

SB 1679

kim2 - Arline

From: NAMI Hawaii [namihawaii@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2009 2:01 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB1679SD1

FROM: National Alliance on Mental Illness-Hawaii
770 Kapiolani blvd. #613
Honolulu, HI
808.591.1297

WAM Public Decision-Making on 3/2/2009 at 9:30 a.m. in Conf. Rm. 211

TO: Chair Kim and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means:

My name is Marion Poirier. I am the executive director of the National Alliance on Mental Illness-Hawaii. We strongly support and urge you to pass out of Committee SB1679 SD1 Emergency Budget and Reserve Fund; Appropriation; Education, Human Services, Health Programs which appropriates money from the emergency budget and reserve fund to maintain levels of programs for education, human services, and health.

We believe that the State of Hawaii needs to tap any and all available resources for safety net purposes. Hawaii is in an emergency situation. We pay now, or pay later and suffer consequences. We must support fragile populations such as people affected by serious psychiatric disorders.

An emergency situation exists. Please provide resources to save lives.

Thank you very much.



PACT

PARENTS AND CHILDREN TOGETHER

A Family Service Agency

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

TO: Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
WAM Committee

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

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

OHIA - 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:

CWLA

ALOHA UNITED WAY

COA

DATE: February 27, 2009

**RE: SB 1679, SD 1
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.



Comments on SB 1679

Emergency Budget and Reserve Fund; Appropriation; Education; Human Services; Health Programs

March 2, 2009-Senate Ways and Means Committee, Room 211, 9:30 a.m.

Chair: Senator Donna Mercado Kim Vice-Chair: Senator Shan S. Tsutsui

Comments presented by Howard S. Garval, President & CEO, Child & Family Service

Healthy Start, Hawaii's nationally recognized and evidence-based child abuse prevention program is first cut 29% in FY 09 and then eliminated from the Governor's proposed budget for FY 10, FY 11. 4,000 families at risk of child abuse will have no alternative program if Healthy Start is gone. 200 employees in nonprofit organizations all over the state will lose their jobs costing an estimated \$2.5 million in unemployment costs.

Adults struggling with mental illness had their services reduced from 3 hours a week to 3 hours a month in a major budget cut from the Adult Mental Health Division. Many employees were laid off by the organizations that received these funding cuts.

A 15% cut to services to the developmentally disabled was announced for February 1, 2009.

How much further can we erode the services to these at risk populations before we are facing tragedies due to child abuse, suicides, or other serious problems?

Child & Family Service supports SB 1679 because it seeks to protect and/or restore services in key areas of education, human services, and health. This is an excellent use of Rainy Day Funds so that the most vulnerable in our community can continue to receive services that will help them stay safe and maintain or improve their overall functioning. The use of these funds will reduce the risk of more serious problems occurring due to programs closing or shrinking. Don't we owe it to our community to protect our keiki, ohana, the mentally ill and disabled, and our kupuna?

I urge you to support SB 1679 and keep enough services in place during these difficult economic times. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide comments today.



Saturday, February 28, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Senator Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Ways & Means
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am, Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Mercado and Tsutsui & Members of the Committee on Ways & Means:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. 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 the parent of Jensen Arakaki. My son is 24 years old and was born with Down Syndrome and is severely mentally disabled. The only program my son is enrolled in is at the Easter Seals Ewa Adult Day Program. Currently, his physical health is well and does not need any medical treatments. However, my concern is his social and mental health and a group structured active environment has helped his behavioral issues. Jensen used to go to the program full time, five days a week. With the budget cut, he is going to his program only three days a week. He asks for the program and misses his peers. Easter Seals does an excellent job at providing Jensen a consistent support in maintaining his communication skills, living skills, and social skills. Without the program he stays at home. He is at home unsupervised for part of the day and we fear he might endanger our home or himself. Most of his day is sedentary if no one suggests activities for him. Jensen is an only child and is often without social stimulation. The program has goals set for his future and progress has been slow and now even slower. My concern is that his mental and physical health will decline without his full time program.

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.**

Sincerely,

Lori Fines
Mililani, Hi 96789

kim4 - Elizabeth

From: Louise Emery [emeryd001@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 28, 2009 9:09 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Statement in Strong Support of SB 1679 SD

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65
66
67
68
69
70
71
72
73
74
75
76
77
78
79
80
81
82
83
84
85
86
87
88
89
90
91
92
93
94
95
96
97
98
99
100

Statement in Strong Support of SB 1679 AD 1
Public Decision Making March 2, 2009 9:30 AM

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Hawaii State Senate

Dear Senator Kim and Members of the Committee

I, Louise Kim Lar Emery, strongly support SB 1679 SD 1.

As guardian/caregiver of a severe mentally challenged brother, I have seen him grow from an almost human vegetable into a thriving self-respecting human being.

Daily training on self care and communication skills builds pride and self reliance.
Public education and awareness of our special people takes place because of the ARC in Hawaii.

Many successful achievements resulted because of programs by the ARC in Hawaii.

Interested businesses like McDonalds and Lanakila Crafts train and employ our special citizens to be of service to others.

Our special people can be valuable assets to our community when given the opportunity to be productive.

Please restore these services to train our special people to help themselves and to be of service to others.

Thank you for considering Bill SB 1679 SD 1.

Louise L Emery

LATE

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 1679

I am Laura Manis and strongly support this bill, which is to appropriate moneys from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain programs essential to education, public health, and public welfare. The bill clearly states the reasons why it is necessary to use this fund for these purposes.

I am submitting testimony on behalf of the legislative committee of PABEA am also a member of Kokua Council, HARA, AARP all of whom support this bill.). My testimony does not represent the views of the EOA but of the PABEA Board.

All the services provided for in the bill are ongoing, successful and needed. Our organizations are, of course, especially interested in programs funding those that are critical to meet the needs of vulnerable elders in our state. At present, there are of very substantial unmet health and human services needs in this population. These are services funded through the Kupuna Care program, Catholic charities and the various Senior Centers. The ADRC is also a critical service, because it provides a way for seniors to identify available services without having to go through the difficult and confusing task of trying to contact many individual agencies for assistance, which may or may not be available to them.

