

LATE

**Date:** 03/17/2009

**Committee:** House Health  
House Human Services

**Department:** Education

**Person Testifying:** Patricia Hamamoto, Superintendent of Education

**Title of Bill:** SB 1679,SD2(SSCR689) RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND.

**Purpose of Bill:** Appropriates moneys from the emergency and budget reserve fund to maintain levels of programs for education, human services, and health. Effective 07/01/90. (SD2)

**Department's Position:** The Department of Education supports Senate Bill 1679, SD2, as long as this appropriation would be additional funds and would not decrease our base budget. The Department would recommend to the Board of Education that any additional funds appropriated over and above the base budget approved by the Board, would be allocated to the Weighted Student Formula (WSF) for the most flexibility in supporting student achievement and providing needed services, supplies, and equipment to our students, including textbooks or other instructional materials. Schools would have more flexibility to contract for various therapist services as student needs were determined, or hire personnel for the school level supports to ensure all students are progressing academically, emotionally, physically, and socially. The flexibility in the use of WSF funds would provide the maximum ability to teach and support the whole child. The Department supports Senate Bill 1679, SD2.

LATE

WRITTEN ONLY

TESTIMONY BY GEORGINA K. KAWAMURA  
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
STATE OF HAWAII  
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEES ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
ON  
SENATE BILL NO. 1679, S.D. 2

March 17, 2009

RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Senate Bill No. 1679, S.D. 2, appropriates funds from the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund for Fiscal Year 2010 and Fiscal Year 2011 to the Departments of Health, Human Services, and Education and to the Executive Office on Aging to maintain levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health and public welfare and for grants to private agencies.

We are opposed to this bill. Rather than using the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund to supplement general funds, in light of the critical budget shortfall facing the State, we believe it is more appropriate to use the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund to replace general funds. Accordingly, in House Bill No. 1064, we have proposed to use \$60 million from the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund to replace general funds that are currently appropriated for the health care payments program in Fiscal Year 2009. In addition, in House Bill No. 1065, we have proposed to use another \$15 million from the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund to replace general fund appropriations for the health care payments program in Fiscal Year 2010. This will leave the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund with projected balances of \$6.2 million, \$3.5 million and \$15.7 million in Fiscal Years 2009, 2010 and 2011, respectively.

**A JOINT LEGISLATIVE EFFORT**

E-Mail: [HLTtestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:HLTtestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov)  
Regarding: HLT/HUS Hearing  
Hearing on: 3-17-09;; 10:45 am; Rm. 329

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**Date:** March 17, 2009  
**To:** House Health and Human Services Committees  
**From:** Dennis Arakaki  
Executive Director  
Hawaii Family Forum / Hawaii Catholic Conference  
**Re:** LATE TESTIMONY: In Strong Support – SB 1679, SD2

Honorable Chairs Yamane and Mizuno, Vice Chairs Nishimoto and Brower and members of the House Health and Human Services Committees, I am Dennis Arakaki, representing both the Hawaii Family Forum and the Roman Catholic Church in the State of Hawaii.

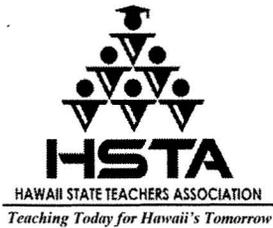
Hawaii Family Forum is a non-profit, pro-family education organization committed to preserving and strengthening families in Hawaii. The Roman Catholic Church in Hawaii, under the leadership of Bishop Larry Silva, represents over 220,000 Catholics in Hawaii.

I wish to speak in strong support of SB 1679, SD2 that details how the legislature will utilize the EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND. This measure is especially critical during this economic crisis and the Legislature's budgetary challenges. No doubt, it is raining, in fact, it is pouring and the most vulnerable amongst us are being swept away in waves of budget cuts, job losses and loss of homes. SB 1679, SD2, allows the legislature to express its budget priorities and strong desire to maintain services to the neediest of the needy, the children, the elderly and the disabled. It is also important to maintain and enable the viability of the non-profit health and human services programs as their budgets shrink.

We ask that you keep this measure alive as a life-line for health and human services programs, especially for the sake of those who cannot speak for themselves. This measure should be considered as part of a total package during conference to provide relief as you determine the essential areas of services for children, families, the elderly and disabled, in relation to the Federal stimulus package. We will count on the Legislature to develop the list of priorities and will work with you to develop that list. I would suggest that among the items to consider is funding for the General Assistance Program, which will be cut in half next month and to restore funding for Adult Mental Health case management services, that has left many of our seriously mentally ill out in our communities without appropriate monitoring and assistance.

Thank you for allowing me to testify on this very critical measure.

LATE



1200 Ala Kapuna Street λ Honolulu, Hawaii 96819  
Tel: (808) 833-2711 λ Fax: (808) 839-7106 λ Web: www.hsta.org

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**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEES ON  
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**RE: SB 1679, SD2 – RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET  
RESERVE FUND.**

March 17, 2009

**ROGER TAKABAYASHI, PRESIDENT  
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION**

Chair Yamane, Chair Mizuno and Members of the Committees:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association supports SB1679, SD2, which appropriates moneys from the emergency budget and reserve fund to maintain program levels for education, human services, and health.

HSTA believes the additional money allocated to the Department of Education (DOE) is sorely needed to fund the weighted student formula (WSF). These additional funds to the WSF will be particularly helpful to the smaller schools that have to sacrifice certain positions such as librarians, counselors, and other providers of critical educational services.

Direct funding to the WSF is essential because it will send resources directly to the school to meet student needs. If the DOE, in fact, uses the additional funds for the purpose of increasing moneys to the WSF, then HSTA wholeheartedly supports this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



LATE

1485 Linapuni Street, Suite 105  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96819  
Tel. (808) 847-3285  
Fax (808) 841-1485

**OAHU PROGRAMS**

- COMMUNITY TEEN CENTER
- CPS VISITATION CENTERS
- EARLY HEAD START/  
HEAD START
- ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
CENTER
- FAMILY PEACE CENTER
- FAMILY VISITATION CENTER
- HANA LIKE HOME  
VISITOR PROGRAM
- HAWAII FAMILY SUPPORT  
CENTER
- INTENSIVE SUPPORT SERVICES
- KANEOHE COMMUNITY  
FAMILY CENTER
- KPT FAMILY CENTER
- OHA - DOMESTIC VIOLENCE  
SHELTER
- PU'UHONUA DOMESTIC  
VIOLENCE CENTER
- RESPIRE CARE

**MAUI COUNTY PROGRAMS**

- FAMILY PEACE CENTER
- INTENSIVE SUPPORT SERVICES
- LANAI INTEGRATED SERVICES
- FAMILY VISITATION CENTER

**KAUAI COUNTY PROGRAMS**

- FAMILY VISITATION CENTER
- INTENSIVE SUPPORT SERVICES

**MEMBER:**

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**TO:** Rep. Ryan Yamane, Chair  
Committee on Health  
Rep. John Mizuno, Chair  
Committee on Human Services

**FROM:** Julie Falicki, Program Director  
Parents And Children Together  
Hana Like Home Visitor Program

**DATE:** March 16, 2009

**RE: SB 1679, SD 2  
In Support of Appropriation from the Emergency and  
Budget Reserve Fund**

My name is Julie Falicki. I am the Program Director for PACT's Hana Like Home Visitor Program. Hana Like is a member of the statewide Healthy Start Network. I have worked in the Healthy Start program since 1993. PACT is one of Hawaii's leading not-for-profit human services providers, with 12 programs statewide serving over 9,000 clients annually. I am submitting testimony **in support of appropriation from the emergency budget and reserve fund to maintain levels of programs for education, human services, and health.**

During these tough economic times, it is tempting to eliminate programs that may be viewed by some as non-essential. However, these are the very programs and services that support our most vulnerable citizens, including infants, children, the mentally ill, elderly, disabled, and poor, as well as at-risk families. Such programs provide services that avoid higher human and economic costs and as such, serve as a safety net for those amongst us most in need. Failure to provide a safety net for those most in need impacts all of us.

The appropriation would provide funding to the Healthy Start program, which aims to optimize each child's development during the critical first three years of life by providing at-risk families with the skills and support needed to nurture their child's development and to avoid setting patterns of parenting which may lead to child abuse and neglect and poor developmental outcomes. The program has proven to be effective in ameliorating those factors associated with child abuse and neglect. Long-term costs associated with child abuse and neglect include school failure, substance abuse, an unprepared work force, mental health treatment, crime, as well as illnesses now known to be associated with early trauma and neglect. The program builds supports and reduces stressors, thereby promoting each family's capacity to foster their child's development as well as the family's self-reliance and resilience.



LATE

CATHOLIC CHARITIES HAWAII

TO: Representative Ryan I Yamane, Chair  
Representative Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair  
Committee on Health

Representative John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Representative Tom Brower, Vice Chair  
Committee on Human Services

FROM: Stella M.Q. Wong  
Vice President of Programs

DATE of Hearing: Tuesday, March 17, 2009  
10:45 a.m., Room 329

SUBJECT: **Testimony in SUPPORT of SB1679, S.D.2**

Chairs Yamane and Mizuno, and Members of the House Committees on Health and Human Services, my name is Stella Wong and I am the Vice President of Programs at Catholic Charities Hawai'i. I am testifying **in support of SB1679, S.D.2, RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND.**

Catholic Charities Hawai'i (CCH) is a tax exempt, non-profit agency that has been providing social services in Hawai'i for over 60 years. CCH has programs serving elders, children, developmentally disabled, homeless and immigrants. Our mission is to provide services to the most vulnerable of the people in Hawai'i.

With the current economic situation, the numbers of people at risk are growing. There are more people coming to our doors needing food, shelter, jobs and other basics of life. There is nothing more heartbreaking than to have to turn away families with young children, frail elders and individuals with disabilities.

**SUPPORT FOR STATEWIDE HEALTHY START:** Losing one's job in many families with young infants adds tremendous stress. Programs such as Healthy Start play a critical role, pro actively, in facilitating positive parenting in stressful times and has been proven to prevent child abuse. Of the 17,000 births a year in Hawaii, about 4,000 babies and their families are screened and assessed to be offered Family Support Services.

**SUPPORT FOR SENIOR CENTERS, KUPUNA CARE SERVICES AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES MEDICAID WAIVER SERVICES:** Cuts to services for senior citizens and individuals with developmental disabilities place these vulnerable populations at risk of costly institutionalization for which government, and taxpayers, will eventually bear the burden.

The decision of the State of Hawaii to direct all Stimulus FMAP (Medicaid) funds to address the State deficit and not use any of these funds toward provision of actual Medicaid services will have tremendous impact on vulnerable populations unless funding is made available through this bill.

- **Specific recommendation for amendment (Page 6, lines 15 to 18):** Please correct the names of the non-profit organizations listed for **senior center funding** and we ask for your consideration of funding for the senior centers in the following amounts:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Requested Amount</u>
Catholic Charities, <del>Ine</del> <u>Hawai'i</u>	\$337,000
Kapahulu <b>senior</b> Center	\$100,000
Moiliili <b>senior <u>Community</u></b> Center	\$125,000
Waikiki Community Center	\$120,000

The safety net for all social services that affect our most vulnerable in the state is getting very thin and will soon be in shreds if nothing is done. There will be many more people faced with health and safety issues and it will cost the State, and taxpayers, more money in the long run if we do not **do what we can now** to maintain these at risk populations in the community.

