

**SB 1679**



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
STATE COUNCIL  
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES  
919 ALA MOANA BOULEVARD, ROOM 113  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814  
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543  
March 2, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Chair  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
Twenty-Fifth Legislature  
State Capitol  
State of Hawaii  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Mercado Kim and Members of the Committee:

**SUBJECT: SB 1679 SD1 – RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND**

The position and views expressed in this testimony do not represent nor reflect the position and views of the Departments of Health (DOH) and Human Services.

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD) **STRONGLY SUPPORTS SB 1679 SD1**. The purpose of the bill is to appropriate moneys from the emergency and budget reserve fund of the State of Hawaii to maintain the levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health, and public welfare.

With respect to page 2, lines 14-16, the Council brings to your attention the shortfall projected for DD services in the current fiscal year. The amount stated as the projected shortfall is \$5.4 million. That amount included \$5 million for the Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Medicaid Waiver Program and \$400,000 for the Partnerships in Community Living (PICL) Program. DOH, DD Division's budget (HTH 501) for FY 2009 includes the elimination of the PICL Program and a reduction in services for individuals with DD/Mental Retardation (MR) in the HCBS Medicaid Waiver Program. In addition, DD Division is experiencing a shortfall of \$267,420 for crisis services network for the current fiscal year.

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
Page 2  
March 2, 2009

Standing Committee Report No. 416 provides a list of critical safety net programs with appropriation amount requests for each program. Attached is information about the DOH Respite Program, HCBS Medicaid Waiver Program, and DOH PICL Program to explain the appropriation amounts.

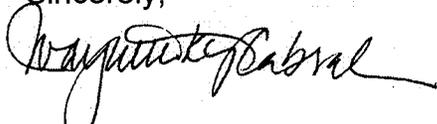
- A. \$500,000 for the DOH Respite Program
- B. \$7 million for the HCBS Medicaid Waiver Program
- C. \$500,000 for the PICL Program

The Council is hopeful that the Economic Recovery and Reinvestment Act will provide Hawaii with some level of fiscal recovery. Hawaii will benefit from the proposed enhanced Federal Medical Assistance Percentage. The increase in Federal reimbursements will result in a decrease in the State's share and would allow for State funds to be redirected to other priority areas not matched by Federal funds. This may include the DOH PICL and Respite Programs.

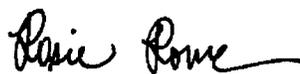
We appreciate your consideration of the appropriation amounts in the Committee Report and recognize that SB 1679 SD1 is a work in progress. We will continue to work with the Legislature on this measure throughout the session.

Thank you for the opportunity to present our testimony in strong support of SB 1679 SD1.

Sincerely,



Waynette K.Y. Cabral  
Executive Administrator



Rosie Rowe  
Chair

Attachments

**Department of Health (DOH)  
Respite Program**

The DOH Respite Program's budget has been administered under the Health Resources Administration (HRA). The budget has taken its share of reductions of \$375,872 during the past 18 years resulting in \$624,128 for the program. Below is the breakdown of the budget and its reductions.

**DOH Respite Program Budget  
Act 324, SLH 1990**

\$1,000,000	Act 324, SLH 1990 Appropriation
(\$375,872)	Minus Budget reductions
\$624,128	Remaining in operating budget
(\$51,316)	Minus 4% legislative reduction, transfer of funds to cover payroll shortfall, adjustment for personal services
\$572,812	Remaining in operating budget (minus the above reductions)

\$572,812	Operating Budget
(\$412,024)	Minus the Governor's proposed adjustments in the Executive Budget Request for FY 2010 and FY 2011
<b>\$160,788</b>	<b>Actual amount available for the Respite Program</b>

During the past year, the budget was affected by the four percent legislative reduction (\$30,732), transfer of funds to cover the payroll shortage for HRA (\$16,165), and adjustment for personal services (\$4,419). Those reductions left the program with \$572,812, until the Governor's proposed adjustments to the Executive Budget Request for FY 2010 and FY 2011 included the deletion of \$412,024 for respite services. The total reduction in the respite budget is \$463,340. Current budget for respite services is \$160,788. That amount divided by each of the six program areas means \$26,798 for each target group. Information about the DOH Respite Program and impact of the reduction in the budget is included in the attached FACT SHEET.

# FACT SHEET

## Department of Health (DOH) Respite Program

### What is Respite?

- Respite provides temporary relief for a family, which helps to preserve the family unit by decreasing the individual and family stresses associated with caregiving so that families can continue to care for their loved ones. It is beneficial not only for the family caregiver, but also for the child or adult with special needs. It allows the family to engage in daily activities, decrease a feeling of isolation, increase the ability to cope with daily caregiving responsibilities, and maintain stability during crisis situations.
- Respite provides substitute support for a child or adult with special needs in order to provide a period of relief or rest for the family caregiver. Respite can allow time for the family caregiver to address personal needs, other business, or an unexpected emergency.
- Respite is an important part of the continuum of services for families who care for an individual with special needs. This support for families prevents burnout of the caregiver and reduces the possibility for out-of-home placement.

### Who Receives Respite?

Families caring for a family member who is:

- An infant or toddler three years of age or younger with a developmental delay
- A child or adult up to age 21 with a serious or terminal illness
- A child with a serious emotional disturbance
- A child or an adult with a developmental disability
- An adult with a serious mental illness

### Who Provides Respite?

Currently, the Respite Program affords respite to the families of clients from six program areas of four divisions of DOH, per the intent of Act 324, SLH 1990. Each of these six program areas split the respite funds equally (approximately \$104,000 per program area - before budget reductions). In addition, the programs work together and have transferred funds between programs to cover shortfalls experienced by one or more of the other programs.

- **Family Health Services Division – Early Intervention Section (EIS)** - Provides respite support to families in two program areas - medically fragile children or youth up to age 21 and infants and toddlers with developmental delays three years of age or younger.
- **Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division (CAMHD)** – Provides respite support to families for children with a serious emotional disturbance.
- **Developmental Disabilities Division (DDD)** - Provides respite support to families in two program areas – respite is available to families of individuals (children and adults) with developmental disabilities and/or mental retardation (DD/MR) who are not in the DD/MR Home and Community-Based Medicaid Waiver Program.
- **Adult Mental Health Division (AMHD)** – Provides respite services via a single, statewide provider, Mental Health Kokua. A respite housing pilot was initiated that will present a valuable resource to families and providers in the community and a formal contract modification was completed. Due to the recent budget reduction of \$25 million

to the AMHD budget, the contract with Mental Health Kokua was terminated effective January 15, 2009. Respite funds were being used to supplement funds provided through the AMHD operating budget (approximately 25 percent of the total contract expenditures).