We wish to commend the Health and Community Services Committee for utilizing the rainy day fund at this time which is appropriate to the fiscal crisis now facing Hawaii since we are especially concerned because the Federal stimulus funds, which may be coming to Hawaii, do not seem targeted to meet these types of needs.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

LATE

I offer the following testimony in support of SB 1057 on 3/2/09 at 9:30am.

I urge you to support SB 1057, which relates to retention, detention and catchment pond safety. Written in memory of a five-year-old girl who drowned in a Pearl City naval housing complex detention pond while trying to save the life of her childhood friend, the bill seeks to improve the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of this state.

Hawaii has the highest drowning rate in the nation and must take action immediately to improve safety for citizens as well as to improve the state's image as a safe as well as pleasurable visitor destination and place to live. Unregulated and poorly maintained rainwater detention and retention ponds pose a serious health and safety risk, particularly to Hawaii's children.

Passing legislation that establishes a task force to collect data and examine advisability and effectiveness of a detention pond safety program is necessary for the health and safety of Hawaii's citizens. An appropriation is not required for the passage of this bill.

The death of Sharkey Schaefer could have been prevented. Those responsible for the construction of the pond were well aware of the hazardous conditions that this particular rain catchment basin presented. If regulations had existed to ensure responsible parties had built and maintained a safe system, the Schaefer's family would not have lost their precious child.

Hawaii has many proactive laws that protect the environment, now it seems we need to advocate for laws that afford our citizens the same rights and privileges. I would appreciate your support for SB 1057 and I look forward to hearing a response from your office.

Sincerely,

Christine and Allen Seta (as of 2/28/09)

Tel: 225-0971

February 27, 2009

LATE

TO: Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair;
 Senator Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair;
 and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means

HEARING: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30 a.m., Room 211

RE: Support of SB 1679, SD1
 Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

I am submitting testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of S.B. 1679, SD1. This bill makes an 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 the lost funding for the Department of Health's Respite, Developmental Disabilities Medicaid Waiver, and the Partnerships in Community Living Programs.

~~Handwritten testimony~~ The cut of fundings has a tremendous impact on Hawaii's families for the worse. Families already struggle here a lot (economy, cost of living, etc.), but now are even more affected if e.g. parents are unable to ~~see~~ find work or go to work due to lack of service hours for the people they care for, the people with disabilities, the elderly. The increased stress level, and income worries will, of course, have an impact on families' health and well being, and will increase the costs in health care. There are bills to pay and who is watching them ~~pay~~ now? ~~Also~~ The people with disabilities are losing valuable service which may cause an increase in self-inflicting injuries and/or hard to manage behaviors due to lack of necessary stimulation and close monitoring supervision causing danger to their health and/or lives. If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families and individuals with developmental disabilities that are served each day in these essential programs. Thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to present testimony.

Sincerely,

Karin Riedel

Name:

Karin Riedel

Address:

7074 Kaholelele Pl, Kapaa, HI 96746

Phone No.:

(808) 652-8646

LATE

February 27, 2009

TO: Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair;
Senator Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair;
and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means

HEARING: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30 a.m., Room 211

RE: Support of SB 1679, SD1
Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

I am submitting testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of S.B. 1679, SD1. This bill makes an 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 the lost funding for the Department of Health's Respite, Developmental Disabilities Medicaid Waiver, and the Partnerships in Community Living Programs.

I STRONGLY SUPPORT S.B 1679, SD1
BECAUSE I WANT TO WORK WITH
MY PA'S LONGER.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families and individuals with developmental disabilities that are served each day in these essential programs. Thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to present testimony.

Sincerely,

Name: HARRY YOUNG
Address: _____
Phone No.: _____

LATE

MAR - 2 2009

The Arc of Kauai

This fax comes to you from
Jona Villon
Office Manager
arckjona@vipuhawaii.net
Telephone: 245-4132 ext. 18 Fax: 246-1721

Date:
02/27/09
Attn:
Members of the Committee on Ways and Means
Fax #:
1-800-586-6659
Pages including cover:
2
Subject: Support of SB 1679, SD1 – Relating to the Emergency & Budget Reserve Fund

Comments are to be submitted to:

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair;
Senator Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair;
and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means

Hearing Date & Time:

Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am, Room 211

A warm aloha,
Jona Villon
Office Manager
The Arc of Kauai

CONFIDENTIAL NOTICE: This message and all attachments are confidential or proprietary to Jona Villon or The Arc of Kauai and disclosure, use, or distribution to anyone other than the intended recipient without prior written permission of Jona Villon or The Arc of Kauai, is prohibited. This message and any attachments may contain confidential health information that is protected by law. This information is intended only for the use of the individual or entity named above. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, copying, or distribution is strictly prohibited. If you think you have received this message in error, please notify the sender by replying to this e-mail and delete the message without disclosure. Mahalo

Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland and David Y. Ige
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- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 1:15pm (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing), Conference Room 016

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ige & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and Health:

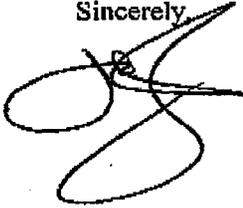
I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations 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 strong advocate of participants with disabilities, not only those I work with as an employee of Easter Seal's but anyone in the community in need of daily living assistance. Waiver participants have been able to access daily living support afforded by the services offered in the DD/MR Waiver. With the support of these services my co-workers and I are able to provide services that ensure people's needs are being met and that people are given the opportunity to do as much for themselves as possible. This includes teaching health and safety skills, personal care skills, daily living skills, and prevocational skills. I do the work that I do because I am strongly committed to providing a learning and comfortable atmosphere where people are able participate in meaningful activities that help them to have a life just like every other citizen, which is nothing less than they deserve as people. Without these services provided under the DD/MR Waiver, such as Adult Day Health and Personal Assistance/Habilitation, recipients would likely be at home alone, disengaged from the community, and could create major health and safety concerns.