I'm sure I don't have to say it but **"It's Raining."** Please help restore programs to protect the most vulnerable in this State. I strongly urge your committee to pass SB 1679, S.D.2.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Please feel free to contact me at 535-0889 or [swong@catholiccharitieshawaii.org](mailto:swong@catholiccharitieshawaii.org) if I can provide any further information.

LATE



Building Independence for Challenged Lives

PRESIDENT & CEO  
Marian E. Tsuji

Lanakila Rehabilitation Center, Inc.  
DBA Lanakila Pacific

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Hawaii State House of Representatives  
The Twenty-Fifth Legislature

Committee on Health  
Rep. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair  
Rep. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair

Committee on Human Services  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Tom Brower, Vice Chair

Tuesday, March 17, 2009  
10:45 am  
Conference Room 329

SB 1679, SD 2 Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

Submitted by  
Marian E. Tsuji, President & CEO

Chairs Yamane and Mizuno; Vice Chairs Nishimoto and Brower; and members of the Health and Human Services Committees.

Lanakila Pacific is the umbrella agency for three core programs that provide services for adults with challenges that build independence. The challenges are physical, cognitive, social, or age related. We currently have state and county contracts to provide meal and basic life skills services for homebound seniors and adults with developmental, mental and physical disabilities. These are amongst the most vulnerable populations in our community. In the best of times, they are often overlooked, and their needs underfunded. In these tough economic times, their needs are increasingly critical.

The intent of the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund was to serve as a temporary supplemental source of funding in times of emergency, economic downturn, or unforeseen reduction in revenues. These times certainly qualify for the funding, and the needs are essential for the populations proposed to receive the funding. It should be enacted July 1, 2009.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 1679, SD2.





LATE

ALTERNATIVE CARE SERVICES, INC.  
2153 North King Street, Suite 303  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96819  
Phone (808) 848-2779

Hearing Date: March 17, 2009 at 10:45 a.m., Room 329 at the State Capitol

Honorable Representative Ryan Yamane, Chair House Health Committee  
Honorable Representative Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair and  
Members of the House Committee on Health

Honorable Representative John Mizuno, Chair House Human Services Committee  
Honorable Representative Tom Brower, Vice Chair and  
Members of the House Committee on Human Services

Re: Senate Bill 1679, S.D.2 Relating The Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund for services under the jurisdiction of the DHS and DOH departments. My name is Esperanza Cadavona, President of Alternative Care Services, Inc. Our agency has a DHS Medicaid Waiver Agreement to provide a variety of services statewide to persons with Developmental Disabilities and Mental Retardation.

We are in support of Senate Bill 1679, S.D.2 that encourages use of the emergency and budget reserve fund established by the State of Hawaii in 1999. The emergency and budget reserve fund was established as a temporary supplemental source of funding or "safety-net" to assist Hawaii's residents and poverty-stricken families "in times of emergency, economic downturn, or unforeseen reduction in revenues."

We encourage passage of this Bill in hopes that funds for Respite, Partnership In Community Living (PICL), Elderly needs, and moneys to restore budgets for persons with developmental disabilities and mental retardation will be supplemented for this fiscal year and budget year 2009-2010.

Failure to restore budgets for participants in the DD Division will negatively impact services to persons with DD/MR, their families, and caregivers. Governor Lingle's mandate to the DOH/DHS to cutback department budgets instigated a reduction of service hours to targeted population by fifteen percent (15%) effective February 1, 2009.

Reduction Basis: In actuality, the method used by the DOH severely reduced service hours by 28%, 39%, 63%, 67%, 71%, and even 100% for Pab, chore, and respite services rather than 15%. What method did the DOH use? Did the case manager include both the utilized and underutilized hours? Were the six (6) months of weekend days factored in the total budget for those with weekend services? This is unclear since our calculations shows reductions much higher than the reported 15% decrease. Seventeen (17) budgets are scheduled for appeal and until these are resolved, the actual financial impact for our agency may even be higher than the projected six hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$650,000.00) loss to our agency for calendar year 2009.

Impacts: Prior to the February effective date, many families did not fully understand what was happening nor had enough time to review whether service hours were not accurately tabulated nor had the time to consider how the reduced service hours would impact the quality of life for the participant and their family as a whole.

Miscommunications: Families also reported that their case managers informed them that if they did not submit their response by the deadline and reduced hours of service were not complied with, the family would be held responsible to repay the state for the additional service hours being utilized while they waited for an appeal. Out of fear, families felt compelled to sign the document to meet the deadline. Although DOH administrative staff clarified that information was in error, majority had already turned in their responses.

Another concern was information that circulated that if the number of appeals surpassed a specific number, state and federal dollars would be depleted by April 2009, which would leave agency providers with no reimbursements for the rest of fiscal year 2009. This reminds us of the financial fiasco agency providers' experienced when the state contracted with an Arizona vendor to manage the computerized billing system – a system plagued with various glitches that delayed payments to agency providers for several months. One agency shut down while others continue to struggle with accumulated penalties and fines imposed by state and federal tax departments. Penalties and fines as a result of the state's failure to reimburse agency providers in a timely manner.

Improving Billing and Reimbursement Systems: Let me take this opportunity to suggest that DOH, DHS, and DAGS improve their billing and check reimbursement systems to prevent untimely distribution of checks to agency providers. Between 2005 through 2008, our data shows that receipt of checks were on time only fifty percent (50%) of the time. According to our Fiscal Department, of the untimely checks, we received the miniscule interest payment less than three times. We don't want the interest – PAY AGENCY PROVIDERS ON TIME.

Suggested Exemption/Bail Out: It is my opinion that when the state and federal government does not comply with its agreement to reimburse agencies for services rendered within the 30-days Agreement, penalties and fines for agency providers should be exempt or "bailed out" by state and federal governments. The small interest rate given to agencies for delayed payments does not help payoff higher rates for tax penalties and fines.

Preparation - Establishing Business/Personal Credit Lines: Although we want to be prepared financially by establishing business and personal credit lines, the reality is that many agencies have already used up their business and personal credit lines, used optimum limits on charge cards and even put up their homes to refinance mortgages just to keep their business in operation.

The state and federal government has an obligation to a) improve computerized systems and procedures to reimburse agency providers and medical professionals in a timely manner for services rendered, b) to communicate in a timely manner changes that impact the quality of peoples' lives, and c) implement best business practices with agency providers, medical professionals, and community vendors that provide services to a population that has long been neglected and underserved.

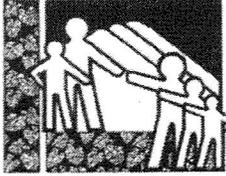
Unless these areas are addressed, the most vulnerable population with long-term healthcare needs will suffer as medical professionals a) refuse to accept new patients, b) discontinue their services to an already underserved population, and c) move their practice to other states.

Act 133, Act 189, and Chapter 333 F, Hawaii Revised Statutes were passed to enhance the quality of life for persons with DD/MR. It also promoted Hawaii as being the first state to close down its institution for persons with DD/MR and Hawaii was praised for being in the forefront in development of individual plans based on person-centered choices, principles of self-determination, and social integration within the communities at large. Unless funding is restored and timely reimbursements to providers are addressed, the state must be prepared for mass staff lay-offs, program closures, and the need to re-open institutions to care for this vulnerable target population.

Submitted by:

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Esperanza N. Cadavona, President



**Family Support Services of West Hawaii**

75-127 Lunapule Rd., #11

Kailua-Kona, HI 96740

Phone: (808) 326-7778 Fax: (808) 326-4063

Email: kids@fsswh.org

LATE

To: Representative Ryan Yamane, Chair, Representative John Mizuno, Chair  
Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice Chair and Representative Tom  
Brower, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committees on Health and Human Services

Date of Hearing: Tuesday, March 17, 2009

Time of Hearing: 10:45 am

Place: Conference Room 329, State Capitol

Testimony: In **strong support** of SB 1679: Relating to the Emergency and Budget  
Reserve Fund

She came into my office last week crying because she had no food for her children. She had received notice the week before that she and her two children had been discharged from the Kona's Healthy Start Program because there had been a "change in the model" and her family no longer qualified. Now she had no one to help her get food and she felt completely alone. The children were crying and she asked me how could we do this?

I had no answer. The Department of Health has cut the budget for Kona's Healthy Start Program by 50%. At the end of last week, we had funding for only 50 families rather than the 125 we were serving just a few months ago and far short of the more than 300 families we would normally serve during the course of a year. These are families who are already overburdened and who with the added stress of now having no support from a home visitor who knows how to access help are much more likely to lash out at their children or neglect them due simply to a total lack of resources.

My name is JoAnn Bishop Freed and I am the Executive Director of Family Support Services of West Hawaii on the island of Hawaii. Family Support Services of West Hawaii (FSSWH) has been fulfilling its mission to "**support families and communities in providing love and care for our children**" for the past thirty years. Begun by a group of community volunteers concerned about the victims of child abuse and neglect, FSSWH has been in the forefront of establishing innovative programs and activities designed to support all families as they strive to raise healthy, happy children on the island of Hawaii.

Today, times are particularly rough for families—our local economic factors have resulted in families having less time and resources to devote to their children; changes in family structure have altered traditional bonds among family members; geographic mobility has stranded young families far from the support of extended family or friends; and growing poverty has left many families without the means to meet basic needs. The stress caused by such changes has left many adults less able to provide support to each other when it is needed most, and we now know

the toll that early and excessive stress takes on the neurological development of the brain of vulnerable infants. Parents know very well what they are up against and are struggling to do the best they can for their children.

If ever young families needed the benefit of a safety net it would be now, before the life-long effects of the stress of living in poverty and other adverse childhood experiences takes its toll on the development of our youngest, most vulnerable children. The stress caused by poverty can corrode family relationships, including parents' relationships with their children, making it more difficult for many parents to provide consistent and involved parenting. Parental stress particularly impacts upon the developing child, but excessive stress, regardless of source, disrupts the neuron pathways of a child's developing brain. This can cause lifelong problems in learning, behavior, physical and mental health.

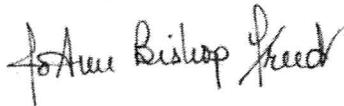
Research on resiliency highlights the protective factors for individuals that may reduce the impact of poverty. Research has shown that having access to another involved significant adult outside the family helps a child cope with stress. Such relationships may also help to develop a sense of belonging to a community, which in turn leads to informal supports and collaborations. There is also evidence that home visiting programs such as Hawaii's Healthy Start have a positive impact on families.

I hope you will support Senate Bill Number 1679: Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund. This bill proposes to appropriate moneys from the emergency and reserve budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to the education, public health and public welfare of our citizens—including our littlest ones.

Children born into disadvantaged environments are more likely to experience compromised childhoods unless interventions and supports are provided to offset the effects of poverty. That is why we cannot abandon our children because "there is no money," any more than we would expect a family to abandon its children for the same reason. My fear is that is exactly what will happen in Hawaii without its safety net.

Thank you so much for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "JoAnn Bishop Freed". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

JoAnn Bishop Freed  
Kailua-Kona

The Twenty-Fifth Legislature  
Regular Session of 2009

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Rep. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair

Rep. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair

Committee on Human Services

Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair

Rep. Tom Brower, Vice Chair

LATE

State Capitol, Conference Room 329  
Tuesday, March 17, 2009; 10:45 a.m.