**What are the Budget Expenditures for Fiscal Year 2008?**

**Fiscal Year 2008**

<b>Division</b>	<b>FSHD</b>	<b>CAMHD</b>	<b>DDD</b>	<b>AMHD</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Amount Spent</b>	<b>\$202, 627</b>	<b>\$67,543</b>	<b>\$156,110</b>	<b>\$17,899</b>	<b>\$444,179</b>
<b>Number of Families Served</b>	<b>544</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>845</b>
<b>Number of Families Waiting For Services</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>Data Not available</b>	<b>Data Not available</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b>	<b>Data Not available</b>

**What is Extent of the Budget Reduction?**

The respite program budget sustained a discretionary reduction for FY 09 of approximately \$51,316. The Governor’s recommendation in the executive budget for the FB 2009-2011 further reduces the amount for respite by \$412,024, resulting in a total appropriation of \$160,788 to be shared among the six program areas.

**What is the Impact of a Budget Reduction?**

Overall, the budget reduction would have an adverse impact on the provision of respite for families and individuals with special needs. As respite is reduced, families will become more “at risk” for out-of-home placement, foster care, and possibly higher levels of care. In addition, it is more cost effective to provide respite funds to families than to pay for foster care or out-of-home placement if families are unable to care for their loved ones at home.

- **Family Health Services Division – Early Intervention Section (EIS) –**
  - A determination will need to be made as to whether to reduce the number of families served or reduce the respite hours per month.
  - The waitlist for respite services is expected to increase.
  - Reduction in Federal grant funding – general funds from the respite appropriation have been used as a “match” required to leverage the Federal Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention Grant.
  
- **Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division (CAMHD) –**
  - Possible increases in out-of-home placements and higher levels of care, such as therapeutic foster care, community-based residential care, or hospital-based residential care, which are much more restrictive and costly.
  
- **Developmental Disabilities Division (DDD) –**
  - Allotments for respite services of children and adults would decrease, with a more significant reduction of respite allotment for Neighbor Islands.
  - Anticipates that it will be receiving more requests for respite services that will exceed their annual portion, particularly from families who do not qualify for Medicaid, are not eligible for the DD/MR Medicaid Waiver Program respite services, or have had a reduction in respite services under the waiver program.

- **Adult Mental Health Division (AMHD) –**
  - AMHD Respite services contract with Mental Health Kokua was terminated effective January 15, 2009. All consumers with open authorizations for respite as of January 1, 2009 were transitioned to AMHD Peer Coaching services that provide similar support for consumers and respite for caregivers delivered by a peer.

**Department of Health (DOH), Developmental Disabilities (DD) Division  
Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Medicaid Waiver Program  
for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities/Mental Retardation (DD/MR)**

- Provides individuals with DD/MR support and services that will enable them to live as independently as possible in the least restrictive environment. Services include:
  - Adult Day Health
  - Personal Assistance
  - Respite
  - Habilitation
  - Habilitation-Supported Employment
  - Skilled Nursing
  - Specialized Services
  - Personal Emergency Response
  - Non-Medical Transportation
  - Specialized Medical Equipment
  - Environmental Accessibility Adaptations
  
- An individual must be eligible for Medicaid and require Intermediate Care Facility for the Mentally Retarded (ICF/MR) level of care.
- For FY 2008, 2,532 individuals were served, and \$107,145,000 was expended.
- DD Division will need about \$7 million more for FY 2010 in order to add 125 people into the waiver and continue level of services for those currently in the waiver.
- The budget remains at \$71million for FY 2010 and 2011.
- A letter from DOH, DD Division was mailed to over 2,500 participants in the HCBS Medicaid Waiver Program to inform them of a reduction in services for individuals with DD/MR.
- Based on the State's economic conditions, DD Division "must reduce all participant services by 15% in order to sustain our system of supports and maintain services."
- To do that, DD Division asked participants to tell the Division where the individual could make the reductions.
- Individuals were asked to complete a Budget Reduction Worksheet that contained their monthly target budget for February to June 2009 and a list of services.
- The reduction in services began on February 1, 2009.
- Services that are affected include:
  1. All levels of Personal Assistance Habilitation (including Chore),
  2. Adult Day Health,
  3. Consumer Directed (including Chore),
  4. Skilled Nursing, and
  5. Respite.
- The reduction in services will impact individuals in receiving necessary personal assistance and other services to live independently in the community.
- Over 2,000 participants have completed and returned their budget reduction worksheets.
- DD Division has sent out Notice of Action letters to those participants that included information on their right to appeal the decision of DD Division.
- Over 250 participants have filed an informal appeal with DD Division. Informal hearings have been scheduled beginning January 30, 2009.

**Department of Health (DOH)**  
**Partnerships in Community Living (PICL) Program**

- Prior to the proposed elimination of the program, PICL's budget was \$1.4 million.
- A mandatory reduction of \$1.2 million was made in August 2008.
- Remaining \$200,000 was eliminated in the Governor's proposed budget for FY 2010 and FY 2011.
- Contracts with providers were terminated in December 2008.
- In accordance with Hawaii Revised Statutes, Section 333F-2(e), "...Only those individuals eligible for community services but not eligible for Medicaid waiver services or other federally reimbursed programs or for whom such services are not appropriate or not available based on their individual service plan shall receive services and supports with one hundred percent state funds."
- All participants, however, must first apply for Medicaid and the Developmental Disabilities/Mental Retardation (DD/MR) Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Medicaid Waiver Program prior to the receipt of any DD Division-funded services.
- The intent of PICL was to be a flexible source of funding to allow individuals to self-direct their supports to live in the community.
- For individuals with DD who are ineligible for Medicaid or any other federally-reimbursed services, PICL is their only source of support.
- Individuals receive services in the following cases:
  1. Pending determination for Medicaid waiver services;
  2. Medicaid eligible, but the Medicaid waiver or other program does not cover the service or item; or
  1. Ineligible for Medicaid or any other federally reimbursed services, but eligible to receive community services.
- Services include, but are not limited to:
  - Adaptive equipment
  - Adult community activities
  - Companionship
  - Clothing
  - Cleaning, kitchen, bathroom household supplies
  - Day program costs not covered by Medicaid waiver
  - Dental
  - Emergency supplies
  - Emergency placement supports
  - Legal services
  - Personal care items
  - Specialized youth program
  - Transportation
  - Technology supports
- Funding was limited (\$2,000 per referral), and referrals were on a first-come, first-served basis.