I work with people every day that tell me how important their Adult Day services are to them. I hear statements like "without ADH I would be stuck at home all day doing nothing" and listen to parents tell me how upsetting it is to their adult child when he/she is not able to attend program due to reductions in their budget. These kind of services are vital to many people and people do not always understand why their days/hours need to be cut, or why they are no longer able to receive certain services. I appeal to you to put yourself in their shoes and consider how important these skills are for people to learn and thus, how important these services are to them. We have grown as a society and have recognized that people should not be hidden in institutions but should be out and independent in their communities. Please help us to continue help people to do this.

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, people that I work with and care deeply about. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at (808)681-0747, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.



PACT
PARENTS AND CHILDREN TOGETHER
A Family Service Agency

1485 Lanapuni 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
- INTENSIVE SUPPORT SERVICES
- KANEOHE COMMUNITY
FAMILY CENTER
- KPT FAMILY CENTER
- OHIA - DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
SHELTER
- 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:



TO: Senator Donna Mercado Kim; Chair
WAM Committee

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

DATE: February 27, 2009

RE: SB 1679, SD 1
**In Support of Appropriation from the Emergency and
Budget Reserve Fund**

LATE

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.

kim2 - Arline

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2009 10:21 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: weltys@mauigateway.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1679 on 3/2/2009 9:30:00 AM

Testimony for WAM 3/2/2009 9:30:00 AM SB1679

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Colleen Welty
Organization: Individual
Address: 328 Hololani Str. Pukalani, HI
Phone:
E-mail: weltys@mauigateway.com
Submitted on: 3/2/2009

LATE

Comments:

Please support this bill. Healthy Start needs the funding to continue to provide a safety net for families so that they do not need more expensive Sate funded services later on, down the line. "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure". Mahalo.



Maui Family Support Services, Inc.

1844 Wili Pa Loop, Wailuku, HI 96793 (808) 242-0900 Fax: (808) 249-2800
www.mfss.org

...because keiki matter!!!

March 2, 2009

LATE

Senator Donna Mercado-Kim, Chair
Members of the WAM Committee
Hawaii Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96873

Re: **In Support of** SB 1679, SD1 Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

Dear Senator Donna Mercado-Kim and Committee members:

While hearing the issues on SB1679 SD1 please consider 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.

Felitti's 2000 study, "Adverse Childhood Experiences", shows a direct correlation of children with adverse experiences with adult chronic diseases: diabetes, obesity, heart and lung disease, cancer, smoking, depression and suicide, leading to premature death. HSP 'nips it on the bud' by providing home-based services to overwhelmed parents and their vulnerable children with resources, early intervention for physical, behavioral health, and environmental risks.

The program is funded by the State Department of Health and suffering deep cuts at the peril of non-existence. I humbly ask you to search for provision for its continuity. In funding the **Healthy Start Program** the committee will be aligning with the purpose of the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund in maintaining the level of services by protecting and restoring education, human, and health services to our community. We are hoping for the viability of the program once Federal funds and other private resources are available.

If you would like further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your attention and kind consideration.

Respectfully,
Leonora Etrata
Lanai City, HI. 96763
Nora@mfss.org

LATE

Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Senator Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings-Senate Committee on Ways & Means
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30 a.m, Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Mercado and Tsutsui & Members of the Committee on Ways & Means:

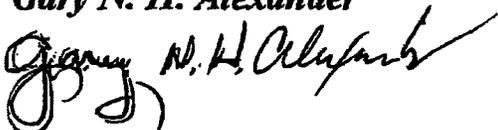
I am submitting testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1679**. This bill makes an emergency appropriation from the emergency and budget fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and welfare. Specifically I am supporting appropriations 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.**

My niece is a 54 year old retarded woman who has been receiving the services of the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL) with the Easter Seals Program for the past fourteen years. I have been her legal guardian for as long as she has been with the Easter Seals Program. Prior to my guardianship, she was in the care of her "Tutu" who passed away. Tutu did her best to teach her granddaughter but she did not have the training skills. Since my niece has been with this program she has become a more independent person and has learned many life skills to meet the every day challenges that many of us take for granted. Her quality of life has been improved tremendously and she has accomplished many new skills to help her reach her goals and potentials albeit very limited but none-the-less important to add some happiness to her life.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1679.

Sincerely,

Gary N. H. Alexander



LATE

Saturday, February 28, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Senator Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings-Senate Committee on Ways & Means
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30 a.m, Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Mercado and Tsutsui & Members of the Committee on Ways & Means:

I am submitting testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1679**. 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.**

My niece is a 54 year old retarded woman who has been receiving the services of the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living (PICL) with the Easter Seals Program for the past fourteen years. I have been her legal guardian for as long as she has been with the Easter Seals Program. Prior to my guardianship, she was in the care of her "Tutu" who passed away. Tutu did her best to teach her granddaughter but she did not have the training skills. Since my niece has been with this program she has become a more independent person and has learned many life skills to meet the every day challenges that many of us take for granted. Her quality of life has been improved tremendously and she has accomplished many new skills to help her reach her goals and potentials albeit very limited but none-the-less important to add some happiness to her life.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1679.

Sincerely,

Gary N. H. Alexander

LATE

Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health & the Ways
and Means Committee
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing & the Ways and Means Committee), Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Kim and Tsutsui & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and
Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679 SD 1. 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 work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 so that the people we support
will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job, benefits and
my livelihood.

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 1**. I can
be reached at 808-249-2065 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Ora Nielsen

LATE

Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health & the Ways
and Means Committee
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing & the Ways and Means Committee), Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Kim and Tsutsui & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and
Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679 SD 1. 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 work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 SD 1 so that the people we
support will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job,
benefits and my livelihood.

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 1**. I can
be reached at 808-249-2065 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Valerie Manzo-Aguilar

LATE

Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health & the Ways
and Means Committee
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing & the Ways and Means Committee), Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Kim and Tsutsui & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and
Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679 SD 1. 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 work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 so that the people we support
will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job, benefits and
my livelihood.

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 1**. I can
be reached at 808-249-2065 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Diane Dunn

LATE

Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health & the Ways
and Means Committee
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing & the Ways and Means Committee), Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Kim and Tsutsui & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and
Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679 SD 1. 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 work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 so that the people we support
will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job, benefits and
my livelihood.

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 1**. I can
be reached at 808-249-2065 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Jade Querubin

LATE

Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health & the Ways
and Means Committee
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing & the Ways and Means Committee), Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Kim and Tsutsui & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and
Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679 SD 1. 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 work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 so that the people we support
will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job, benefits and
my livelihood.