**STATEMENT OF THE ILWU LOCAL 142 ON S.B. 1679, SD2  
RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND**

The ILWU Local 142 supports S.B. 1679, SD2, which appropriates moneys from the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund to maintain levels of programs for education, human services, and health.

The ILWU represents 20,000 active members and thousands more retirees who live on all major islands. Many of the programs identified in S.B. 1679, SD2 are invaluable to our members and retirees. These programs include Kupuna Care, respite services, the Healthy Aging Partnership, the Aging and Disability Resource Center, senior centers, and Healthy Start. Without funds, these programs would be severely cut back or eliminated entirely.

While we realize that the State has a huge budget shortfall and is looking for ways to cut expenses, these programs are not only needed by their clients but should be seen as helping to stimulate the economy by keeping people employed. And the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund, or "Rainy Day Fund," is intended to be used for precisely the situation the State finds itself in. In good times, we save money; in bad times, or "rainy days," we spend to rejuvenate the economy--spending to stimulate.

We view this expenditure as an investment in the well-being of our community. We hope you will agree and pass S.B. 1679, SD2. Thank you for the opportunity to share our views on this matter.

TO: Representative Ryan I Yamane, Chair  
Representative Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair  
Committee on Health

LATE

Representative John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Representative Tom Brower, Vice Chair  
Committee on Human Services

FROM: Oahu Kupuna Care Provider Agencies

DATE of Hearing: Tuesday, March 17, 2009  
10:45 a.m., Room 329

SUBJECT: **Testimony in SUPPORT of SB1679, S.D.2**

On behalf of the seven agencies that provide State funded Kupuna Care services, please accept the attached *Information Paper* as testimony in support of SB1679 and the additional State funding needed for Kupuna Care services for seniors.

As you will read in the enclosed Information Paper, the need for services for our kupuna is great and growing.

- *There are now **451** elders on wait lists for Kupuna Care services, reflecting a 14% increase since last year.*
- *Kupuna Care provider agencies have identified a need to **increase** services for **existing** clients by as much as 77% over current levels.*
- *Kupuna Care providers are already **struggling** to provide for increasing need with decreasing State funds.*
  - *The State contribution toward Kupuna Care services have decreased from 83 cents to 75 cents of every dollar of Kupuna Care funding since last year.*
- *We are **missing many opportunities** to improve quality of care and delay or prevent costly institutionalization.*
- *The changes in the senior population are impacting the amount, type and length of care.*

**Please support Hawaii's Kupuna by providing additional funding for Kupuna Care services through SB 1679.**

Thank you,

***Oahu's Kupuna Care Provider Agencies***

LATE

# Information Paper

## Community Need for Kupuna Care Senior Services

updated February 27, 2009

### WHAT ARE KUPUNA CARE SERVICES?

The State of Hawaii currently funds a discrete set of services for seniors under its Kupuna Care Program. These services help older adults live independently in a safe and healthy environment for as long as possible and avoid costly institutionalization. Kupuna Care Services include

- Adult day care
- Case management
- Home delivered meals
- Transportation
- Attendant care
- Chore
- Homemaker
- Personal care

Eligibility for Kupuna Care services:

- Age 60 or older
- U.S. citizen or legal alien
- Unable to receive comparable government assistance (e.g via Medicaid) or afford private paid services
- Impairment in **two** or more areas of Activities of Daily Living (ADL) <sup>1</sup> or Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADL)<sup>2</sup>; or have reduced mental capacity
- Unmet need in performing at least **one** area of ADL or IADL.
- Not residing in institutional setting, including care home, foster home, hospital or nursing home.

### WHY IS MORE STATE FUNDING FOR KUPUNA CARE SERVICES NEEDED?

#### The Wait List is Growing

- 451 elders are still on Oahu's wait list for Kupuna Care services
- The wait list has increased by 13.89% in one year

	Homemaker/ Chore	KC Transportation	Case Mgmt	Home Delivery	Attendant Care	Personal Care	TOTAL
<b># of elders on wait list (12/31/08)</b>	121	8	41	140	2	18	<b>451</b>

<sup>1</sup> Activities of Daily Living (ADL's) include: eating, bathing, dressing, transferring from bed to chair, controlling bowel and bladder, and moving about the house safely on their own.

<sup>2</sup> Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADL's) include: preparing meals, shopping for food and personal items, taking medication, managing money, using phone, doing housework, and using public transportation

### Existing Kupuna Care clients need MORE services

- Current Oahu KC clients would benefit from an increase of 10% to 77% in level of services

The “Projected Need” indicated below is based on informed estimates of provider agencies responding to the question, “What additional level of service is needed by your existing clients to assure client basic well being and comfort?”

FY2008	Homemaker /Chore	Transportation	Case Mgmt	Home Delivered Meals	Attendant Care	Personal Care
Unit of Service	1 hour	1 trip	1 hour	1 meal	1 hour	1 hour
<b>Contracted</b> Units of Service	3,004	24,840	13679	111,739	27,284	26,652
<b>Projected Need*</b> Units of Service	4,000	27,410	14006	182,000	41,223	38,645
<b>% of Addl. Service for Existing Clients</b>	33%	10%	25%	63%	77%	45%

\*Please note that in some instances, the Projected Need Units are a matter of safety and health and provider agencies will provide them, despite NO State funding to do so and at tremendous financial burden to the provider agencies.

### Kupuna Care Provider Agencies are Struggling to Maintain Services with LESS State funds

- The State currently pays for approximately 75 cents of every dollar spent on Oahu Kupuna Care services
- State funding has decreased from approximately 83 cents to 75 cents of every dollar spent on Oahu Kupuna Care Services in the past year.

Total KC funds provided on Oahu:	\$ 3,798,187
<b>Total Contributed by Provider Agencies via Other Sources and Client Donations:</b>	<b>\$ 1,288,460</b>

### Missed Opportunities Continue

- Every month, approximately 100 elders or their family caregivers seek Kupuna Care services and decline to leave a name on the wait list.
- When service providers call seniors on the wait list to start service, they often find that seniors have died or been institutionalized due to lack of service at time of need.
- Case managers are unable to stabilize cases because of lack of services and therefore must keep cases open longer.
- Service provider agencies limit outreach efforts when there are existing wait lists in order to avoid building false expectation of service and results in underestimation of need.

## **Population Trends Noted by Kupuna Care Providers *Continue***

- Existing (long term) clients are getting frailer and needing increased quantity of service in order to remain in the community.
- Baby boomer population is aging differently:
  - More assertive in asking for services
  - Appear to get sicker at earlier age; average age of new clients is decreasing
- Reduced Federal funds for other senior services has great impact on Kupuna Care services
- Gap in service - current provider network does not provide placement assistance at the point that elder can no longer safely maintain community. This is a complex, time consuming activity that can leave frail elders in vulnerable situations if not conducted properly.
- Emergency assistance – Provider agencies, already taxed to serve their existing clients, do not have capacity to address urgent, immediate needs, particularly when these arise after hours, during holidays, or at other times when provider agencies resources are limited/nonexistent.

## **For More Information, Please Contact a Kupuna Care Provider Agency:**

Catholic Charities Hawaii  
Diane Terada  
PH: 595-5901

Child and Family Service  
Valorie Taylor  
PH: 543-8437

Kokua Kalihi Valley  
Merlita Compton  
PH: 848-0977

Lanakila Rehabilitation Center  
Remy Rueda  
PH: 356-8558

Project Dana  
Rose Nakamura  
PH: 945-3736

St. Francis Health Services for Senior Citizens  
Anita Salcedo  
PH: 547-6121

Waikiki Health Center  
Jeff Kaplan  
PH: 942-5858

LATE

# HAWAII INSPECTION GROUP



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Voice: (866) 306-9006 Fax (866) 665-9523  
Email: tom@hawaiiinspectiongroup.com



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Member

The Honorable Ryan I. Yamane and John M. Mizuno  
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings  
Twenty-Fifth Legislature  
State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Date: March 16, 2009

RE: Support for SB 1679 (SD2) - RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND: Appropriates moneys from the emergency and budget reserve fund to maintain levels of programs for education, human services, and health. Effective 7/01/90. Hearing: Tuesday, March 17, 2009

Thank you for your time and attention in the urgent and critical matter of ensuring Healthy Start services remain available for our Hawaii children and families.

I am a local businessman here on Maui, and I am testifying in strong support of SB 1679 (SD2), specifically funds included to maintain Healthy Start Services at an operable level of \$9mil

I am keenly aware that these are at minimum, difficult time and that difficult decisions have to be made. We acknowledge and accept that as members of a community all have to give a little to ensure the health of our community.

I am most concerned that it has been stated that the program is not effective. Over 99% of the families who remain the program for 12 months or more are not confirmed for Child abuse or neglect; 100% of the families receive resources, support and assistance to strengthen the family and remove stressors, children receive medical home (doctor), John Hopkins research has clearly shown the programs effectiveness for anxious moms, and the list goes on which I am sure my colleagues and community members have and will continue to educate individuals on this indisputable fact. There was a report done over 10 year ago that was only done with a small population and without the professional components of the program, that continues to be referenced although it is outdated. However, the current, comprehensive and accurate data form the research clearly shows an effective program.

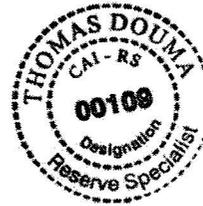
In addition to the statistics, families show and report on the importance of this program and how the services have made a difference in their lives. How different their lives and the lives of their children would be without Healthy Start.

Please help to ensure the \$9mil funding for Healthy Start is available to families on July 1, 2009.

Sincerely,



Licensed General Contactor #26557



LATE



To: House Committee on Health  
Representative Ryan I. Yamane, Chair  
Rep. Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair

House Committee on Human Services  
Representative John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Tom Brower, Vice-Chair

Date: March 17, 2009 - Conference Room 329 – 10:45 am

Re: **SB 1679, SD2: RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND**

Chairs Yamane and Mizuno and Committee Members:

My name is Barbara Kim Stanton, State Director of AARP Hawaii. AARP is a membership organization of people 50 and older with nearly 160,000 members in Hawaii. We are committed to championing 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 Americans age 50+.

**AARP strongly supports SB 1679, SD2.** This bill would appropriate moneys from the emergency budget and reserve fund (commonly known as the “Rainy Day Fund”) to maintain services deemed essential to public health and safety, public welfare and education during the economic downturn.

We believe that the rainy day fund must be used as intended when it was established in 1999. While we acknowledge that the state faces a significantly weakened economy, the \$74 million must be applied first to provide a safety net for our most vulnerable residents. Hawaii residents are facing greater hardship in unprecedented levels and numbers. They are the first to experience the harsh impact of revenue reduction.

We surmise that with the non-funding of grants-in-aids in 2008 and the rapid erosion of our safety net services this past year, the number of keiki, elderly, disabled, and low-income families and caregivers who rely on these services will continue to grow. Raiding the rainy day fund to balance the state budget would undermine the state’s ability to help our most vulnerable residents in their time of greatest need.

AARP believes that critical services and supports for the elderly and their families must continue to be maintained, especially since there is very little infrastructure to support the ever-increasing number of elders to begin with. The following points illustrate the scope of the need:

- Family caregivers are under stress. Caregivers currently provide the majority of care in Hawaii, and the physical, emotional pressures on them are growing. At any given time,

there are up to 169,000 family caregivers throughout the state, and the economic value of their unpaid care is estimated at \$1.45 billion per year. Support services and easily obtainable resource information are essential to their work.