For FY 2008, there were 1,404 referrals with \$1,153,519 expended.

**BERNARD P. CARVALHO, JR.**  
MAYOR



**LUDVINA K. TAKAHASHI**  
EXECUTIVE ON AGING

**GARY K. HEU**  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

**COUNTY OF KAUA'I  
AGENCY ON ELDERLY AFFAIRS**

February 27, 2009

**Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair  
Senate Ways and Means Committee**

**Support of SB 1679, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**

Dear Senator Mercado Kim and Members of the Committee:

The County of Kaua'i Agency on Elderly Affairs is in full support of SB 1679, which would appropriate funding for Hawai'i's Healthy Aging Partnership (HAP) and the development of the Aging and Disability Resource Centers. Both initiatives support the Administration on Aging's (AoA) *Choices for Independence*, which empowers older adults to improve their health through evidence-based, disease prevention programs and provides the opportunity for them to gain knowledge through the ADRC about choices and options for long-term care.

Evidence-based programs/HAP

It is important for us to continue to support Hawai'i's aging network's capacity in evidence-based programming and effectively embed two of the programs currently being implemented, *Ke Ola Pono*, the Chronic Disease Self-Management Program (CDSMP) and EnhanceFitness, a physical activity program for older adults. This bill includes support for HAP to continue its development statewide.

For over five years, the KAEA has been a part of the Healthy Aging initiative. Since 2007, the KAEA and its local partnership have been working together to provide the EnhanceFitness program, which has now expanded to six sites here on Kaua'i. We have witnessed the impact on the lives of our seniors who participate at these one hour classes offered 3 times a week. The seniors have enjoyed the classes, seeing the benefits of increased strength, endurance, and balance and the opportunity for socialization in this group exercise program. Performance measures have also shown significant improvement in their lower body strength and agility, an important aspect to fall prevention.

More recently, we also began implementation of the Chronic Disease Self-Management Program, in partnership with the Kaua'i District Health Office. Through this program, older adults with chronic illnesses are empowered to do goal setting and action planning with a 6-week series of classes, learning about topics to help them to better manage their health.

Healthy aging is about empowering our elders to make healthier choices for their future. The evidence is overwhelming that older adults who make healthier choices live longer and better

Senator Donna Mercado Kim  
Senate Ways and Means Committee  
February 27, 2009  
Page Two

lives and benefit from reduced healthcare costs by making behavioral changes that will reduce their risk of disease, disability and injury.

Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC)

We are currently in the development stage in preparation for Kauai's ADRC. Older adults, persons with special needs, and caregivers of older adults and grandparents raising grandchildren would be provided access to information on an array of resources in one central place. The ADRC would support them in learning about programs and services in our community and at the statewide level. An appropriation would support the AEA, other counties, and our State Executive Office on Aging in our continued coordination and implementation, which includes management information system products, consultation, maintenance, and technical support. In addition, consumer education and outreach would be included to reach our target population through media and print.

With your support, we can move forward in making systemic changes at the statewide and community levels for our older adults and families. We appreciate your consideration and support of SB 1679.

Sincerely,



(Ms.) Ludvina Takahashi  
County Executive on Aging

NSS

DEPARTMENT OF WATER SUPPLY  
COUNTY OF HAWAII

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FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

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TO:	Senate Sergeant-at-Arms Office	FROM:	Doreen Shiota, Secretary
COMPANY:		DATE:	2/27/2009
FAX NUMBER:	1-800-586-6659	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:	2
PHONE NUMBER:		SENDER'S REFERENCE NUMBER:	
RE:	SB1381, SD1, RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT		

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URGENT     FOR REVIEW     PLEASE COMMENT     PLEASE REPLY     PLEASE RECYCLE

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NOTES/COMMENTS:

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345 KEKUANAOA STREET, SUITE 20  
HILO, HI 96720  
PHONE: (808) 961-8050  
FAX: (808) 961-8657



**DEPARTMENT OF WATER SUPPLY • COUNTY OF HAWAII**

345 KEKŪANAŌ'A STREET, SUITE 20 • HILO, HAWAII 96720  
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February 27, 2009

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Chair  
Honorable Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair  
Committee on Ways and Means  
The Senate, State Capitol  
Honolulu, HI 96813

**SB1381, SD1, RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT**

The Hawai'i Department of Water Supply strongly supports SB1381, SD1, which authorizes the Director of the State Department of Health to use federal moneys from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 ("Act") to fund drinking water and wastewater infrastructure programs.

The passage of this bill will enable all the County Water Departments to take advantage of the Act to fund critical drinking water projects statewide. The County Water Departments have requested funding for water infrastructure projects valued at more than \$100 million. This federal funding will help the Counties implement essential drinking water projects, including new infrastructure, pipeline replacements, reservoir repairs, well renovations, and pump improvements that will benefit all rate payers and enable the County Water Departments to provide safe and dependable drinking water supplies to our customers.

The Department of Water Supply, County of Hawai'i, therefore, strongly supports the passage of HB 1381, SD1. Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.

Sincerely yours,

Milton D. Pavao, P.E.  
Manager

MDP:dms

*... Water brings progress...*

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

715 SOUTH KING STREET, SUITE 311 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813 • AREA CODE 808 • PHONE: 768-7762 • FAX: 768-7792



MUFI HANNEMANN  
MAYOR

DEBORAH KIM MORIKAWA  
DIRECTOR

ERNEST Y. MARTIN  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Chair  
and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means  
The State Senate  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Mercado Kim and Members:

**Subject: Providing Comments on S.B. 1679, S.D. 1  
Relating to the Emergency Budget and Reserve Fund**

The City and County of Honolulu's Elderly Affairs Division is Honolulu's designated Area Agency on Aging and operates in accordance with the Older Americans Act of 1965 to coordinate, advocate, and improve services to assist older persons in leading independent, meaningful, and dignified lives in their own homes and communities for as long as possible. We are in support of S.B. 1679, S.D. 1, Relating to the Emergency Budget and Reserve Fund.

This omnibus bill includes funding for many programs that support the needs of the increasing population of elderly residents in Hawaii. We strongly support funding for the following programs:

Kupuna Care  
Aging and Disability Resource Centers  
Health Aging Partnership Program  
Senior Centers

The funding included in this bill would be essential to maintaining the health and welfare of older adults in Hawaii.