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 1**. I can
be reached at 808-249-2065 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Crystal Romero

LATE

Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health & the Ways
and Means Committee
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing & the Ways and Means Committee), Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Kim and Tsutsui & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and
Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679 SD 1. 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 work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 so that the people we support
will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job, benefits and
my livelihood.

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 1**. I can
be reached at 808-249-2065 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Yvonne Alexander

LATE

Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health & the Ways
and Means Committee
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing & the Ways and Means Committee), Conference Room 211

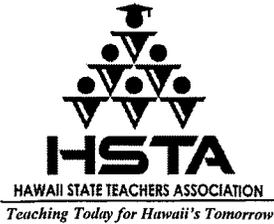
Dear Senators Kim and Tsutsui & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and
Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679 SD 1. 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 work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 so that the people we support
will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job, benefits and
my livelihood.

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 1**. I can
be reached at 808-249-2065 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Dawn Arveson



LATE

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

Roger K. Takabayashi
President

Wil Okabe
Vice President

Karolyn Mossman
Secretary-Treasurer

Mike McCartney
Executive Director

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

RE: SB1679 SD1 – RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND.

March 2, 2009

ROGER TAKABAYASHI, PRESIDENT
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Kim and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association supports SB1679, SD1, 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 librarian, 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

Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health & the Ways
and Means Committee
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing & the Ways and Means Committee), Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Kim and Tsutsui & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and
Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679 SD 1. 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 work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 SD 1 so that the people we
support will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job,
benefits and my livelihood.

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 1**. I can
be reached at 808-249-2065 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Jocelyn Cala

LATE

Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health & the Ways
and Means Committee
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing & the Ways and Means Committee), Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Kim and Tsutsui & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and
Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679 SD 1. 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 work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 so that the people we support
will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job, benefits and
my livelihood.

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 1**. I can
be reached at 808-249-2065 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Barbara Blue

LATE

Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health & the Ways
and Means Committee
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing & the Ways and Means Committee), Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Kim and Tsutsui & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and
Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679 SD 1. 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 work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 so that the people we support
will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job, benefits and
my livelihood.

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 1**. I can
be reached at 808-249-2065 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Abigail Schwartz

LATE

Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health & the Ways
and Means Committee
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing & the Ways and Means Committee), Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Kim and Tsutsui & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and
Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679 SD 1. 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 work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 so that the people we support
will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job, benefits and
my livelihood.

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 1**. I can
be reached at 808-249-2065 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Leah Osorno

LATE

Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health & the Ways
and Means Committee
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing & the Ways and Means Committee), Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Kim and Tsutsui & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and
Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679 SD 1. 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 work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 so that the people we support
will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job, benefits and
my livelihood.

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 1**. I can
be reached at 808-249-2065 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Joana Juarityte

LATE

Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health & the Ways
and Means Committee
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing & the Ways and Means Committee), Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Kim and Tsutsui & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and
Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679 SD 1. 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 work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 so that the people we support
will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job, benefits and
my livelihood.

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 1**. I can
be reached at 808-249-2065 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Edna Favinger

LATE

Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health & the Ways
and Means Committee
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing & the Ways and Means Committee), Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Kim and Tsutsui & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and
Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679 SD 1. 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 work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 so that the people we support
will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job, benefits and
my livelihood.

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 1**. I can
be reached at 808-249-2065 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Andrea Fukushima

LATE

Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health & the Ways
and Means Committee
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing & the Ways and Means Committee), Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Kim and Tsutsui & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and
Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679 SD 1. 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 work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 so that the people we support
will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job, benefits and
my livelihood.

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 1**. I can
be reached at 808-249-2065 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Hoe

LATE

Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health & the Ways
and Means Committee
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing & the Ways and Means Committee), Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Kim and Tsutsui & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and
Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679 SD 1. 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 work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 so that the people we support
will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job, benefits and
my livelihood.

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 1**. I can
be reached at 808-249-2065 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Michelle McGaw

LATE

Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health & the Ways
and Means Committee
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing & the Ways and Means Committee), Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Kim and Tsutsui & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and
Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679 SD 1. 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 work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 SD 1 so that the people we
support will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job,
benefits and my livelihood.

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 1**. I can
be reached at 808-249-2065 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Melody Hill

LATE

Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health & the Ways
and Means Committee
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing & the Ways and Means Committee), Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Kim and Tsutsui & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and
Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679 SD 1. 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 work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 SD 1 so that the people we
support will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job,
benefits and my livelihood.

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 1**. I can
be reached at 808-249-2065 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Pat Guerrero

LATE

Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health & the Ways
and Means Committee
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing & the Ways and Means Committee), Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Kim and Tsutsui & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and
Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679 SD 1. 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 work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 SD 1 so that the people we
support will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job,
benefits and my livelihood.

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 1**. I can
be reached at 808-249-2065 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Arlie Holmes

LATE

Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health & the Ways
and Means Committee
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing & the Ways and Means Committee), Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Kim and Tsutsui & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and
Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679 SD 1. 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 work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 SD 1 so that the people we
support will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job,
benefits and my livelihood.

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 1**. I can
be reached at 808-249-2065 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Hazel Ignacio

LATE

Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health & the Ways
and Means Committee
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing & the Ways and Means Committee), Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Kim and Tsutsui & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and
Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679 SD 1. 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 work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 SD 1 so that the people we
support will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job,
benefits and my livelihood.

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 1**. I can
be reached at 808-249-2065 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Trish Langer

LATE

Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health & the Ways
and Means Committee
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing & the Ways and Means Committee), Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Kim and Tsutsui & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and
Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679 SD 1. 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 work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 SD 1 so that the people we
support will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job,
benefits and my livelihood.

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 1**. I can
be reached at 808-249-2065 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Rachel Jarnesky

kim4 - Elizabeth

From: Patty Paranada [Patty@mfss.org]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2009 8:36 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB1679 SD1
Attachments: image001.gif; image002.gif

LATE

I am supporting Bill: SB1679 SD1

Thank you!