- Many of Hawaii's elderly are of modest means. More than one fifth (21.2%) of Hawaii adults aged 60 and older have an income below 200% of the poverty threshold.
- Hawaii's population is aging rapidly. The number of people age 65 and older in the state is projected to grow by about 86% in the next two decades.
- The pressure on grandparents raising grandchildren is growing. Almost 13% of Hawaii's children are being raised by grandparents—the highest percentage in the nation. These grandparents often forego their own health care needs to keep their families intact.
- Rising health care costs are putting a squeeze on individual and family budgets. According to a 2008 AARP survey of Hawaii residents age 50 and older, 64% said that they were concerned their ability to afford prescription drugs. One in ten reported delaying the filling of a prescription or not filling it at all because of cost. Some people have resorted to splitting pills to make them stretch, or cutting back on food, fuel or electricity to afford prescriptions.

AARP believes that as we live longer, we must support our residents' ability to age in place. This points to the growing need for home and community based services that ease the burden on Hawaii's caregivers and allow people to remain in their homes as they get older. Services such as those offered by Kupuna Care provide adult day care, assisted transportation, attendant care, case management, chore services, home delivered meals, and personal care are at risk of being cut. Our Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs) provide a single point of entry for timely, accurate information for Hawaii's seniors and their families who often have nowhere to turn for advice in meeting their long-term care needs.

In addition, Oahu's senior centers play a critical role in keeping our kupuna engaged and healthy by providing outlets for recreation, exercise, and health screenings. They also provide respite to our caregivers, and keep them from burning out. Senior services are part of an important community network that must be protected. We short-change them at our peril.

Accordingly, we believe it is appropriate that the money to provide these basic services come from the rainy day fund. We appeal to legislators to reaffirm the appropriate role of government in providing these services during the current economic downturn. The passage of SB 1679 as an appropriation bill is a prudent cost saving measure. State government may avoid far greater costs in the future by funding basic community services today. Safety net services require safety net funds. Without the funding, today's challenges could easily develop into tomorrow's crises.

We strongly support SB 1679, SD1. We urge our legislators to use this emergency fund to protect our most vulnerable residents.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

LATE

SB1679 RELATING TO EMERGENCY BUDGET AND RESERVE FUND  
Appropriates moneys from the emergency budget and reserve fund to maintain  
levels of programs for education, human services, and health

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Representative Ryan I. Yamane , Chair

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES  
Representative John M Mizuno , Chair

DATE: Tuesday, March 17, 2009  
TIME: 10:45 a.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 329

## Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition (HSAC)

Aloha, Chairs and distinguished members. My name is Alan Johnson, Chairperson of the Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition, which is a hui of 22 treatment agencies throughout the state.

### HSAC supports SB1679

*The recent reductions in Substance Abuse Treatment place the Federal match at risk. A 10% or more reduction quickly turns into over 18% reduction in services to the community due to the Maintenance of Effort calculation imposed by the Federal government. SAMHSA, the Federal agency strongly, encourages States, such as Hawaii, to follow President Obama's lead to not reduce treatment at this time of most need by so many.*

### Treatment Works, Saves Money, Reduces Crime and Addresses Health Care Related Issues.

1. Treatment is effective for both adolescents and adults. The outcome data is available at <http://hawaii.gov/health/substance-abuse/prevention-treatment/treatment/adtrtwo.htm>
2. Almost 10% of the adult population and 6% of adolescents need treatment in Hawaii.
3. Treatment is 7 times more cost effective than the best supply control program.
4. Treatment is far less expensive than One year of treatment costs \$11,500. One year of incarceration costs \$39,600. One year of untreated addiction costs society an estimated \$43,200.

**Reductions in Treatment are twofold  
considering that the State loses the  
Federal Match**

5. \$1 invested in substance abuse treatment saves taxpayers \$7 in future costs; that \$1 invested in treatment could save \$11.54 in combined medical and social costs; for every \$1 spent on substance abuse treatment \$5.60 was returned in reduced welfare, food stamps, Medicaid, crime courts, and imprisonment.
6. 33% of all Justice costs relate to substance abuse.
7. 55% in probation and parole programs need alcohol or drug treatment.
8. Treatment works: Results of a treatment study report significant declines in criminal activity.
  - Reports of arrests of selling drugs decreased by 78.2%, from 64% to 13.9%.
  - Reports of arrests of shoplifting decreased by 81.6%, from 63.7% to 11.7%.
  - Reports of "beating someone up" decreased by 77.6%, from 49.3% to 11%.
  - Reports of arrests for any crimes decreased by 64.2%, from 48.2% to 17.2% in the comparison years.
  - Drug sales dropped by 68%;
  - Breaking and entering dropped by 61%;
  - Selling sex dropped by 54%;
  - Use of weapons or physical force dropped by 75%.

**Treatment works: *Alcohol Health & Research World* reported findings that 50% of the costs of alcohol and drug abuse treatment are offset within one year by subsequent reductions in medical costs by the affected family, and not just the primary patient.**

*References: Please refer to <http://hawaii.gov/health/substance-abuse/prevention-treatment/treatment/adtrtwo.htm>*

We appreciate the opportunity to provide information and are available for questions, if needed.

LATE

nishimoto2-Bryce

**From:** Antoinette M. Rodrigues [rodrigues@hawaii.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 16, 2009 11:43 PM  
**To:** HLTtestimony  
**Cc:** jani@mfss.org; colleen@mfss.org; zina@mfss.org; cynthiak@mfss.org; cynthial@mfss.org  
**Subject:** Support Healthy Start, Support SB 1679 SC2  
**Attachments:** image002.gif

Dear Committee Members,

I'm writing this letter in favor of SB 1679 SC2, specifically, to request rainy day funding for the Healthy Start Program at Maui Family Support Services. In anticipation of decreased funding, our agency has already laid off or reduced hours for the majority of employees in Healthy Start. Our agency has also discharged approximately one half of our families who no longer meet the new requirements for service now recommended by the Department of Health. Our agency is also examining more cost effective ways that services can be delivered in group settings.

Studies show that Healthy Start effectively prevents child abuse and neglect in families participating in the program for at least a year. With the economy creating more stress for Maui County families, now, more than ever, we need to keep this essential program. Maui, Molokai and Lanai do not have the resources that people living on Oahu can readily access. The loss of Healthy Start will have devastating consequences for our island communities. It is the only program of its kind.

Family Support Workers visit families with keiki ages 0-3 years of age, providing child development information, with an evidence-based curriculum (Nurturing Parenting) used nationally in family strengthening programs. They assist with parent education and family planning; and child care referrals for parents in school or reentering the work force. Family Support Workers call upon Child Development Specialists to help the family if a child's growth is under par and help the child get services to achieve developmental milestones. If a mother appears to be suffering from postpartum depression, domestic violence or substance abuse, they can consult with a Clinical Specialist to help her get these services.

Without Healthy Start in Maui County, I anticipate:

- 1.) An increase in untreated mental health problems--contributing to a number of tragic consequences--including more suicides.
- 2.) An increase in untreated developmental delays in infants, leading to a need for more special education services when the child enters school.
- 3.) More substance abuse and more domestic violence; and more medical and legal problems for the State to pay for.
- 4.) More child abuse and neglect; again, an increase in the need for medical and legal intervention; and perhaps tragically, an increase in infant mortality.

It seems to me that the State is faced with the following choice: **either pay now for preventing these problems—or pay later for more expensive intervention and treatment programs.** (e.g., foster care, out of the home placement and residential treatment programs; along with increased legal and medical costs to the State.)

You have the power to prevent a lot of needless suffering for the future constituents of Maui County. Please continue to fund Healthy Start!

Sincerely,

*Antoinette Rodrigues, MA*

35 Holomakani Drive  
Kula, Hawaii 96790  
Home: 808.878.1651  
Cell: 808.264.9392

LATE

nishimoto2-Bryce

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**From:** Jennifer Hunt [jrayehunt@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 16, 2009 10:32 PM  
**To:** HLTtestimony  
**Subject:** \*\*\*\*\*SPAM\*\*\*\*\* to support Healthy Start SB1679 SB2

Hello,

I am writing on behalf of the Healthy Start Program. I understand that its funding may be cut, or that the program may eventually be eliminated all together.

I have been a part of HS since I was pregnant. That was over two years ago. I have received so much from the program. From counseling when I couldn't afford it, and desperately needed someone to mediate for son's father and I before he moved away from Hawaii, to always having someone to help guide me toward the right resource (healthcare info, low income housing info, affordable daycare info, rental assistance info, parenting class info).

HS has been such a large and important part of mine and my son's life. I have learned so much about child development, and I have shared this info with friends of mine and in turn, I know that I have changed the lives of other parents and children, by helping them to be more aware of children's needs. I also feel that sometimes parents just need extra support, so that they can be at their best as parents. HS provides that support, and to people who need it the most....people who are typically under more stresses than most...single parents, new parents, parents with low income and little support in their lives.

I think that HS plays such a big role in early intervention....if I didn't have HS, I might not have received the support I needed to create a positive foundation with my son's father. Instead, HS helped me by allowing me to work with the clinical specialist, who helped me through numerous issues and hardships related to ironing things out with him. Today we have a weekly phone schedule, where he calls and talks to his son.

I have called and enrolled for welfare in the past, when I had little to no money to raise my son with. I found out the phone number and how to go about signing up, through HS. My family support worker helped me to sign up for a food assistance program, WIC, for food stamps, to receive extra food from the food bank, to know where to look for low-income housing, rental assistance, and a daycare that I can afford. On top of all of this, I have learned to be an excellent parent, and I can see the results in my two year old son, who is attentive, bright, and loving.

I have been so inspired by the HS program, that I have become a volunteer and a parent leader. I have organized a hiking group and a parent support group. I have helped with a free swap, where parents can come to shop for things they might be able to use at home. I want parents to know they are supported, because I believe this is the number one way that they can in turn be better parents.

I hope that you will consider giving the Healthy Start program the funding it deserves. It's the family's like mine, who appreciate it the most. And I am just one family. There are hundreds, thousands even, more.....and those children are our future. They deserve to have the opportunity for an excellent start in life, like my son Kin has.

Sincerely,  
Jennifer R. Hunt

LATE

Monday, March 16, 2009

The Honorable Ryan Yamane and John Mizuno  
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health  
Twenty-Fifth Legislature  
State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 2- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE  
FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, March 17, 2009, 10:45am (Joint Committee on Health and Human  
Services), Conference Room 329

Dear Representatives Yamane and Mizuno & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services  
and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679 SD 2. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Program)***.

