

HB 1371

LATE

kim2 - Arline

From: lydeemaui@gmail.com on behalf of Lydee Ritchie [lydeemft@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 01, 2009 11:08 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Please support House Bill 1371 HD1 SD1

Dear Senator **Donna Mercado Kim**,
Chair of the Senate Ways & Means Committee

Please support **House Bill 1371 HD1 SD1** Relating to Health Care being heard by the Senate Ways & Means Committee on Thursday, April 2, 2009 at 9:30 a.m.

Due to the cutback in mental health services--the DOH Respite, the DD Division Medicaid Waiver Program, Early Intervention services, Adult Dental Services, Aging and Disability Resource Center, Healthy Start, mental health services, Kupuna care services, community health centers--we are in dire need of a "safety net" of services on Maui.

As a co-occurring disorders counselor and pyschotherapist at Aloha House Inc., my colleagues and I are seeing an increase in stress, anxiety, depression, and suicidal thoughts/behavior among our consumers. Some of us licensed clinicians are trying to help them through private practice and pro bono work, however this is not enough. Please pass this bill.

Mahalo for your time and effort,

Lydee Ritchie, Licensed MFT
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LATE

Gina Williams

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 01, 2009 9:56 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: surfaboy808@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1371 on 4/2/2009 9:30:00 AM

Testimony for WAM 4/2/2009 9:30:00 AM HB1371

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jeffrey Sakamoto
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone: 808292-2137
E-mail: surfaboy808@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/1/2009

Comments:
Testimony of
Jeffrey Sakamoto
Before the Committee on Ways and Means
Conference Room 211
April 2, 2009

House Bill No. 1371 S.D. 1
. Relating to directing funds provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, or other Federal Stimulus Acts for health care programs.

Chairwoman Kim and Vice Chairman Tsutsui and Members of the Committee:

My name is Jeffrey Sakamoto and I am a senior in high school and an Eagle Scout with Troop 115, Boy Scouts of America, Aloha Council.

Recently, I did my Eagle Project at Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center. Our Troop built a sitting area under a shady tree giving the Seniors a place to rest while waiting for their rides. The Seniors before that use to wait in the parking lot which was not a really safe place for them. While I learned valuable lessons doing my project like how to secure resources, manage a project, and work as a team, I was mostly inspired by the Seniors at Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center. They provided expert advice as we poured concrete, we played with them cards, and we even sang with them during their sing-along. They even joined us for lunch and they gave us leis showing their gratitude to our Troop.

When I read the paper in December that Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center was in financial difficulty and could possible close, I was shocked. I can't imagine where these Seniors would go if they didn't have the Center. Our Troop was inspired by these active Seniors having fun and socializing during our time there. I have grandparents who are still alive and I know how important it is to keep them active. I play Wii Fit with my grandma and grandpa. I'm lucky they are still with me to share in my life. I hope that you will continue funding this very important community need so that other grandchildren like me can enjoy their grandparents as well.

LATE

I know that House Bill No. 1371 S.D.1 which will direct funds provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, or other Federal Stimulus Acts to programs such as Lanakila Multipurpose Senior Center. I respectfully request the Committee pass House Bill No. 1371 S.D. 1 so that the Lanakila Multi Purpose Senior Center and other Senior Centers will be able to remain open and serve the Seniors in our community. If you need more information from me, please contact me at (808) 292-2137 or email me at surfaboy808@gmail.com.