Patty Paranada

Outreach Family Assessment Worker

Maui Family Support Services

1844 Wili Pa Loop

Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii 96793

phone: (808)242-0900

fax: (808)249-2800

email: patty@mfss.org

The Mission of Maui Family Support Services, Inc. is to promote healthy family functioning by providing supportive services which build on family strengths. The Prime Directive is to utilize our collective resources toward the prevention of child abuse and neglect.

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This communication is intended only for the use of the addressee. It may contain information which is privileged or confidential under applicable law. If you are not the intended recipient or the agent of the recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, copy or disclosure of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please immediately notify the sender at 808.242.0900 or via return internet electronic mail to the sender's address and expunge this communication without making any copies. Thank you for your cooperation.

LATE

Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health & the Ways
and Means Committee
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing & the Ways and Means Committee), Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Kim and Tsutsui & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and
Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679 SD 1. 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 work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 SD 1 so that the people we
support will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job,
benefits and my livelihood.

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 1**. I can
be reached at 808-249-2065 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Cecelia Lopez

LATE

Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health & the Ways
and Means Committee
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing & the Ways and Means Committee), Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Kim and Tsutsui & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and
Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679 SD 1. 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 work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 SD 1 so that the people we
support will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job,
benefits and my livelihood.

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 1**. I can
be reached at 808-249-2065 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Valerie Manzo-Aguilar



Creating solutions. changing lives.

Easter Seals Hawai'i



Administrative Offices

710 Green Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Phone: 808.536.1015
Toll Free: 888.241.7450
Fax: 808.536.3765
website: www.EasterSealsHawaii.org

O'AHU

- Administrative Offices
Adult Day Health Program at Central Union Church
Assistive Technology Program
Ewa Adult Day Health Program
Family Support Services Program
Kailua Early Intervention Program
Kapolei Early Intervention Program
O'ahu Support Services
Partnerships in Community Living Program
Sultan Early Intervention Program
Waipahu Early Intervention Program
Youth Services Program

Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings - Senate Committee on Human Services & Health & the Ways and Means Committee
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am (Joint Committee on Health and Human Services & Housing & the Ways and Means Committee), Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Kim and Tsutsui & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

I am submitting testimony in STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1679 SD 1. 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).

The recent cuts in the MR/DD Waiver program have made an already difficult economic year even more challenging for those most in need. These program cuts have not only affected our participants and families, but have also resulted in a reduction of Easter Seals Hawaii Staff.

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 1. I can be reached at 529-1700, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
John F. Howell
President & CEO
Easter Seals Hawaii

KAUAI

- Kauai Early Intervention Program
Kauai Support Services
Kauai Youth Services

HAWAII

- Hilo Early Intervention Program
Hilo Support Services Program
Hilo Youth Services

MAUI COUNTY

- Adult Day Health Program at Hale Hauoli
Partnerships in Community Living Program
Support Services Program
Youth Services



Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health & the Ways
and Means Committee
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing & the Ways and Means Committee), Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Kim and Tsutsui & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and
Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679 SD 1. 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 work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 SD 1 so that the people we
support will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job,
benefits and my livelihood.

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 1**. I can
be reached at 808-249-2065 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Kristen McPhillips

LATE

Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health & the Ways
and Means Committee
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing & the Ways and Means Committee), Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Kim and Tsutsui & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and
Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679 SD 1. 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 work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 SD 1 so that the people we
support will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job,
benefits and my livelihood.

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 1**. I can
be reached at 808-249-2065 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Erica Meyer

kim4 - Elizabeth

From: John Stibbard [j.stibbard@hawaiiintel.net]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2009 7:56 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Sincere Support for SB1679 SD1

LATE

TO: Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair;
Senator Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair;
and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means

HEARING: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30 a.m., Room 211

RE: Support of SB 1679, SD1
Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

I am submitting testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of S.B. 1679, SD1. This bill makes an 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 the lost funding for the Department of Health's Respite, Developmental Disabilities Medicaid Waiver, and the Partnerships in Community Living Programs.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families and individuals with developmental disabilities that are served each day in these essential programs. Thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to present testimony.

Sincerely,

John Stibbard Jr.
P.O. Box 127, Lihue, Hawaii
(808) 652-9974

LATE

Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health & the Ways
and Means Committee
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing & the Ways and Means Committee), Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Kim and Tsutsui & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and
Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679 SD 1. 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 work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 SD 1 so that the people we
support will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job,
benefits and my livelihood.

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 1**. I can
be reached at 808-249-2065 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Sandra Najera

LATE

Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health & the Ways
and Means Committee
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing & the Ways and Means Committee), Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Kim and Tsutsui & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and
Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679 SD 1. 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 work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 SD 1 so that the people we
support will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job,
benefits and my livelihood.

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 1**. I can
be reached at 808-249-2065 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Kaiulani Nguyen

LATE

Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health & the Ways
and Means Committee
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing & the Ways and Means Committee), Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Kim and Tsutsui & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and
Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679 SD 1. 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 work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 SD 1 so that the people we
support will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job,
benefits and my livelihood.

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 1**. I can
be reached at 808-249-2065 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Desiree Phillips

LATE

Dear Committee Members;

I urge you to support **SB1679 SD1** 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

Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health & the Ways
and Means Committee
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing & the Ways and Means Committee), Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Kim and Tsutsui & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and
Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679 SD 1. 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 work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 SD 1 so that the people we
support will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job,
benefits and my livelihood.

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 1**. I can
be reached at 808-249-2065 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Danilyn Razon

LATE

Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health & the Ways
and Means Committee
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing & the Ways and Means Committee), Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Kim and Tsutsui & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and
Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679 SD 1. 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 work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 SD 1 so that the people we
support will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job,
benefits and my livelihood.

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 1**. I can
be reached at 808-249-2065 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Danilyn Razon

LATE

Denita Waltz
2457-a Ala Wai Blvd.
Honolulu, Hawaii 96815
(808)255-1221
Email kapuomoe@aol.com

Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health & the Ways
and Means Committee
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing & the Ways and Means Committee), Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Kim and Tsutsui & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and
Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

I am submitting testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** OF SB 1679 SD 1. 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 multiple disabilities 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 continued
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 participate in meaningful
activities that allow him to have a some what normal lifestyle just like every other citizen.
Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my son would have to be home alone,
disengaged from the community which would have a severe major impact on his health and
safety. Additionally, I believe that when making your decision under this bill you should consider
the individual needs of these individuals not just focus on the dollars.*

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk
at minimum 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
1.** I can be reached at (808)255-1221 for any further questions.