I am a parent of an adult son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these services I am able to go to work knowing that his needs are being met and that he is safe. Not only am I able to go to work, but my son is able to participate in meaningful activities that allow him to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, either his father or I would have to give up time at work to stay home with our son because he cannot be left at home alone. This puts us at risk for losing our jobs and puts our entire family's well-being in jeopardy. Our son's safety and health is our priority, but to cut off his current services would disengaged him from the community, which would be major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679 SD 2**. I can be reached at (808) 989-0426, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Alberdine Pascua  
162 Nahale'a Ave.  
Hilo, HI 96720

LATE

**TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEES ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Representative Ryan Yamane , Chair  
Representative John Mizuno, Chair**

**Testimony Supporting S.B# 1679, S.D. 2: “Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund”**

**March 17, 2009**

**10:45 p.m.**

**Conference Room 329**

**Individual Testimony of  
Audrey Suga-Nakagawa**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of S.B. # 1679 – “Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund” which provides temporary supplemental funding for Hawaii’s safety net programs especially for vulnerable populations such as children, the elderly, and disabled persons. One of the safety net programs included in this bill is the Aging and Disability Resource (also refer as ADRC) Project, listed under SECTION 10. This bill supports the ADRC Project development and coordination that are currently underway.

The ADRC is part of a national effort to establish a single-entry, one-stop service that help people make informed decisions about long term services and options. In a collaborative effort under the U.S. Health and Human Services, the Administration on Aging (AoA) and the Centers of Medicare and Medicaid Services had awarded 47 states and territories throughout the U.S including Hawaii. State grantees received \$800,000 for a three year period to start up the ADRC sites in its respective communities.

The goal of the ADRC program is to empower individuals to make informed choices and streamline access to long term support which includes in-home care, community based programs and institutional services such as nursing homes and other programs that are designed to help the elderly and individuals with disabilities including the younger adult population. In many communities, long term support services are administered by multiple agencies, and have complex, fragmented, and often duplicative intake, assessment, and eligibility functions. It is often difficult and confusing for consumers to access information and navigate the long term care system. A single, coordinated system of information and access for all persons seeking long term care support minimizes this confusion, enhances individual choice and supports informed decision making. The ADRC reduces duplication in paperwork and streamlines the process to find and apply for needed services in a timely manner.

There are two pilot sites on the islands of Hawaii and Oahu. The Executive Office on Aging (EOA), which is administratively attached to the Department of Health, serves as

Page 2

Testimony: SB 1679

March 17, 2009

the lead agency for Hawaii's ADRC project and provides the administrative oversight. In partnership with EOA, the Hawaii County Office of Aging and the City and County of Honolulu Elderly Affairs Division are the first two project sites under the federal grant which began in 2005. The Hawaii County ADRC site had received additional funding from the County Council to lease the former Sun Sun Lau Chinese restaurant in Hilo to be the physical site for the project, and celebrated its grand opening in November 2008. The site is being co-located by the Hawaii County Office of Aging, agencies under the Department of Human Services and Department of Health, and other public and private aging programs and long term care services providers.

The Honolulu ADRC is a virtual model and developing a comprehensive resource website and telephone systems to provide better information access to consumers. In conjunction with the Kauai County Agency on Elderly Affairs, the Honolulu Elderly Affairs Division is building the statewide ADRC website template which can be used by all 4 counties to upload aging and disability services, programs, agencies in their respective communities into the website. The statewide website is targeted to go live in May 2009.

Hawaii is reaching the end of the federal grant funding and seeking additional support from the State Legislature to continue its work with the original two ADRC pilot sites and begin the start up for Kauai and Maui. Expansion plans are already underway for the Hamakua district of the Big Island, and with satellite outreach to the rural communities of Waianae, Hauula and North Shore on Oahu. The ADRC is a collaborative project that has been embraced by all three levels of government – federal, state and county and with strong support from the private stakeholders of the aging, health and disability communities, to strengthen the long term care infrastructure in Hawaii.

Throughout the country, states are initiating the ADRC expansion beyond their original pilot sites as they are demonstrating to be a proven model for providing information and long term care options to the public. With major cutbacks on social and elder care programs during this difficult economic period, ADRC plays an even more critical role as families urgently search for reliable and unbiased information that will help them make informed decisions about the care for their loved ones. It is emerging as the safety net for elder care and social service programs throughout the U.S. as people turn to the ADRC as the first stop to obtain assistance with their long term care needs.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

LATE

**nishimoto2-Bryce**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 16, 2009 5:55 PM  
**To:** HLTtestimony  
**Cc:** holter@maui.net  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB1679 on 3/17/2009 10:45:00 AM

Testimony for HLT/HUS 3/17/2009 10:45:00 AM SB1679

Conference room: 329  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Lance Holter  
Organization: Hawaii Democratic Party  
Address: PO Box 790656 Paia, HI  
Phone: 808-579-9442  
E-mail: [holter@maui.net](mailto:holter@maui.net)  
Submitted on: 3/16/2009

**Comments:**

The Hawaii Democratic party supports Healthy Start because it is the one program that serves the children of Hawaii from birth onto pre-school. It is our most successful program in reaching potentially at risk kids and families. It is a well know fact that a University of John Hopkins study established that childhood prevention services, such as Healthy Start, actually save money by preventing disease, directing at risk kids and families to services, educates and prevents incidents of family violence and directs families and their children to medical care and thus preventing expensive emergency room services that could be prevented by healthy practices and in office medical services. Most of all when I am asked why? about Healthy Start I say "It's all about the health of the most vulnerable and defenseless of our society, it's about the kids"; Any society or Government that would abandon the social safety net for children must examine their priorities and examine their very souls. Please prioritize the funding of Healthy Start programs, surely there is money in the Federal stimulous package for the most vulnerable, our Keiki. The Hawaii Democratic party is a party of social justice, mercy and compassion and supports early childhood healthcare and social services. Lance Holter, Chairman-Maui Democratic party

LATE

Aloha, my name is Scotty Wilhelm and I am testifying in support of

> SB 1679. SD2

>

> As for my personal testimony, I am a native of Molokai and I can  
> attest to the fact that living on the Island there is hard. We do  
> whatever we can to provide for our families, we hunt and fish and  
> farm. It is a basic living, but there are stresses and outside  
> influences that make it hard sometimes to deal with. It's easy to get  
> caught up also in a life that is on the wild side, and I've had my  
> share of difficulties and have tried to overcome many of them. For  
> me, having our family in the Healthy start program was one of the  
> factors that helped me find the strength to be a more successful  
> father. Even in my darkest times the kindnesses extended to me by the  
> healthy start workers and the love I saw in Auntie Lottie as she  
> helped my family, softened my heart. Auntie Lottie and her quiet  
> willingness to help us, made me more willing to pick up reading  
> materials she would bring by and learn things I wasn't open to before.

>

> I could see, from a father's standpoint, my child growing and learning  
> things quicker than I thought possible.  
> My eyes became open as my partner would share things she learned in  
> meetings and visits, and these were important things to my family.  
> The healthy start team did alot to help my family during financial  
> hard times, and when times became better they were filled with  
> encouragement.  
> Everytime I went to a monthly family meeting or gathering, they went  
> out of their way to encourage me, a father. That had an immediate  
> impact on my confidence. I felt it more possible for me to be a  
> better provider, not just by having a job, but by being there to offer  
> emotional support to my family as well.

>

> I am very much in support of this program, and resolution SB 791. I  
> hope more father's can have a positive impact through this program,  
> Healthy Start.

>

> Thank you for this opportunity,  
> Scott H. Wilhelm  
> Support SB 1679. SD2

LATE

Barbe Bright  
Former client of the Healthy Start Program

Testimony for Tuesday, March 17, 2009.  
In SUPPORT of SB 1679, SD2  
Written Submittal for Barbe Bright

Aloha,

*My name is Barbe Bright, I am a former client of the Healthy Start program, Molokai. I am testifying in support of resolution SB 1679, SD2 and I thank you for hearing my testimony today. I am testifying to the fact that this program is an important and effective on the Island of Molokai, and has indeed touched our lives with positive results.*

*As a mother of a recent Healthy Start Graduate, and proud parent of Mahealani, a healthy, happy, well adjusted 3 1/2 year old who is school-ready. I can attest to the fact that this program is one of the reasons for my daughter's hope-filled future. I can personally say that this program has helped our family through some very challenging times, and has been so supportive of Mahealani throughout her stages of development, both mentally, and physically.*

*Auntie Lottie, our affectionate name for the worker who has tirelessly stood beside our family through the good and the bad times, as helped us early on with home visits, and with moral support. She brought to our attention updated research findings and information available to help us parent our child in the most educated and effective ways. She informed us of local events that would foster her social development. She was on top of Mahealani's childhood progress from birth through her graduation of the program with a number of questionnaires and developmental age-appropriate suggestions to help us along. She worked with us continually while being sensitive to my personal parenting style. Always willing to answer questions I had, and being available night or day, at home or work. This was especially valuable as parenting is a 24 hour process.*

*During our rough and stressful times of going without some of the basics, when we needed a hand, Auntie Lottie and all the staff at Healthy Start Molokai were there for us, sometimes with food certificates from the local grocery stores, sometimes Christmas presents and basic necessities items. More importantly at times they provided less tangible things, like a simple hug, or words of encouragement that go a long way to help a very stressed out mother trying to raise a child during times of extreme difficulties.*

*Even after the rough times subsided, the staff at Healthy Start gave us positive suggestions and directed us to other helps, like the Tutu and Me program, which is a kind of "mommy &*

*me" type of pre-school, where we are still attending, and where my daughter continues to flourish.*

*I thank God Mahealani is a very Healthy child, and besides the tough economic times there were no physical challenges or learning disabilities to overcome, but I speak now on behalf of other parents that have come through the program, or may need it in the future. Some may have other trials or hardships to go through, and some may not. But I sincerely believe that this program is a necessary comprehensive safety net that definitely would help any child and family who are participating get the maximum care and possibly prevent a variety of problems that could emerge, if not for that family-style program and close relationship that these staff members build. I believe that some problems truly can be minimized or stopped before they become something too large for a child or parent to overcome.*

*I stand before you thankfully, with a Healthy Child who has a bright future and implore you on behalf of those who come in the future, please support SB 1679, SD2 so that we can have more bright futures for our keiki ahead.*

*Thank you for this opportunity to present my testimony in support of SB 1679, SD2.*

*Barbe Bright*

LATE

To: State Capitol  
Conference Room 329

Attn: House Health Committee

Re: Senate Bill #SB1679 SD2  
Hearing 3/17/09 @ 10:45 am

Dear Committee Members:

I'm a strong supporter of Healthy Start, and I write this letter to urge you to please fund Healthy Start with money from the "Rainy Day Fund."

It would be a big mistake on the part of committee members to not fund this crucial and most valuable program. Researched evidence proves that Healthy Start program/home visiting services prevent child abuse and neglect. The Healthy Start program offers vital services to families at-risk and it would be a tragedy for families in need to not be able to access services provided by Healthy Start programs.

Please **SUPPORT** families now and in the future, especially the keiki. **PLEASE FUND** the much needed Healthy Start programs that benefits the well-being of families.