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Chair  
and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means  
February 27, 2009  
Page 2

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

Sincerely,



Deborah Kim Morikawa  
Director



Karen K. Miyake  
County Executive on Aging  
Elderly Affairs Division

CY:ab  
sb 1679



Hearing date:  
**Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30 a.m.**  
**Senate Ways and Means Committee**  
**Room 211**

To: Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair  
Senator Shan Tsutsui, Vice Chair  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

From: Elisabeth Chun, Executive Director  
Good Beginnings Alliance

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

Subject: **SB1679 SD1: Appropriates moneys from the emergency budget and reserve fund to maintain levels of programs for education, human services, and health.**

The Good Beginnings Alliance is a policy and advocacy organization focused on Hawaii's youngest children and their families. We strive to ensure a nurturing, safe and healthy development for all children from pre-birth to age eight. We believe all children deserve safe and supportive environments that meet their needs as they grow and develop.

**We strongly support this bill, especially with regard to the funding for the Healthy Start Program .**

Hawaii's Healthy Start program is regarded as foundational to our early learning system. The hospital screenings as well as the home visits are critical to the prevention of child abuse and neglect for Hawaii's families. Healthy Start also initiates vitally important parental engagement and training as to how the family can foster a child's early learning and healthy growth.

At a time when Hawaii's weakened economy is placing more stress on families, it is critical that programs such as Healthy Start not be eliminated. At a minimum, the maintenance of prevention programs is a must. Long-term studies show that if we do not support prevention, our state will have to pay more in social services and remedial education costs years from now as these children enter school, and eventually join the workforce and become parents.

Please protect our young children and support their healthy development. Mahalo for your support.

For more information contact: Good Beginnings Alliance; phone: 531-5502;  
[lchun@goodbeginnings.org](mailto:lchun@goodbeginnings.org)

To: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
  
The Honorable Shan S. Tsutsui  
Vice Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: Wanda Villareal, Director of Developmental Disabilities Services  
Goodwill Industries of Hawaii, Inc.

Date: February 27, 2009

Re: Testimony in Support of S.B. 1679 – Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

Goodwill Industries of Hawaii, Inc. ("Goodwill") submits this testimony in support of Senate Bill 1679. Goodwill receives funding from the Department of Health-Developmental Disabilities Division ("DOH-DDD") via a DHS Medicaid Waiver Contract to operate Adult Day Health and Personal Assistance/Habilitation programs for individuals with significant developmental disabilities on Oahu and in East Hawaii (Hilo). Participants in Goodwill's programs and their families are Medicaid Waiver recipients who have limited socioeconomic resources. Waiver programs are essential for the public health, safety, welfare and education of individuals with developmental disabilities.

The projected budget shortfall for developmental disabilities services in the current fiscal year resulted in DOH-DDD mandating that individuals in Medicaid Waiver programs reduce services by 15% or greater, depending on the individual or families' utilization rates, effective February 1, 2009. Individuals and families were forced to immediately reduce critical services and necessary programs, such as those operated by Goodwill. In some cases, families are choosing between taking a shift at their jobs or caring for their dependent disabled family member creating more difficult economic circumstances for families.

In addition, since services have been reduced, Goodwill has also felt the effects resulting in our need to cut back our staff who provide direct service hours in our Waiver programs, and experienced employees have been laid off.

Goodwill is in strong support of Senate Bill 1679. The emergency and budget reserve fund of \$7,000,000 should be used to maintain the previous level of Medicaid Waiver programs which are essential for the health, safety, welfare and education of individuals with developmental disabilities. The DOH-DDD's mandated budget reductions should be reversed as soon as possible.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Oahu

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**Beretania Office**  
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East Hawaii

**Hilo Office**  
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Maui

**Maui Office**  
250 Alamaha Street, Suite N16A  
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## HAWAII DISABILITY RIGHTS CENTER

900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1040, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Phone/TTY: (808) 949-2922 Toll Free: 1-800-882-1057 Fax: (808) 949-2928

E-mail: [info@hawaiidisabilityrights.org](mailto:info@hawaiidisabilityrights.org) Website: [www.hawaiidisabilityrights.org](http://www.hawaiidisabilityrights.org)

### TESTIMONY TO THE TWENTY-FIFTH STATE LEGISLATURE, 2009 SESSION

**To:** Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

**From:** Hawaii Disability Rights Center  
**Re:** SB 1679, SD1 Relating To The Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

**Hearing:** Monday, March 2, 2009 9:30 AM  
Conference Room 211, State Capitol

Members of the Committee on Ways and Means:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony supporting Senate Bill 1679, SD1.

We are the agency mandated by federal law and designated by Executive Order to protect and advocate for the human, civil and legal rights of Hawaii's estimated 180,000 people with disabilities.

We strongly support this bill and are delighted to see the legislature acknowledge that despite our economic difficulties at the moment, we cannot as a society allow the neediest and weakest amongst us to fall through a safety net of basic, necessary services. In recent months, our office has been extensively involved with clients affected by recent budget cuts. We represent many individuals with mental illness who have been affected by cuts in the AMHD Budget. Currently, we are in the midst of representing many families who are affected by the cuts experienced at the Developmental Disabilities Division .

We are particularly concerned that in this area, the problems facing the DD Division have been somewhat self inflicted by the Administration. For the past several years, they have been budgeting year to year with a heightened dependence on emergency appropriations. Last year, the Division requested a larger base budget than they were permitted to seek from the legislature by the Governor. At that time, they were told that if they ran short of funds, they should simply seek another emergency appropriation. However, this year, the Governor

has instructed them they cannot seek that emergency appropriation. That is why they are in the fiscal predicament they face and must cut services.

This example illustrates the importance of securing a solid, accurately planned out, base budget. Recognizing that general funds will be stretched thin to support a variety of necessary and worthwhile efforts, we support this bill and the legislature's desire to use the emergency budget and reserve fund. We believe that the circumstances facing the state justify the use of these funds for these purposes.

We are also pleased to see funds included for respite care. Caregiver burnout is a well recognized phenomenon in these cases. This is where respite care proves to be invaluable as it provides an opportunity for the caregiver to either perform other essential chores or simply avail themselves of a brief time out so they can rejuvenate themselves. This money is extremely well spent from a quality of life and economic perspective. For those reasons, we support this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



## Hawai'i Primary Care Association

345 Queen Street | Suite 601 | Honolulu, HI 96813-4718 | Tel: 808.536.8442 | Fax: 808.524.0347  
www.hawaiipca.net

To: **The Senate Committee on Ways & Means**  
The Hon. Donna Mercado Kim, Chair  
The Hon. Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair

**Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 1679, SD 1**  
**Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**  
**Submitted by Beth Giesting, CEO**  
**March 2, 2009, 9:00 a.m. agenda, Room 211**

The Hawaii Primary Care Association strongly supports this bill to ensure adequate funding for essential services in the face of our state and national economic crisis. Each and every one of the items identified for funding in SD 1 is important to the health and well-being of Hawaii. Each contributes substantially to preventing far worse calamities and costs than we currently experience.