Kindest regards,

Denita Waltz

LATE

Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health & the Ways
and Means Committee
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing & the Ways and Means Committee), Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Kim and Tsutsui & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and
Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679 SD 1. 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 work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 SD 1 so that the people we
support will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job,
benefits and my livelihood.

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 1**. I can
be reached at 808-249-2065 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Douglas Roberts

LATE

Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health & the Ways
and Means Committee
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing & the Ways and Means Committee), Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Kim and Tsutsui & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and
Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679 SD 1. 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 work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 SD 1 so that the people we
support will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job,
benefits and my livelihood.

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 1**. I can
be reached at 808-249-2065 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Nita Soto

LATE

Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health & the Ways
and Means Committee
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing & the Ways and Means Committee), Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Kim and Tsutsui & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and
Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679 SD 1. 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 work for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. Please support SB1679 SD 1 so that the people we
support will continue to receive desperately needed services and so that I can keep my job,
benefits and my livelihood.

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 1**. I can
be reached at 808-249-2065 for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Cherisse Tanno

LATE

Friday, February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim and Shan S. Tsutsui
State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health & the Ways
and Means Committee
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET
RESERVE FUND

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am (Joint Committee on Health and Human
Services & Housing & the Ways and Means Committee), Conference Room 211

Dear Senators Kim and Tsutsui & Members of the Joint Committees on Human Services and
Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

I am submitting testimony in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** OF SB 1679 SD 1. 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 supervisor for Easter Seals Hawaii on Maui. We provide services to 57 individuals with
developmental disabilities on Maui and Lanai. I know of several families who now, because of
recent budget cuts, must leave their developmentally disabled family member at home alone.
One case is especially concerning. This 30 year old man is diagnosed with Mental Retardation
and Cerebral Palsy. He has lost all of his Saturday services due to budget cuts. Therefore, he
must stay home alone each Saturday because his parents work outside of the home. This man
does not have any self preservation skills. He does not know how to respond to a fire, a smoke
alarm or other possible in home emergencies. Even if he knew to respond, his walking ability is
so impaired that he wouldn't be able to remove himself from the home. In addition, he does not
understand the concept of a "stranger" and is an easy target for a predator.

Another disturbing case involves a 16 year old young man with Down Syndrome and his single
mother. They have been hard hit financially by the recent events in the economy. Even though
this mother works full time, they are close to losing their home. This young man's after school
and weekend services were cut from 36 hours per week to 25 hours per week. Now, this mother
must choose between working and providing supervision for her son. She has told me that they
might need to move into a homeless shelter soon. In addition, the staff member that used to
provide the 35 hours of service per week is now looking for more work in a time where there are
few jobs available.

Another disturbing case involves a 42 year old woman with moderate Mental Retardation. She has a history of violent behavior and depression. Her family lives here on Maui, but sees her only once or twice a year. This woman lives in a foster home but her placement is in jeopardy due to her behaviors. We do not have enough behavioral resources on Maui to tap into to provide behavior consulting services. This woman's Waiver services get her out of the home and gives her care givers a break, maintaining her foster placement. Her hours were recently cut from 72 hours to 60 hours per week. Even though it is only 12 hours per week, I fear that this loss will negatively effect her placement and result in this life long Maui resident being moved off island to find support.

I work with another family that may soon be in crisis due to having their hours cut. The mother has Asperger's Syndrome and the 17 year old daughter has Autism. The father works long hours, especially since he had to lay off 10 of the staff where he works due to the economy. While this family has done an excellent job raising their daughter, the mother needs consistent respite from the needs of her daughter so that she can maintain her own disability issues.

I know of another young man who has Down Syndrome. His mother has spent an enormous amount of time helping him to get a job with a work crew and helping him to get a HUD apartment. Her intention was to get him set up with the services he needs to live as independent as possible so that in the event something happens to her, her son is taken care of. With the recent budget cuts however, this young man will not have the necessary supervision he needs and is at risk of having to move into a group home or foster care home.

These are just a few examples of the negative impact recent budget cuts have made here on Maui. 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**. I can be reached at 808-283-0365, for any further questions.

Sincerely,
Melissa King Hubert



Maui Family Support Services, Inc.

1844 Wili Pa Loop, Wailuku, HI 96793 (808) 242-0900 Fax: (808) 249-2800
www.mfss.org

...because keiki matter!!!

LATE

March 2, 2009

Senator Donna Mercado-Kim, Chair
Members of the WAM Committee
Hawaii Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96873

Re: **In Support of** SB 1679, SD1 Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

Dear Senator Donna Mercado-Kim and Committee members:

While hearing the issues on SB1679 SD1 please consider 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.

Felitti's 2000 study, "Adverse Childhood Experiences", shows a direct correlation of children with adverse experiences with adult chronic diseases: diabetes, obesity, heart and lung disease, cancer, smoking, depression and suicide, leading to premature death. HSP 'nips it on the bud' by providing home-based services to overwhelmed parents and their vulnerable children with resources, early intervention for physical, behavioral health, and environmental risks.

The program is funded by the State Department of Health and suffering deep cuts at the peril of non-existence. I humbly ask you to search for provision for its continuity. In funding the **Healthy Start Program** the committee will be aligning with the purpose of the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund in maintaining the level of services by protecting and restoring education, human, and health services to our community. We are hoping for the viability of the program once Federal funds and other private resources are available.

If you would like further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your attention and kind consideration,

Cynthia Koziolas, M.A.
Director of Clinical Services
CynthiaK@mfss.org

kim4 - Elizabeth

LATE

From: Deborah Abe [auburn808@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 01, 2009 10:24 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: SB1679 SD 1-RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET FUND HEARING:
MONDAY MARCH 2, 2009 @ 930AM RM 211

ATTN: Honorable Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways & Means.

I am submitting testimony in STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1679 SD 1. 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.)