Lots of Aloha,

Robin Dickson  
(808) 878-6062

LATE

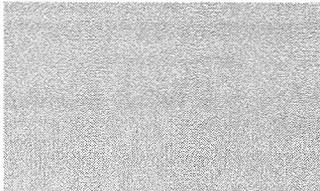
nishimoto2-Bryce

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**From:** Patty Paranada [Patty@mfss.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 16, 2009 4:45 PM  
**To:** HLTtestimony  
**Cc:** pttprnd@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** FW: Healthy Start Program  
**Attachments:** image001.gif; image002.gif

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**From:** Patty Paranada  
**Sent:** Mon 3/16/2009 1:08 PM  
**To:** HLTtestimony@Capitol.hawaii.org  
**Cc:** Cynthia Koziolas; Patty Paranada  
**Subject:** Healthy Start Program



**DATE:** Tuesday, March 16, 2009  
**TIME:** 10:45 a.m.  
**PLACE:** Conference Room 329, State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street

To the Honorable State of Hawaii Committee members on Health and Human Services:

In support of SB1679 SC2:

I am writing in regards to the Healthy Start Program, which currently has faced many budget cuts. Healthy Start is a program that has supported many families in the community and is still trying to stay "afloat," despite the many lay-offs and cut backs. We are hoping that the State of Hawaii will help to keep this wonderful and supportive program thriving, as many families, especially in these current times, need the help and support of an agency like Healthy Start. Our Prime Directive is to utilize our collective resources toward the prevention of child abuse and neglect. Our Mission is to promote healthy family functioning by providing supportive services which build on family strengths. Healthy Start has built an awesome reputation for itself and we are humbly asking for your support in helping to fund this program.

Mahalo,

Patty Paranada-(808)276-5163

Kahului, HI 96732

LATE

March 16, 2009

The Honorable Ryan I. Yamane and John M. Mizuno  
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings  
Twenty-Fifth Legislature  
State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: Letter of Strong Support SB 1679 (SD2) - RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND: Appropriates moneys from the emergency and budget reserve fund to maintain levels of programs for education, human services, and health. Effective 7/01/90.

Hearing: Tuesday, March 17, 2009

Committee Members:

We need Maui Family Support Service's Healthy Start Program.

I, myself, have been with Maui Family Support Service since I was five months pregnant, and my daughter is now nine months old, so a total of over a year. The program has really helped me throughout my pregnancy and raising my daughter. I have learned a lot. I believe without their support, it would have been extremely devastating for me. I truly needed this program.

When I was five months pregnant, I separated from my boyfriend due to domestic violence. It was a tough time for me. I felt as if I was at my wits end and was going to have a break down. The ladies with Maui Family Support Service, Cynthia, Raneé and Karen was there to help me—to guide me through my time of darkness, and gave me the support I needed.

I had to deliver my daughter abruptly because I had pre-eclampsia. After my daughter was born I went into severe depression. On top of dealing with my baby's dad, I eventually broke down. I had no close friends or family that I could count on for support so I was extremely lucky that Maui Family Support Service was there. The ladies guided me to a therapist that recommended "Shock Treatment" since I was a single parent that needed to get better quickly. I had to spend almost two months in Oahu with my daughter alone. I went through intensive treatment, having to go to the hospital three times a week, being put under and having my brain shocked, only to wake up three to four hours later confused.

The ladies with Maui Family Support helped me organize childcare during those two months. They arranged for a nanny who stayed with me and helped me with my daughter, whom was only three months at the time. Without Maui Family Support's help I wouldn't have been able to help myself. After the treatments, I temporarily lost my

memory. Karin Cooper with Maui Family Support was such a HUGE help in my life at that time. She would remind me of appointments, and she would constantly check on me to make sure my daughter and I were ok. She went through the parenting steps with me as my daughter grew. She would tell me what to expect as the months went on, and what I should be doing for my daughter's development. I learned so much through Maui Family Support's Healthy Start program. I really needed them, and I was so lucky to have had that service available to me. WE NEED THIS PROGRAM!!

A short time after my treatment, my daughter's dad and I decided to try to work on our relationship. About a month after we decided to try on our relationship we had a falling out, and I ended up homeless. I didn't have financial stability, and didn't know what I was going to do without financial resources. Karin Cooper helped me get into the KHOA shelter. I stayed there at the shelter for six weeks. Karin Cooper was always very positive, and assured me that things would get better. Without her positive support, I could have fallen again. Six weeks out and I found a place to rent. Karen helped with finding this place as well. She also helped me find the funds for my rent and my storage unit. She was so amazing during this time that she went over and beyond her duties. It was just before Christmas and I wanted a Christmas tree for my daughter's first Christmas in her new home. Karen put in such a huge effort in finding a tree but, because of the shortage of trees this year, there was no luck. All the ladies I have worked with have been so helpful in teaching me parenting skills and making sure that my daughter and I were okay. It has been two and a half months out of the shelter and I am thinking in a positive and mature manner. My parenting skills have improved with the help and encouragement of Maui Family Support Services, Keiki O Ka Aina and many other agencies dedicated to Maui's children.

Dropping the funding for the Healthy Start program will only hurt and jeopardize Hawaii's future. I urge for you to consider funding this worthwhile program.

Sincerely,

Maria Styke

From Lisa Dillon  
Po Box 2005  
Kaunakakai  
HI  
96748

LATE

Aloha

*I live on Molokai the birth place of Healthy Start. This is something I learned at the meeting on Molokai with Senator English.*

*Twenty eight years ago Clair Iverson had an office just up stairs from where Linda Lingle had an office a a journalist. I mention that because as a journalist you are keenly aware of your community success and failures and the needs of people. I was chosen by our Kupuna on Molokai who work for Healthy Start to come and speak here and I am humbled and honored to do so. Please, when you listen to me realize you are listening to the families impacted by Healthy Start. The result of Healthy Start are the over 4000 clients served State wide. Again Healthy Start workers are your first responders in criss prevention Not only young mothers in crisis are involved. Healthy Start creates a network of health and education for young parents and concerned family members that is invaluable to preventing crisis. As well as gives our young parents the tools to make responsible decisions concerning their children with confidence. Take away Healthy Start, when our Country and State are in a Recession already depressed to the hilt. I don't understand this, it is courting crisis and irresponsible thinking to cut Healthy Start.*

*The whole family is involved in raising our children on Molokai. Many homes on Molokai are multi-generational family's and those family members are also learning positive parenting skills that aid to help these young families. I am speaking to every one of you that is a parent or grandparent. Imagine if you did not have the services to catch early developmental delays for your children or your grandchildren. I know the feeling because it took three years before my grandson on the mainland was diagnosed with sever autism. Healthy Start would have caught that so much sooner had that program been available to my older daughter. I called our local health providers and asked if we have had an increase in teen births in the past 5 years. "There has been a marked increase in the past 3 years and it is not slowing down anytime soon". Every aspect of of the health community is outraged and saddened by this decision to cut funds for Healthy Start. Some who have been directly served by Healthy Start and became Community leaders because of the Nurturing of a handful of over worked and under paid workers from Healthy Start. Take away the safety net Healthy Start creates you are asking for a rise in crisis and all the costs crisis entails. Can Hawaai afford that? Healthy Start saves the State 3 dollars for every dollar it spends on crisis intervention and crimes involved in neglect and abuse. I am sure the number are higher. I see the difference in family's who are involved in Healthy Start, these young families are gaining tools, knowledge and confidence to be great parents. Because of my disabilities, I live with my daughter and her family, I see first hand the lessons implemented and the results.*

*Every parent deserves to know they are doing the right thing with their children. Our young mothers read the healthy parenting magazines at their Dr's office. Every one of them tell them "early childhood development i best for baby" Where are our young mothers and fathers going to get that without Healthy Start. Many Healthy Start workers volunteer more than just hours to help their clients. Ms Lingle wants to cut a program that needs proper funding.*

*A Report from the Journal of the American Academy of Pediatrics finds the program 40% underfunded. I implore you to take a moment and read the entire report Please, our Kupuna on Molokai say no thank you to*

*new parks and roads at expense of our Keiki. Soon Father Damian will be made a Saint, do we have to dumb down our children to pay for it in beautification projects for tourists. I asked our Catholic Deacon on Molokai if we are ready for this? Please, the world will soon focus on Molokai are they going to see an Island in crisis? they will if there are no funds for Healthy Start.*

*People are not going to just drive from one end of the Island to another and not observe the people. Aloha is more than just a word it is a gift you give for goodness sake. As a grandmother, I ask you to reconsider cutting funds for this program that helps my grandchildren. I promise every one of you you will not regret your decision. My grandchildren are better people because of Healthy Start. Every child impacted by Healthy Start is stronger because of it. That is the foundation of a healthy community. Hawaii has money for Pork barrel spending? but not for Healthy Start, a program with a 98% success rate? I am sorry it just makes no sense.*

*You were elected and entrusted with the future of Hawaii and now we have the dubious distinction of being the 2nd highest on the list of Pork Belly Spending States. Is this really how politics has to get things done? Our Healthy Start workers found out on Dec. 22nd by way of the TV that Gov. Linda Lingle aims to cut the program! For all the hard work Healthy Start Hawaii does! For all of the hours volunteered above and beyond because of lack of funding this is how our Government says Mahalo?*

*Take a walk down town Kaunakakai you will see babies at every turn. I look into their faces and wonder just what kind of future does Ms Lingle plan for them. My daughters graduating class of 2007 had 28 girls, all but 3 are mothers today. Remember from the Woman's Health Center "We have seen a marked increase rise in teen pregnancy and it is not slowing down any time soon" Who are these young mother and fathers going to turn too for best advise?*

*Healthy Start workers are our first responders. You take away that extra set of eyes the Health Dept Nurse needs, you cost the State more money! You take away the eyes of crisis prevention, you add to already over burdened systems. It just does not make any sense financially. President Obama aid in one Speech "No Working Program will be cut" Healthy Start not only has a 98% success rate here in Hawaii but also has great success Nation Wide. How can our fine Governor argue with that?*

*Thank you for your listening.  
Much Aloha.  
Lisa Dillon*

LATE

nishimoto2-Bryce

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 16, 2009 4:46 PM  
**To:** HLTtestimony  
**Cc:** thirr33@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB1679 on 3/17/2009 10:45:00 AM

Testimony for HLT/HUS 3/17/2009 10:45:00 AM SB1679

Conference room: 329  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: Yes  
Submitted by: Arvid Youngquist  
Organization: Spokesman, The Mestizo Association  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [thirr33@gmail.com](mailto:thirr33@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 3/16/2009

Comments:  
Chair Ryan Yamane  
The Right Honorable Members,  
The House Health Committee

My name is Arvid Youngquist, and we testify in strong support for SB 1679 SD2.

In this time of dire circumstances for the clients of the Adult Mental Health Division of Hawaii DOH, this measure is one of the measures that many in our network support.

Please report it out with your strongest recommendations.

Mahalo.

3/16/09

LATE

nishimoto2-Bryce

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**From:** Todd MacFarlane [tmacfarlane@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 16, 2009 4:31 PM  
**To:** HLTtestimony  
**Subject:** Support Healthy Start - Support SB1679, SD2

March 16, 2009

**DATE:** Tuesday, March 17, 2009  
**TIME:** 10:45 a.m.  
**PLACE:** Conference Room 329  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

To the Honorable State of Hawaii House Health Committee members:

**PLEASE** pass **SB 1679 SD2** and **PLEASE** approve using 9.5 million of this Rainy Day Fund for the State of Hawaii's Healthy Start Program. This program identifies high risk families with very young children between the ages of zero and three years old and provides home visiting services to them. The Healthy Start Program helps break the chain of child abuse. The Healthy Start Program teaches parenting skills, ensures the babies are receiving regular medical care including immunizations, identifies areas where a family may need more help and collaborates with other community resources to make sure the needed help is received.

The Healthy Start Program is funded through the State Department of Health and has already received deep funding cuts this year. Providers are struggling to continue to serve as many families as they can while being told they must cut the number served drastically to stay within the new budget. Please, I respectfully ask you to approve this bill so that the Healthy Start Program may continue providing services to Hawaii's at-risk families and children.