The Hawaii Primary Care Association particularly asks your support for section 14 that calls for adequate funding for health care provided to the uninsured.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this measure and for considering the needs of the growing number of uninsured residents of Hawaii, as well as many other people who are more vulnerable than ever during this unsettling time.

## **Comments on SB 1679**

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

March 2, 2009-Senate Ways and Means Committee

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.

**Board of Directors**

President: Wanda Villareal,  
Goodwill Industries of Hawaii, Inc.

Vice-President: Melissa Gibo,  
Catholic Charities Hawaii

Secretary: Sandee Yoro, SECOH

Treasurer: Jay Raymundo,  
Aloha Habilitation Services, Inc.

Deann Canuteson, Full Life  
Corporation

Ellen Ching, The Arc of Kauai

Karen Frias, The Arc of Maui  
County

Anastasia Keller-Collins, Easter  
Seals Hawaii

Vicki Linter, The Arc of Hilo

**Member Agencies**

•Abilities Unlimited, dba  
Winners at Work, Inc.

•Aloha Habilitation Services, Inc.

•CARE Hawaii

•Catholic Charities Hawaii

•Easter Seals Hawaii

•Full Life Corporation

•Goodwill Industries of Hawaii, Inc.

•Heaven's Helpers, Inc.

•Ka Lima O'Maui

•Lanakila Rehabilitation Center, Inc.

•Nursefinders of Hawaii

•Responsive Caregivers of Hawaii

•SECOH

•The Arc in Hawaii

•The Arc of Hilo

•The Arc of Kauai

•The Arc of Kona

•The Arc of Maui County

•The Institute for Family Enrichment

**Hawaii Waiver Providers Association**

February 27, 2009

Honorable Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means.

Honorable Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

State Capitol, Hawaii State Senate  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**Re: SB 1679 Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**

Dear Chair Mercado Kim, Vice Chair Tsutsui and Members of the Committees:

The Hawaii Waiver Providers Association (HWP) is a statewide association comprised of 19 Developmental Disabilities Medicaid Waiver Service Providers affording leadership to collaborate and shape the service system to meet the needs of people with developmental disabilities. Founded in 2001, HWP's mission is to provide the necessary resources to develop, strengthen, and attain the highest standards of excellence for the developmental disabilities community.

**The Hawaii Waiver Providers Association ("HWP") submits this testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 1679.**

The Department of Health-Developmental Disabilities Division's ("DOH-DDD") projected budget shortfall for developmental disabilities services in the current fiscal year resulted in immediate mandated budget reductions. Approximately 2,500 individuals statewide with significant disabilities and limited socioeconomic resources were impacted. Families and established human service providers who offer critical programs essential for the health, welfare and safety of individuals with developmental disabilities were also impacted.

The attached position statement details HWP's significant concerns with the mandated budget reductions. Waiver programs are essential for the health, welfare and safety of individuals with developmental disabilities. The emergency and budget reserve fund in the amount of \$7,000,000 should be used to maintain the level of programs for individuals with developmental disabilities, which will in turn reverse the DOH-DDD's mandated budget reductions as soon as possible.

We humbly ask for your support of Senate Bill 1679 which provides for the return to established funding levels for critical programs and services for our most vulnerable population.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Wanda Villareal  
President  
Hawaii Waiver Providers Association

#### Board of Directors

President: Wanda Villareal,  
Goodwill Industries of Hawaii, Inc.

Vice-President: Melissa Gibo,  
Catholic Charities Hawaii

Secretary: Sandee Yoro, SECOH

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•SECOH

•The Arc in Hawaii

•The Arc of Hilo

•The Arc of Kauai

•The Arc of Kona

•The Arc of Maui County

•The Institute for Family Enrichment

# Hawaii Waiver Providers Association (HWPAA)

## Position Statement on Recent Budget Reductions

### WHO WE ARE

HWPAA is a statewide association comprised of 19 service providers affording leadership to collaborate and shape the service system to meet the needs of people with developmental disabilities. Founded in 2001, HWPAA's mission is to provide the necessary resources to develop, strengthen, and attain the highest standards of excellence for the developmental disabilities community.

### SYNOPSIS OF SITUATION

Approximately 2,500 individuals statewide with significant disabilities and limited socioeconomic resources were impacted by the recent mandated budget reductions set forth by the State of Hawaii Department of Health-Developmental Disabilities Division ("DOH-DDD"). The specific reductions have affected the Developmentally Disabled/Mental Retardation ("DD/MR") Medicaid Waiver recipients reducing services for people with disabilities of 15% or greater, depending on the individual or families' utilization rates, effective February 1, 2009.

### CONCERNS AND POTENTIAL IMPACT

The primary goal of the DD/MR Waiver is to promote community inclusion in the least restrictive environment and to prevent institutionalization. The Hawaii Waiver Provider Association (HWPAA) is deeply concerned that the budget reductions will reverse the intended goal the Waiver was intended to promote and presents the following concerns and potential impact the service reductions will have.

#### Lack of Timely Notification

The entire stakeholder community of all participants, families and provider representatives did not receive proper notice and sufficient time to respond, plan and prepare for the reductions. The abbreviated timeline only allowed legal guardians a maximum of ten (10) days to analyze the letter and make the important decision about which services must be immediately reduced. Primary care providers are being forced to make decisions about their own work schedules in order to care for family members. This work schedule reduction will pose undue economic hardship on Medicaid dependent families with limited socioeconomic resources.

#### Insufficient Notice of the Appeal Process

Individuals and families were not adequately notified and informed of the right and process to appeal the DOH's decision to reduce Medicaid services by 15%.

#### Lack of Assessment to Determine Risk of Safety and Health Issues

There was an inadequate assessment of safety and health needs to determine the individual health and safety impact of reductions for each service recipient to include identification of alternate resources. This has left recipients without service for a minimum of 1-2 full days a week potentially totaling 15-20 hours per week. There is the potential for care providers to select an unqualified person to support the recipient, further comprising the individual's health and safety.

### Individual Plans Being Revised to Meet State Needs

Individual service plans, which are required by the Federal government, are being revised to reflect what the State can afford and not what individuals actually need on a daily basis. Legal guardians and primary care providers unable to retain support may be faced with alternate residential placements for their family members in long-term care facilities, which this program is specifically designed to prevent.