PLEASE HELP. I am writing on behalf of my daughter, Heather K. Abe, 16 1/2 yrs old who has multiple disabilities (Heather was born w/exstrophy of the bladder, hearing loss (hearing aids since 7months) severe speech delay, global developmental delays, numerous surgeries, CNS damage and mild retardation. I am a divorced mom who appreciates the services offered in the MR/DD Wavier Program to assist with care for Heather.

With support of these services I am able to go to work knowing that her needs are being met and that she is safe, due to Heather's behavior and medical needs she needs specialized care. Heather is able participate in meaningful activities that allow her to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the continued services to cover after school care, waiver days and State Holidays (I work in the private industry and I don't have all holidays) my job my be at risk.Heather is unable to speak for herself so I am speaking for her.

Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, 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 1.

Please feel free to contact me.

Deborah B. Abe
email: auburn808@yahoo.com
532-4006 (w)
528-7449 (h)

kim4 - Elizabeth

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 01, 2009 10:42 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: surfaboy808@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1679 on 3/2/2009 9:30:00 AM

LATE

Testimony for WAM 3/2/2009 9:30:00 AM SB1679

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jeffrey Sakamoto
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone: 808292-2137
E-mail: surfaboy808@gmail.com
Submitted on: 3/1/2009

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

Senate Bill No. 1679 S.D. 1
Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

Chairwoman Mercado Kim and Vice Chairman Tsutsui and Members of the Committees:

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

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

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

I know that Senate Bill No. 817 which was to provide specific funding to the Senior Centers was deferred and included as part of Senate Bill 1679 S.D. 1 so I respectfully request the Committee pass Senate Bill No. 1679 S.D. 1 for the necessary funds for the Lanakila Multi Purpose Senior Center and for all those programs that this bill will help to support our community. If you need more information from me, please contact me at (808) 292-2137 or email me at surfaboy808@gmail.com.



LATE

To: Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senator Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair

Date: March 2, 2009 - Conference Room 211 – 9:30 am

Re: **SB 1679 SD1, RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND**

Chair Mercado Kim 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 supports SB 1679, SD1. This bill would appropriate moneys from the emergency budget and reserve fund (commonly known as the “Rainy Day Fund”) to maintain levels deemed to be essential to public health, public welfare and education during this time of economic downturn.

The critical budget shortfall has created hardship for our most vulnerable residents at unprecedented levels and numbers.

- More than one fifth (21.2%) of Hawaii adults aged 60 and older have an income below 200% of the poverty threshold.
- Almost 13% of Hawaii’s children are being raised by grandparents—the highest percentage in the nation. These grandparents often forego attending to their own healthcare needs which often compromises their longevity and well-being.
- 64% of our residents stated that they were concerned whether they would be able to afford Rx drugs according to our 2008 AARP survey. One in ten reported delaying the filling of a Rx or not filling it at all because of cost, splitting pills to make them stretch, or cutting back on food, fuel or electricity to afford the Rx.

We surmise that with the non-funding of the grants-in-aids in 2008 and the rapid erosion of our safety net services this past year, the number of keiki, elderly, and disabled residents falling between the cracks of society is even greater.

We would especially like to highlight the importance of a program that would help the elderly and disabled obtain appropriate information and resources through a single point of entry. Funds are necessary to support the development of the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) statewide. Through an initial Federal grant in 2005-2008, Hawaii has been able to establish its first site in Hilo. Plans are underway for satellite sites in rural areas throughout the state, such as

LATE

Waianae, Hauula and the North Shore on Oahu, and Hamakua on the Big Island. Pilot sites are also planned for Kauai and Maui. The Honolulu ADRC has become a virtual model and serves as a beginning for a statewide website template for all counties in providing information on aging and disability services, programs and agencies within their respective communities. Consumers will be able to access information in the convenience of their own homes.

The ADRC will provide all residents with information about long-term care planning so that families know what resources are available and what options they have for elder and disability services. Meeting the immediate and growing need for services for the State's rapidly aging population requires a long-term care support system. This one-stop shop is critical because the number of people age 65 and older in Hawaii is projected to nearly double in the next 20 years.

We strongly support SB 1679, SD1 and urge our legislators to protect our most vulnerable population by appropriating the necessary funding to meet our residents' basic health and safety needs.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.

A JOINT LEGISLATIVE EFFORT

E-Mail: wamtestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov
Regarding: Ways & Means
Hearing on: 3-2-09;; 9:30 am; Rm. 211

HAWAII FAMILY FORUM BOARD

Francis Oda
President

Austin Imamura
Vice-President

Gill Berger
Secretary

Brogan, Mary Lou
D'Olier, H. Mitchell
Pace, Dr. Nancy
Paty, William
Pflueger, Nancy
Tsujiyama, R. Brian
Young, Sandra

HAWAII CATHOLIC CONFERENCE BOARD

Most Reverend Clarence Silva
Bishop of Honolulu

Alexander, Very Rev. Marc
Andrade, Eva
Chung, Sr. Earnest
Coleman, David
Downes, Patrick
Himenes, Dr. Carmen
Ignacio, Carol
Larson, Betty Lou
Pilar, Prudencio
Rauckhorst, Jerome
Tong, Myron
Yoshimitsu, Walter

Date: March 2, 2009

To:

LATE

From: Dennis Arakaki
Executive Director
Hawaii Family Forum / Hawaii Catholic Conference

Re: Strong Support – SB 1679, SD1

Honorable Chair and members of the Ways & Means Committee, 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.

Madam Chair and members of the Ways and Means Committee, I wish to speak in strong support of SB 1679 that details how the legislature will utilize the EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND. This measure is especially critical during this budget crisis and it allows the legislature to express its budget priorities and strong desire to maintain services to children and families. It is also important to help maintain the viability of the non-profits 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 the children. This measure should be considered as a life line during conference to determine the essential areas of services for children and families 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.

Thank you for allowing me to testify.