Thank you!

Doris MacFarlane  
Haiku, Maui, HI 96708  
(808) 575-7478

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March 16, 2009

LATE

The Honorable Ryan I. Yamane and John M. Mizuno  
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings  
Twenty-Fifth Legislature  
State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: Letter of Strong Support SB 1679 (SD2) - RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND: Appropriates moneys from the emergency and budget reserve fund to maintain levels of programs for education, human services, and health. Effective 7/01/90.

Hearing: Tuesday, March 17, 2009

Aloha Committee Members and thank you for your time and attention in the urgent and critical matter of ensuring Healthy Start services remain available for our Hawaii children and families.

My name is Jani Sheppard and I am the CEO of Maui Family Support Services, Inc. Maui Family Support Services provides Healthy Start on Maui, Moloka'i and Lana'i. You have written testimony from community members as well as the Maui County Council. I am testifying in strong support of SB 1679 (SD2), specifically funds included to maintain Healthy Start Services at an operable level of \$9mil

Please know that we as advocates for children and families and specifically the excellent Healthy Start program, are keenly aware that these are at minimum, difficult time and that difficult decisions have to be made. We acknowledge and accept that as members of a community all have to give a little to ensure the health of our community.

In August 2008, the \$4 mil cut to DOH services resulted in a \$1.9 mil cut in funding from Healthy Start. For Maui County families this meant a cut of almost \$500,000 to the Healthy Start services. 19 employees were affected. 1/3 of the staff from Moloka'i lost their jobs in a community where their family members were also losing jobs after the close of the Ranch and other economic challenges for the island. On Maui, another 7 staff members were laid off and 5 had their hours reduced from full time to part time. Instead of having the staff to serve 250 families, 180 families received service as a result of these cuts. We certainly understand the need to make difficult decisions for the good of the whole and the need for everyone to do their part until we as a community can come out on the other side of these challenging, stressful, and in some cases dire economic times.

Effective March 13, 2009, the number of families we can serve has been reduced to 70, the number of new families has been reduced by 75%, and another 16 employees were affected by lay off or reduced hours. Eliminating this program means 4000 families that will not receive services and 200 people will be laid off. Despite the resources which have been cut, the referrals and need

continues to rise with more families out of work and trying to manage the stresses while being responsible for the care and safety of their babies and young children.

The argument has been made that the program should be cut because it is voluntary. Most of the Department of Health programs are voluntary and it simply means that they are not mandated. By the time services is mandated, harm has been done, the intervention is more intensive and more expensive. The cost benefit is 3:1 meaning that for every dollar we spend on this service, we, as a community taxpayers save \$3. Voluntary does not mean low risk...the risk is most often high, the event simply has not occurred yet. A service which is available for families to voluntarily accept support and serves to prevent child abuse instead of waiting until something happens is a positive statement regarding what we value as community, where we out our limited dollars, and what the families who accept the program value.

Another argument is that there are other services to take over if Healthy Start is not there. This simply not true, and the gap is in services without Healthy Start on Moloka'i and Lana'i, with extremely limited resources, Maui, including Hana, and other areas of our State with limited resources is widened, the safety net will be taken away. The Enhanced Healthy Start service is already overworked with increasing numbers of families and working with the 12% cut they already received in 2008. Enhanced is for families who have already entered the system.

The final argument is that the program is not effective. It continues to baffle me as to how this statement can be made when the evidence is there. Over 99% of the families who remain the program for 12 months or more are not confirmed for Child abuse or neglect; 100% of the families receive resources, support and assistance to strengthen the family and remove stressors, children receive medical home (doctor), John Hopkins research has clearly shown the programs effectiveness for anxious moms, and the list goes on which I am sure my colleagues and community members have and will continue to educate individuals on this indisputable fact. There was a report done over 10 year ago that was only done with a small population and without the professional components of the program, that continues to be referenced although it is outdated. However, the current, comprehensive and accurate data form the research clearly shows an effective program.

In addition to the statistics, families show and report on the importance of this program and how the services have made a difference in their lives. How different their lives and the lives of their children would be without Healthy Start.

Please help to ensure the \$9mil funding for Healthy Start is available to families on July 1, 2009. Again, I thank you for your time and attention and applaud you for your work and commitment during a time of challenge we have not seen for decades....

Respectfully,  
L. Jani Sheppard  
Chief Executive Officer  
Maui Family Support Services, Inc.  
Maui, Moloka'i and Lana'i  
808.242.0900 ext. 223

LATE

March 16, 2009

DATE: Tuesday, March 17, 2009  
TIME: 10:45 a.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 329  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

Honorable Legislative Committee Members of the State of Hawaii's Health and Human Services

Please support **SB 1679 SC2** RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND.

MICHELLE FUJIE

P.O. Box 630005  
Lanai City, Hawaii 96763

Governor Linda Lingle

Dear Governor Linda Lingle,

My name is Michelle Fujie and my daughter's name is Meyah. I am writing this letter to urge you to save the Healthy Start program by not cutting it from the Department of Health budget in July. Please reinstate the Healthy Start program into the budget.

My daughter and I are participants in the Healthy Start program on the island of Lana'i. There are not many programs offered on island because of our small population. However, the Healthy Start program is one of the few programs offered that focuses on the development of young children and parents. I cannot image how Lana'i would feel knowing that the wide range of parenting information and services provided to them through the Healthy Start program is suddenly unavailable. It is sad to think that such a valuable program could be taken away from Lana'i.

I feel that this program is very effective and that it is meeting a real community need. The Healthy Start program is important to my daughter and I because it provides me with the support and information necessary to raise my daughter in the most happy and healthy environment. I am a single parent trying to raise my daughter the best that I can and I must admit that not everyone knows how to effectively raise let alone parent children. The program gives me a chance to become a better parent by learning valuable skills to deal with the difficult challenges of raising a child. Without the Healthy Start program I would not know much about or where to look for these kinds of resources. Parenting is a full time job and I believe that any parent who is lucky enough to participate in this program is investing in the their child's future.

Governor Lingle, please realize that it is a big mistake to stop funding the Healthy Start Program because the program is a valuable, effective, and efficient investment in the future of Hawaii's parents and children.

Sincerely,

  
Michelle Fujie

March 16, 2009

DATE: Tuesday, March 17, 2009  
TIME: 10:45 a.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 329  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

LATE

Honorable Legislative Committee Members of the State of Hawaii's Health and Human Services,

Please support **SB 1679 SC2** RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND.

It is definitely a stormy season for the Healthy Start program as it has suffered severe funding cuts at the expense of at risk families with infants and toddlers that desperately need support during this deluge of economic hardships! The rainy day is here, and the most vulnerable population of newborns, infants and toddlers need protection and adequate support!

Healthy Start's home visiting services have been proven to be effective in protecting the most vulnerable families and young children in the community, helping to **prevent** child abuse and neglect, catching developmental delays, referring families to other needed resources, improving family functioning and preparing the young children to be school ready to lead productive lives in the future.

Healthy Start is in emergency mode and the reserve funds need to be used to restore adequate funding, promoting program success. Please vote to provide the \$9 million needed to ensure a safety net across the state for our precious keiki. Not only will we save future money through prevention, the state will save revenues by preventing Healthy Start service providers from standing in the unemployment lines because they were laid off due to the cuts.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Ave Diaz  
Healthy Start Home Visiting Supervisor  
1844 Wili Pa Loop  
Wailuku, HI 96779  
242-0900

LATE

nishimoto2-Bryce

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**From:** Tammy Ruiz [Tammy@mfss.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 16, 2009 3:05 PM  
**To:** HLTtestimony  
**Subject:** SUPPORT HEALTHY START SD1679,SD2

March 16, 2009

DATE: Tuesday, March 17, 2009  
TIME: 10:45 a.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 329  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

To the Honorable State of Hawaii Committee members on Health and Human Services:

While considering **SB 1679 SC2** please keep in mind the State of Hawaii's Healthy Start Program (HSP) modeled after nationwide and internationally for its effectiveness. The HSP works with low-income, high risk families with very young children between the ages of zero to three years old.

It is critical family and mothers with newborn babies are informed of infant growth and brain development and to develop a healthy environment at home to prevent repeated generations of domestic violence that leads to low self-esteem, lack of self worth and chronic illness and suicide. Please we are the voices for the babies and we are the support for every family in HS to develop a healthy lifestyle and environment. A 2000 study conducted by Felitti on "Adverse Childhood Experiences" showed that early intervention is essential.

The program is funded through the State's Department of Health and HSP has been targeted with deep cuts at the peril of non-existence. I humbly ask you to search for provision for its continuity. We are hoping for the viability of the program once Federal funds and other private resources are available.

Thank you for your kind attention and consideration,

Tammy Ruiz  
Kula, Maui 96790  
(808) 269-3506

*Tammy Ruiz*

*The Mission of Maui Family Support Services, Inc. is to promote healthy family functioning by providing supportive services which build on family strengths.*

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LATE

Dear Committee Members;

I urge you to support Senate Bill SB 1679. SC2 and ensure continued funding for the Healthy Start Program.

As a pregnant 18 year old was invited to participate in the Healthy Start program. From my home visitor I learned the importance of prenatal care, immunizations, fist dentist visits, reading, and routines. She encouraged me to set goals, go to college and eventually move to Maui.

In 2001, I became a home visitor in the Healthy Start program. I've heard many stories and seen many families make great changes in their lives. These changes didn't happen because of me, but because of a program that is focused on children and families. I may have been the tool, but without the funding to provide the opportunity for these families to learn and grow those changes would not have happened.

Sometimes, these changes and growth are not measurable in the ways that we would like to see things measured, but that does not mean they are not real or unimportant.

In these tough times, it is understandable that we all must make sacrifices, however to completely remove such a long standing and valuable program from the budget is a mistake that will be felt in the increased need to provide intervention in the future. In the long run, you will not be saving money but causing greater financial burden.

Daphne Ladia  
Wailuku, Maui

LATE

March 16, 2009

Date: Tuesday, March 17, 2009

RE: **SB 1679 SC2**

To the Honorable State of Hawaii Committee Members on Health and Human Services:

Evidently, our economy is struggling. With this struggle comes rapid job loss, drastically reduced incomes and subsequently, increased rates of stress, anxiety and depression among families and communities. The Center for Law and Social Policy found that instances of child abuse and neglect increase during financial downturns. Healthy Start (HS) provides a safety net to Hawaii's most vulnerable families and infants along with its mission of preventing child abuse and neglect by providing supportive services to at-risk families. A commonsensical approach in such a desperate time would be to increase safety net programs such as HS, not to dispose of them completely, as you have proposed in your latest budget.

It is not surprising to know that economic stress on families is a large predictor of child abuse and neglect. A recent study on the relationship between unemployment and physical abuse of children found that 49% of maltreating families were experiencing unemployment at the time of abuse. What is surprising though is that in knowing this, you are still willing to cut this essential program completely amidst a growing economic crisis.

By cutting HS services, you are allowing those families who are at-risk to fall through the cracks. By removing the safety net of the HS program, CWS and other short term services such as Enhanced Healthy Start would be overloaded with high risk cases. Without HS, children are being harmed by the risks that could otherwise have been prevented. In an effort to balance the budget, our children are being used as pawns in a match they cannot afford to lose.

Thank you for your kind attention and consideration.

