191 total bills tracked
33 bills or 17% passed

Bill Name	Summary
HB 1973	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establish a one-year KupunAloha Pilot Program within the SHPDA.• Provide in-home health care and support services for people who do not qualify for existing government programs• Appropriation amount of \$2,000,000
HB 1974	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SHPDA to develop and publish a comprehensive state plan on hearing loss• Appropriation amount of \$100,000
HB 2319	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Amend the functions and responsibilities of the SHPDA.• Add a new definition of "health care" for the purposes of health planning and resource development and health care cost control.• Increase the certificate of need exemption threshold for bed changes to up to thirty percent of existing licensed beds.• Exempt health care facilities or services operated by the Department of Health from certificate of need requirements
HB 1853	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Create the Hānai Memory Network Program to improve dementia care and support.• It would help with early detection, care coordination, public education, and long-term support for people with dementia and their caregivers.• Appropriation amount of \$3,000,000
HB 1804	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Require the Executive Office on Aging to plan a study on how Hawai'i could pay for long-term care services and supports• Appropriation amount of \$100,000
SB 3045	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Require health plans, including Medicaid managed care plans, to cover continuous glucose monitors and related supplies for eligible patients.
SB 847	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Create a three-year pilot program on Kaua'i allowing certain trained psychologists, under psychiatrist supervision, to prescribe some mental health medications for adults ages 18 to 65• Require employers involved in the pilot program to report information to SHPDA, including patient outcomes, adverse events, and when cases need to be escalated for higher-level care.

Community Voice

Legislative Session Ended Strong For Kūpuna-Related Bills

They include a measure to temporarily provide in-home health care and support services to eligible participants.

By Kevin Y. Kawamoto
May 25, 2026 - 1 min read



About the Author



Kevin Y. Kawamoto
Kevin Y. Kawamoto, MSW, Ph.D., is gerontological social worker. He currently works at the University of Hawaii at Manoa Center on Aging.

Despite working with a lean state budget, Hawai'i legislators passed a handful of kūpuna-related bills this year that should help enhance the well-being of older adults in a state where their life expectancy, on average, surpasses the rest of the nation. More than 20% of the total population of Hawai'i is age 65 and over, and that number is expected to climb in the coming years.

Three of the five bills submitted as part of the **Kūpuna Caucus** package passed final reading and were transmitted to the governor's office. **House Bill 1973** establishes a one-year pilot program within the Department of Health called KupunAloha that will provide in-home health care and support services to eligible participants who do not otherwise qualify for government assistance for these services. An appropriation of \$2 million is being made for the pilot year.

House Bill 1974 requires the state Health Planning and Development Agency to develop a comprehensive state plan on hearing loss. The plan will be focused on improving access, affordability, awareness, and early detection of hearing loss in collaboration with community

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"Office on Aging" to develop the framework and scope of work for a proposed study - a one-year pilot program - plan will be focused on...

jessept · 2 days ago

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<https://www.civilbeat.org/2026/05/legislative-session-ended-strong-for-kupuna-related-bills/>