Senate WAM Cmte
Mon, Mar 2, 2009
9:30 am
room 211

National Association of Social Workers

Hawaii Chapter

February 27, 2009

TO: Senator Donna Kim, Chair
Members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee

LATE

FROM: Debbie Shimizu, LSW
National Association of Social Workers, Hawaii Chapter
And the Welfare and Employment Rights Coalition (WERC)

RE: SB 1679 SD1 Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund- **SUPPORT with AMENDMENTS**

Chair Kim and members of the Senate Ways and Means Committees, I am Debbie Shimizu, Executive Director of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW), Hawaii Chapter, convener of the Welfare and Employment Rights Coalition (WERC) and member of the DHS Financial Assistance Advisory Council. I am testifying in **SUPPORT of SB 1679 SD1 and suggest an amendment to add \$3.6 million for General Assistance payments.**

During the past decade, the state has been slowly handing over its responsibility of providing direct services to individuals and families to the private, nonprofit sector through purchase of service contracts. The Governor in her state of the state address was proud of the many achievements the state has made working with its' community partnerships. However, now when the state is in a fiscal crisis, the state is cutting funds to those contracts. This will ultimately result in dismantling many of the programs that the state was proud of.

The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (CBPP) is a policy organization that works on federal and state fiscal policy and public programs that affect low- and moderate-income families and individuals. In a report in February 2008, CBPP cautioned states from implementing across the board cuts to address its fiscal crisis. Instead CBPP fiscal advisors recommended that policy makers be more careful about cutting programs that affect low-income residents. They encouraged the use of rainy day funds to minimize the need to cut programs that are designed to assist state's residents the most during economic downturns.

We have just learned that the DHS sent letters to the 5000 individuals who are currently receiving General Assistance (GA) payments that their monthly checks will be reduced from \$469/month to \$234/month in April, May and June. After that, the Department hopes to receive their annual block grant appropriation and restore the monthly payments to \$450/month. Individuals receiving GA are temporarily disabled and need assistance to help them survive until they are able to work again or get onto the Federal SSDI program. Many of them use this money to pay for rent at a transitional shelter or subsidized housing. With this 50% reduction in assistance, many may be forced out on the street. \$3.6 million is needed to retain their payments for 3 months.

Now is not the time to be cutting services that help vulnerable populations. I urge your favorable consideration of SB 1679 SD1 with our added amendments. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

kim4 - Elizabeth

From: Lance [hawaiianeyeguy@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Sunday, March 01, 2009 6:59 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Re: Senate Bill 1679 SD1 ; March 1, 2009 ; 6:57pm

To: The Committee @ WAMTestimony@Capitol

The Honorable Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair

The Honorable Senator Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair

LATE

I ask you to please support Senate Bill 1679 SD1 Relating The Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund which includes appropriations for various "safety net" services including DOH Respite and DD Division Waiver and Partnerships in Community Living programs. The bill also includes appropriations for the Aging and Disability Resource Center , Healthy Start, mental health services, Kupuna care services, senior centers, and others.

My 16 years old daughter (Heather) is a special needs child, who basically cannot do things for herself and has been receiving services from the DD Division Waiver Program, which has been a tremendous help to myself and her mom (we are divorced). This program has allowed me to maintain steady employment, with peace of mind that she is in good hands while I'm at work. We have been notified of huge cuts regarding the care hours she has been receiving, and I am greatly concerned how this may affect Heather's caregivers and my employment. I do not have any other resource to turn to for her care while I'm at work, because even though my mom is here, she is too frail to handle Heather.

Thank you,

Lance Abe
1603 Perry Street
Honolulu, HI 96819
Ph: 808.383.8796

February 27, 2009

TO: Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair;
Senator Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair;
and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means

LATE

HEARING: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30 a.m., Room 211

RE: Support of SB 1679, SD1
Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

I am submitting testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of S.B. 1679, SD1. This bill makes an 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 the lost funding for the Department of Health's Respite, Developmental Disabilities Medicaid Waiver, and the Partnerships in Community Living Programs.

Although I have only worked 6 months at the Arc of Kauai as part of the Administrative support staff, I have had the pleasure of getting acquainted with several of our clients and the positive results due to each of them receiving services from agencies like ours. Without these services clients will miss out on many activities that allow them to interact with our community and a chance to socialize with other people outside their home. I have seen how difficult and stressful it is for many families of our clients trying to decide which services should be reduced, or how they will make the adjustments once these reductions are put in place. It is heart breaking to see the needs of our disabled being categorized as something that has to be done because of our economy. Our clients are people, individuals who we should be trying on a daily basis to improve their quality of life by giving them the services needed to allow them to feel part of our community.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families and individuals with developmental disabilities that are served each day in these essential programs. Thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to present testimony.

Sincerely,

Name: SUAZIN NOTENO

Address: 4574 Kon St., Kapaa, HI. 96746

Phone No.: 808-823-8729

The Arc of Kauai

LATE

This fax comes to you from
Jona Villon
Office Manager
arckjona@vipahawaii.net
Telephone: 245-4132 ext. 18 Fax: 246-1721

Date:
02/27/09
Attn:
Members of the Committee on Ways and Means
Fax #:
1-800-586-6659
Pages including cover:

Subject: Support of SB 1679, SD1 -- Relating to the Emergency & Budget Reserve Fund

Comments are to be submitted to:

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair;
Senator Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair;
and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means

Hearing Date & Time:

Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30am, Room 211

A warm aloha,
Jona Villon
Office Manager
The Arc of Kauai

CONFIDENTIAL NOTICE: This message and all attachments are confidential or proprietary to Jona Villon or The Arc of Kauai and disclosure, use, or distribution to anyone other than the intended recipient without prior written permission of Jona Villon or The Arc of Kauai, is prohibited. This message and any attachments may contain confidential health information that is protected by law. This information is intended only for the use of the individual or entity named above. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, copying, or distribution is strictly prohibited. If you think you have received this message in error, please notify the sender by replying to this e-mail and delete the message without disclosure. Mahalo

kim2 - Arline

From: Antoinette M. Rodrigues [rodrigues@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2009 9:33 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: cynthiak@mfss.org; colleen@mfss.org; cynthial@mfss.org; jani@mfss.org
Subject: Testimony in Favor of SB 1679 SD1

LATE

Dear Committee Members,

I'm writing this letter in favor of SB 1679 SD1, specifically, to request you to emergency funding of the Healthy Start Program at Maui Family Support Services.

Studies show that it 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 on a regular basis to provide child development information for parents of keiki ages 0-3 years of age. They also 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