Zina Andrade  
Wailuku, Maui  
808.264.0925

LATE

March 16, 2009

The Honorable Ryan Yamane and John Mizuno  
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – House Health and Human Services Committees  
Twenty-Fifth Legislature  
State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE  
FUND

Dear Representatives Ryan Yamane and John Mizuno & Members of the Joint Committees on  
Health and Human Services:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an appropriation from the emergency and budget reserve fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs deemed essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically, I am supporting the necessary appropriations to restore funding previously eliminated for the ***Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs)***.

In providing some 400,000 hours each year in diverse and direct services to infants, children, youth and young adults with disabilities and special needs, Easter Seals Hawaii is one of the few organizations in Hawaii on the multiple front lines of this issue. Our perspective is unique. Thus we know without a doubt that the families that rely on us day in and day out are some of the most economically vulnerable in our state, with limited options in caring for their loved ones. If the emergency appropriation is not approved immediately, thousands of families will risk losing vital, valuable programs and services unavailable elsewhere.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at (808) 536-3661 Ext. 104 or [ron@brandvold.com](mailto:ron@brandvold.com) for any further questions.

Aloha,



Ron Brandvold  
Easter Seals Hawaii board of directors

LATE

Monday, March 16, 2009

The Honorable Ryan Yamane and John Mizuno  
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health  
Twenty-Fifth Legislature  
State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 2- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET  
RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, March 17, 2009, 10:45am (Joint Committee on Health and Human  
Services), Conference Room 329

Dear Representatives Yamane and Mizuno & Members of the Joint Committees on Human  
Services and Health:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679 SD 2. This bill makes an  
emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain  
the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare.  
Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the ***Department of Health  
Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living  
(PICL Programs, and Healthy Start.***

***I have worked for both DD Division and Healthy Start. These programs are valuable and are  
not duplicated in the community. DD clients with infants are tremendously assisted by Healthy  
Start, and DD services provide essential support for health and safety as well as quality-of-life  
services. Cuts have already been taken by DD clients. Support should not be taken from the  
most needy among us.***

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk  
the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs.  
Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679 SD 2**. I can  
be reached at 333-9251 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Karen De Soto, ACSW

Monday, March 16, 2009

LATE

The Honorable Ryan Yamane and John Mizuno  
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings - Senate Committee on Human Services &  
Health  
Twenty-Fifth Legislature  
State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 2- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND  
BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, March 17, 2009, 10:45am (Joint Committee on  
Health and Human Services), Conference Room 329

Dear Representatives Yamane and Mizuno & Members of the Joint  
Committees on Human Services and Health:

I am submitting testimony in *STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1679 SD 2*. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations to restore lost funding for the *Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs)*.

*I am a parent of a son with severe physical and mental disabilities due to viral encephalitis at the age of 2 years old. This illness was not because of any neglect on our part. My son, Travis, has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to provide him with a normal life, which he deserves. With the support of these services we were able to go to work as school teachers and spend time raising our other two children. Travis is able to participate in meaningful activities that allow him to have a life just like every other citizen with the opportunity to integrate into our community. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my son would have to spend most of his day at home, with very limited activities. Travis is happiest when he is able to socialize in our community under very close supervision and care of his PA. My son, our son, Travis, does deserve the respect and rights due him as a citizen of Hawaii. Please show respect and honor our disabled citizens, too. We are their*

*voices...please hear their needs! Life hasn't been fair to them but we hope you will open your hearts to hear their concerns and needs.*

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in Strong Support of SB 1679 SD 2. I can be reached at 808-9593644 (unlisted) for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Linde Masuhara

Hilo, Hawaii 96720

LATE

nishimoto2-Bryce

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 16, 2009 12:36 PM  
**To:** HLTtestimony  
**Cc:** Tlenzer@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB1679 on 3/17/2009 10:45:00 AM

Testimony for HLT/HUS 3/17/2009 10:45:00 AM SB1679

Conference room: 329  
Testifier position: comments only  
Testifier will be present: Yes  
Submitted by: Anthony Lenzer  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [Tlenzer@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:Tlenzer@hawaii.rr.com)  
Submitted on: 3/16/2009

**Comments:**

I believe that Section 5 of the Bill (Ke Ola Pono) refers to the same program as Section 16 (Healthy Aging Partnership) only under a different name

LATE

Edward D. Sultan III  
1039 Waiholo St.  
Honolulu, HI 96821-1227  
Fax Number: (808) 840-4506  
Telephone Number: (808) 837-1206

Tuesday, March 17, 2009

The Honorable Ryan Yamane and John Mizuno  
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – House Committee on Health & Human Services  
Twenty-Fifth Legislature  
State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, March 17, 2009, 10:45 am (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 329

Dear Representatives Yamane and Mizuno and Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and Health:

I am submitting testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1679**. This bill makes an appropriation from the emergency and budget reserve fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs deemed essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically, I am supporting the necessary appropriations to restore funding previously eliminated for the *Department of Health Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL Programs)*.

In providing some 400,000 hours each year in diverse and direct services to infants, children, youth and young adults with disabilities and special needs, Easter Seals Hawaii is one of the few organizations in Hawaii on the multiple front lines of this issue. Our perspective is unique. Thus we know without a doubt that the families that rely on us day in and day out are some of the most economically vulnerable in our state, with limited options in caring for their loved ones. If the emergency appropriation is not approved immediately, thousands of families will risk losing vital, valuable programs and services unavailable elsewhere.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 837-1206 or ed@nahoku.com for any further questions.

Sincerely,



Ed Sultan

Chair, Easter Seals Hawaii Board of Directors

CATE

March 16, 2009

DATE: Tuesday, March 17, 2009  
TIME: 10:45 a.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 329  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

Honorable Representative John M. Mizuno,

Please support **SB 1679 SC2** RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND.

It is definitely a stormy season for the Healthy Start program as it has suffered severe funding cuts at the expense of at risk families with infants and toddlers that desperately need support during this deluge of economic hardships! The rainy day is here, and the most vulnerable population of newborns, infants and toddlers need protection and adequate support!

Healthy Start's home visiting services have been proven to be effective in protecting the most vulnerable families and young children in the community, helping to **prevent** child abuse and neglect, catching developmental delays, referring families to other needed resources, improving family functioning and preparing the young children to be school ready to lead productive lives in the future.

Healthy Start is in emergency mode and the reserve funds need to be used to restore adequate funding, promoting program success. Please vote to provide the \$9 million needed to ensure a safety net across the state for our precious keiki. Not only will we save future money through prevention, the state will save revenues by preventing Healthy Start service providers from standing in the unemployment lines because they were laid off due to the cuts.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,   
Nora Etrata  
P.O. Box 631043  
Lanai City, HI. 96763  
559-6483  
565-7484



UNIVERSITY  
of HAWAII°  
MĀNOA

Budget & Finance

LATE

March 16, 2009

Representative John Mizuno, Chair, House Human Services Committee  
Representative Ryan Yamane, Chair, House Health Committee  
Members of the Committees  
Hawaii State Capitol, Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: SB 1679, SD2 Relating to the Rainy Day Fund

Dear Representatives Mizuno and Ige

I am Gail Breakey, Director of the Hawaii Family Support Institute and I am testifying in support of SB 1679.

The current economic downturn is affecting many businesses and individuals, and necessitating major cuts in the state budget for all services. As stated in the bill, in economic crises people in poverty suffer the most. Studies also show that in economic crisis, both domestic violence and child abuse rates increase. It appears that the Economic Recovery Act will provide funding relief for additional food supplies and low income housing, which are two areas of great need.

Another area of great need is to ensure the safety of young children, particularly those of overburdened parents who were already at risk due both to poverty and their own early adverse childhood experiences. **This is the population addressed by the Healthy Start program, which has been eliminated from the state budget.**

Healthy Start is a critical part of the safety net for overburdened parents in poverty for several reasons.

- Policy experts now recognize from research that the emotional development of children of families in poverty is significantly affected by the stresses of the parents in regard to continual financial crisis ( Policy Brief: The Impact of Poverty on Early Childhood Development, Centre for community Child Health, Victoria, Australia).
- As noted above, poverty is a major risk factor for abuse, which becomes exacerbated in times of economic crisis. (Prevent Child Abuse America research summary, 2008)

- ① Healthy Start assists families to obtain needed resources as part of the basic approach to stabilizing families and reducing stress; resources that families often do not know about or how to access on their own. As such, it is an important part of the safety net.
  - Healthy Start addresses a range of issues as included in the Family Stress Checklist screening tool, which are risk factors for abuse and poor developmental outcomes.
  - Healthy Start has a track record of stabilizing families and averting adverse experiences in early childhood over many years, as evidenced by the low occurrences of actual abuse and neglect among families served, and the high rate of families at very high risk who are identified, served and sometimes referred to CPS s threatened harm- but continuing to work with the families, through Healthy Start or Enhanced Healthy Start.
- ① The Center for Disease Control has endorsed home visiting as an effective intervention to avert abuse and promote healthy development.

Healthy Start has an identified cost benefit ration of 2.7 to one, per a study by UH Economist David McClain The costs projected by eliminating Healthy Start are significant at over twice the cost of the 2008 budget.

Documentation on typical case profiles, intervention and outcomes as well as on child protective referrals as well as studies and policy papers which support this program are available.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB 1679.

Sincerely,

Gail Breakey, Director  
Hawaii Family Support Institute.

LATE

Senate Bill 1679 Emergency funds drawn out to help Community Agencies

Aloha Senators:

My name is Sam Burris and I am a retired teacher and school counselor. I strongly favor taking monies out of the emergency "Rainy Day Fund" to assist programs that would benefit the health, welfare, education and safety of those in need in our state.

Senators, we live in a time of crisis and it seems to me these funds are designed to be used at just such a moment when such monies do not seem to be available from any other source. During times ~~of crisis~~, there are more people in need, not fewer so more resources have to be appropriated for the good of all of us.

Let's recall a fellow educator of mine, Asa Yamashita, who was partially stabbed to death recently in full view of the public while sitting on a bench inside Ewa Town Center, eating a bowl of noodles. The perpetrator had a long history of mental illness and violence but was released into the community in part by already underfunded agencies. We citizens cannot be assured of good health or safety when these crimes are perpetrated upon our hikers, our school employees our husbands, wives and children.

As a citizen I am offended that Governor Lingle wants to use these designated funds for something other than what they are designed to be used for. It's like Robin Hood stealing from the poor and should not be tolerated.

We ~~the people need to be reaching out to help those homeless and mentally unfortunates in our community~~ ~~assist~~

I am unhappy when I hear so much negative rhetoric directed toward our homeless by government officials and other citizens who seem to forget these people are our brothers and sisters. Let's look at the model President Barack Obama has shown us. We must reach out and work together to solve our community problems.

In closing I bring to your attention an article from the Honolulu Star Bulletin of Sunday March 15, 2009 "Insight section" and to a copy of a speech by Reverend Abraham Akaka 50 years ago when Hawaii became a state. I quote: <sup>gives</sup>

**"Today, one of the deepest needs of mankind is the need to feel a sense of kinship one with another. Truly all mankind belong together: from the beginning all mankind has been called into being, nourished, watched over by the love of God. So that the real Golden Rule is Aloha. This is the way of life we shall affirm."**

Sincerely,

Samuel Burris  
1630 Makiki Street # A 104  
Honolulu, HI 96822  
Tel: 943-9357