### Crucial Services Provided by Agencies Are Compromised

Agencies providing crucial services are reporting actual losses of up to 40%. Operationally agencies will have one week to analyze the impact after receiving final confirmation of each individual's revised service budgets. Provider agencies will need to immediately reduce staff and the availability of services. Service providers will not be able to sustain the loss of business resulting in the closure of provider agencies and ultimately a weaker community infrastructure for persons with severe disabilities.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

In the unlikely event future reductions may be necessary, the DOH must ensure that all participants, families and provider representatives receive adequate notice with complete information and sufficient time to respond, plan and prepare for the reductions.

Immediately ensure that all individuals and families receive notification and complete information of their rights and of the process to appeal DOH's decision to reduce services.

Develop a comprehensive risk assessment and response plan to address all potential health and safety issues that will arise from mandated service reductions.

Develop and establish the Individual Budgeting process to include sound assessments procedures. Follow the methodical and fair process that was implemented for the age thirteen (13) and under recipients.

DOH-DDD must analyze the process in which these significant reductions were implemented and determine best practices and procedures. DOH-DDD should start fiscal year July 2009 with specific solutions in place.

Determine other potential budget reduction possibilities within the DOH to include internal administrative functions that do not directly compromise the health and safety of Hawaii's citizens with developmental disabilities.

Secure the necessary funds to meet the critical needs of vulnerable populations. Strongly advocate for an increase in the FMAP (Federal matching funds) to reestablish safety net services for individuals with developmental disabilities.



KOKUA KALIHI VALLEY (*Comprehensive Family Services*)

**Elderly Services Program**

1846 Gulick Avenue, Honolulu, Hawaii 96819

Tel: (808) 848-0977 ♦ Fax: (808) 848-8689 ♦

To: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Chair  
The Honorable Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice-Chair  
Committee Members on Human Services

From: Merlita Compton, MPH  
Kokua Kalihi Valley Elderly Services Program  
E-mail address: mcompton@kkv.net

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

Subject: **Support of SB 1679:** Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

Dear Chair Mercado Kim, Vice Chair, Tsutsui and Members:

I am writing to offer my strongest support for **SB 1679 Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund**. As a University of Hawaii School of Public Health graduate student, I had the opportunity to conduct a needs assessment for seniors living in Kalihi Valley area. Using the results of that study, Kokua Kalihi Valley Comprehensive Family Services (KKV) created a program to meet these needs. For over seven years, KKV Elderly Services Program has been a vital resource for Kalihi seniors.

Kokua Kalihi Valley has been one of the Kupuna Care Service providers for the past 8 years. Kupuna Care Services provides case management, care giver support and respite care, health maintenance, individual and family counseling, transportation services, and easy access to dental and medical services to frail residents who are 60-years-old or older and their families. I strongly support all Senate bills relating to maintaining (preferably increasing) funding for the administration, coordination, and delivery of Kupuna Care services.

The funding for KUPUNA CARE is critical to help seniors avoid premature institutional placement. Continuing to live in one's own home with adequate support and regular opportunities for participation in meaningful activities, as a member of the community, has been clearly shown to give seniors a greater sense of control over their lives, resulting in healthier seniors and a higher quality of life. The improvement in physical and mental function and reduction in the need for special care, following such simple interventions has since been repeatedly demonstrated in studies across the nation

Working with over five hundred (500) participants in the KKV Elderly Services Program for the past 8 years, I see clear evidence of the improved quality of life for our elders and the savings in health care costs when people have ready access to useful information and activities. Members of the Ways and Means Committee have an open invitation to visit our program and meet the participants first hand.

Thank you for your work in continuing the support for this very important legislation. I can say with complete assurance, our community will greatly appreciate and benefit from the services these funds can provide. The need is great.

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair  
And Members of the Committee of Human Services  
The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair  
And Members of the Committee on Health  
March 10, 2009  
Page 2

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Merlita Compton". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the left of the typed name.

Merlita Compton  
Program Coordinator  
Kokua Kalihi Valley Elderly Services Program



**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE  
COMMUNITY CHILDREN'S COUNCILS OF HAWAII**

c/o Community Children's Council Office

1177 Alakea Street · B-100 · Honolulu · HI · 96813

TEL: (808) 586-5363 · TOLL FREE: 1-800-437-8641 · FAX: (808) 586-5366

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February 27, 2009

House Committee on Finance  
Representative Marcus R Oshiro, Chair  
Twenty Fifth Legislature  
Honolulu, Hawaii, 96813

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

Dear Representative Marcus R Oshiro,

The Legislative committee of the 17 Community Children's Councils in Hawaii supports the intents of SB 1679 for the utilization of funds from the emergency and reserve fund to support services related to education, health and public welfare. We respectfully ask your consideration of placing a priority of funds essential for the maintenance of services to students with disabilities so that the necessary funds needed to meet federal and state mandates is maintained.

We also support the inclusion of funds under the DD waiver to allow students with developmental delays to continue developing their vocational and independent living skills. We are also aware of the need to continue funds for the respite program which is critical for families in need of such services. We hope the new stimulus bill before the Congress will provide additional funds for some of these services thus freeing up state funds for redirection to other areas of need.

We look forward to continuing dialogue as this important bill proceeds. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this critical piece of legislation.

Respectfully submitted

Tom smith, Chair  
(Signature on file with the CCCO)

# Hawai'i Alliance for Retired Americans

An affiliate of the Alliance for Retired Americans  
c/o AFSCME · 888 Mililani Street, Suite 101 · Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

AFT Retirees  
HGEA Retirees  
HSTA – Retired  
ILWU Retirees  
Kokua Council  
Machinists Union Retirees  
UPW Retirees  
ADA/Hawaii  
Hawaii Family Caregivers Coalition

(Submitted by email to: [WAMTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:WAMTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov) February 27, 2009)

Comments of Al Hamai, President, Supporting SB 1679, SD1, Relating to the  
Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

## **Senate Committee on Ways and Means Meeting**

**March 2, 2008, 9:30 a.m. Conference Room 211**

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

HARA strongly supports SB 1679, SD1. HARA has nine affiliates,  
listed on this letterhead, representing 21,000 members.

The purpose of this bill is to appropriate moneys 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  
public welfare.

The HARA concurs with the purpose and has testified on many bills  
before this legislature supporting essential programs in public health  
and public welfare, such as the Kupuna Care Program and senior  
centers. HARA believes that the use of the emergency and budget  
fund is appropriate during these hard times when the need for such  
programs is so great and there is a state budget shortfall.

HARA urges the Senate Committee on Ways and Means to approve  
SB 1679, SD 1. Mahalo.

*HARA is a strong voice for Hawaii's retirees and seniors; a diverse community-based  
organization with national roots; a grassroots organizer, educator, and communicator; and a  
trusted source of information for decision-makers.*



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

FROM: Debbie Shimizu, LSW  
National Association of Social Workers, Hawaii Chapter

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

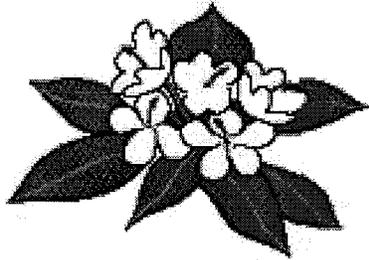
Chair Kim and members of the Senate Ways and Means Committees, I am Debbie Shimizu, Executive Director of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW), Hawaii Chapter. NASW is the largest professional organization for social workers in Hawaii. We are testifying in **SUPPORT of SB 1679 SD1.**

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.

Now is not the time to be cutting services that help vulnerable populations. I urge your favorable consideration of SB 1679 SD1.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



**S E A C**  
**Special Education Advisory Council**

919 Ala Moana Blvd., Room 101

Honolulu, HI 96814

Phone: 586-8126 Fax: 586-8129

email: [spin@doh.hawaii.gov](mailto:spin@doh.hawaii.gov)

March 3, 2009

**Special Education  
Advisory Council**

Ms. Ivalee Sinclair, *Chair*  
Mr. Steve Laracuente, *Vice  
Chair*

Ms. Brendelyn Ancheta  
Dr. Paul Ban, *Liaison  
to the Superintendent*

Ms. Sue Brown  
Ms. Deborah Cheeseman  
Ms. Phyllis DeKok  
Ms. Mary Ellis  
Ms. Debra Farmer  
Ms. Gabriele Finn  
Ms. Martha Guinan  
Mr. Henry Hashimoto  
Mr. John Hinkle  
Ms. Tami Ho  
Ms. Barbara Ioli  
Ms. Shanelle Lum  
Ms. Rachel Matsunobu  
Ms. June Motokawa  
Ms. Kristy Nishimura  
Ms. Connie Perry  
Ms. Barbara Pretty  
Ms. Kau'i Rezendes  
Dr. Patricia Sheehy  
Mr. August Suehiro  
Ms. Judy Tonda  
Ms. Cari White  
Ms. Jasmine Williams  
Mr. Duane Yee  
Mr. Shawn Yoshimoto

Jan Tateishi, Staff  
Susan Rocco, Staff

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Chair  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
Twenty-Fifth Legislature  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: SB 1679, SD 1 – RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND  
BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Dear Chair Mercado Kim and Members of the Committee:

The Special Education Advisory Council, Hawaii's State Advisory Panel under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), supports the intent of SB 1679, SD 1 to utilize monies from the emergency and budget reserve fund to avert detrimental budget cuts to services related to education, health and public welfare. We are particularly concerned with placing a priority on funds essential to the maintenance of educational benefit for students with disabilities and to services required by federal mandate under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

SEAC is also in favor of using these emergency funds to maintain a safety net for individuals with developmental disabilities under the DD Waiver to allow them to pursue their vocational and independent living goals. We likewise support continued respite services to families of individuals with disabilities, as these services enable families to better participate in their child's educational and vocational goals by providing periodic breaks from caregiving.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on this issue. Should you have any questions regarding our position, you are welcome to contact me by phone or email.

Sincerely,

Ivalee Sinclair, Chair



SUPPORTING EXCEPTIONAL CITIZENS OF HAWAII

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

FROM: Sandra J. Yoro, Executive Director, SECOH

HEARING: Decision Making Monday, March 2, 2009 at 9:30 a.m.

RE: Support of Senate Bill 1679 SD1  
Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

SECOH (Special Education Center of Hawaii), is a private, nonprofit organization with a mission to provide services and supports to people with developmental disabilities, or acquired disabilities due to aging or head injuries.

We strongly **SUPPORT S.B. 1679 SD1**, Relating to The Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund, which provides appropriations for various "safety net" services including the State of Hawaii Department of Health-Developmental Disabilities Division (DOH-DDD) Developmentally Disabled/Mental Retardation (DD/MR) Medicaid Waiver Service program, the DOH Respite program and the DOH Partnerships in Community Living (PICL) program. **These programs were recently eliminated or reduced leaving people with severe intellectual and physical disabilities and their families to fend for themselves as they watch the programs designed to protect them destroy them.**

The elimination or reduction in services has left the majority of our customers without adult day care services 1-2 days per week and without personal assistance services for up to 20 hours per week. Family members and primary care providers have had to reduce their own work schedules or hire privately to care for their family members causing them economic hardship in already economically challenging times. **Consequently many of our family members and primary care providers albeit devastating are considering out-of-home residential placement of their loved ones into long-term care facilities, which this program was designed to prevent.**

Hawaii's citizens with developmental disabilities due to no fault of their own are an extremely intellectually, physically, and economically vulnerable population. These programs are vital to the survival and inclusion of people with developmental disabilities in our society. Our disability service sector has worked tirelessly for the last twenty years to build the DD/MR home and community based waiver program so we could close the state institution Waimano Training School and Hospital and support people with disabilities to have meaningful lives in an inclusive society. **We must not put the lives of these people in jeopardy of institutionalization again.** We have made too much progress to throw it all away.

An appropriation to restore these programs and services at previously prescribed levels will ensure basic health and safety protections and allow us to continue our fight in support of full and meaningful lives for people with developmental disabilities. **I respectfully request and encourage your committee to PASS Support of Senate Bill 1679 SD1 Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund.**



UNIVERSITY  
of HAWAII°  
MĀNOA

March 2, 2009

Senator Donna Mercado-Kim, Chair  
Members of the WAM Committee  
Hawaii State Capitol,  
Honolulu, Hi 96813

Re: SB 1679, SD-1, Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

Dear Senator Mercado Kim:

I am Gail Breakey, Director of the Hawaii Family Support Institute testifying in support of SB1679, SD1...This bill provides funding a number of important human services aimed at ensuring a safety net for Hawaii's most vulnerable citizens.

Many in our community are suffering due to job loss, the mortgage crisis and the general economic downturn which is affecting not only people with limited resources but also those of the middle class. Experience and studies show increases in domestic violence and child abuse in times of economic crisis.

In previous hearings of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee, many of us have testified as to the need for the Healthy Start and Enhanced Healthy Start programs related to the safety and well being of high risk infants. We has also testified as to the effectiveness and cost benefit of the Healthy Start program, as well as the fact that Enhanced Healthy Start does not replace the functions of Healthy Start..

These funds will be sorely needed as part of the effort to maintain these services for the highest risk families. The service providers are in the process of developing a more streamlined assessment process and services that will actually intervene with only the highest risk families, those with scores of 40 and over on the Family Stress Checklist, who according to the validation study on the Checklist have a 50% likelihood of becoming a child welfare case.

Thank you very much for your serious consideration of allocating these funds to the Healthy Start and Enhanced Healthy Start programs, as well as to other needed services.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gail Breakey".

Gail Breakey, Executive Director,  
The Hawaii Family Support Institute

**TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS**  
**Senator Donna Kim Mercado, Chair**  
**Senator Shan Tsutsui, Vice-Chair**

**Testimony Supporting S.B# 1679, S.D. 1: “Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund”**  
**March 2, 2009**  
**9:30 p.m.**  
**Conference Room 211**

**Individual Testimony of**  
**Audrey Suga-Nakagawa**

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

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

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

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

INPEACE- Institute for Native Pacific Education and Culture

TESTIMONY

SB1679, SD1  
RELATING TO EARLY LEARNING  
Testimony Presented Before  
The Ways and Means Committee  
March 2, 2009 @ 9:30am in Conference Room 211  
by  
Kanoë Nāone, Ph.D. Chief Executive Officer

INPEACE **SUPPORTS** the overall intent of this bill and urges the committee to pass it. INPEACE annually serves more than 2,400 children, parents and community members through its early childhood and workforce development programs on 5 different islands. With more than fourteen years experience providing high-quality and culturally-relevant services to young children and adults in predominantly Native Hawaiian communities, INPEACE understands the critical role education, health and various human services play in the lives of families and communities that might not otherwise have access to these services. While difficult economic times require us to cut back on budgets and compromise certain spending priorities, education, human services, and health programs—among which child care services are provided—cannot be compromised. These programs are not extraneous services, but are vital to the health and well-being of our communities. As it is, child care services such as ours stretch every dollar that come into our programs—the bill simply asks to *maintain* the level of these programs by appropriating funds from the Emergency Budget and Reserve Fund. Needy families and children without adequate means to afford childcare services are directly impacted by the stream of state funds—they cannot afford to lose these funds. INPEACE stands by its mission and its call to a social responsibility to families and communities in need. We urge the committee to pass bill SB1679.

**TO:** The Honorable Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair  
The Honorable Shan S. Tsutui, Vice Chair  
Members of the Ways and Means Committee

The Honorable Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Chair  
The Honorable Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair  
Members of the Human Services Committee

The Honorable Senator David Ige, Chair  
The Honorable Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair  
Members of the Health Committee

**FROM:** Rose Nakamura, Administrator, Project Dana

**SUBJECT:** Testimony Supporting SB 1679 SD 1 Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

As Administrator of Project Dana, I wish to take this opportunity to strongly support S.B.1679 SD1 Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund. This Bill appropriates funding from the emergency budget and reserve fund to maintain levels of programs for education, human services, and health.

Project Dana is a volunteer caregivers program that provides support services to homebound frail elders, disabled persons and family caregivers to ensure their well-being and independence. The Project's mission is to recruit, train and mobilize volunteers to fill critical service gaps by working with community agencies and provide a continuum of services for Hawaii's needy population.

I am particularly concerned and fully support the appropriation measures of Kupuna Care (\$1,025,000), Aging and Disability Resource Center's development (\$250,000) and senior centers (\$682,000).

Aging in place is the desire for everyone in Hawaii and for many assistance of various nature i.e. case management, meals on wheels, transportation, respite, personal care, attendant care (volunteer services) is increasing due to a growing population of older adults and the decline of Hawaii's economy. A waitlist of Kupuna Care Services has occurred in each island county. Many older adults have difficulty with daily living activities. They are isolated, shut-ins, lonely, helpless and need some assistance in coping with daily living.

Funding for SB 1679 SD1 is strongly in need of your support as health and human service programs are vital to the quality of life for Hawaii's people.

Thank you very much.

The Arc in Hawaii Opera Theatre  
3989 Diamond Head Road  
Honolulu Hawaii 96816

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

WAMTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

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

Dear Senator Kim and Members of the Committee

The Arc in Hawaii strongly supports SB 1679 SD 1.

SB 1679 SD 1 would, among other important purposes, restore recent reductions in Medicaid waiver payments to a large number of persons with developmental disabilities.

These reductions have left many of the people that we serve without vital services that they have come to rely upon. In a typical case, our clients have lost one out of their five regular days of Adult Day Health services. This has denied them of meaningful habilitation services and daily activities for a full day. In addition, finding alternate care for these persons on the service day that has been eliminated has caused a strain on the working families who must now care for these individuals on one work day per week.

The curtailment of service has adversely affected the health and safety of many of our clients.

The Arc in Hawaii serves over 100 persons with developmental disabilities, many on a 7-day 24-hour basis.

Thank you for considering this important Bill.

Thomas P. Huber  
President

The Arc in Hawaii  
3989 Diamond Head Road  
Honolulu Hawaii 96816

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The curtailment of service has adversely affected the health and safety of many of our clients.

The Arc in Hawaii serves over 170 persons with developmental disabilities, many on a 7-day 24-hour basis, more than 90 of whom receive Medicaid waiver services.

Thank you for considering this important Bill.

Thomas P. Huber  
President

February 27, 2009

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

From: Gretchen Lawson, President/CEO  
The Arc of Kona

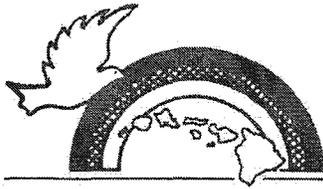
Re: Senate Bill 1679, SD1: Emergency Budget and Reserve Fund; Appropriation;  
Education; Human Services; Health Programs

I am in strong support of using Emergency Funds to keep basic services in tact for our most vulnerable populations. The effect of the loss of support for these citizens has been devastating in some cases and when people with disabilities are left without supervision it means that the immediate family must drop whatever work they are doing to attend to their care-this removes a significant tax paying base from the economy. Therefore the loss of support does not necessarily save the local economies any money. The programs I am most interested in seeing restored are:

- 1) Department of Health Respite Program for primary Caregivers
- 2) The Developmentally Disabled Medicaid Waiver Program
- 3) The Partnership in Community Living Program

We are all aware of the financial predicament that the down turn in the economy has had on all sectors. However, it is the vulnerable populations who are usually targeted because they cannot speak for themselves. The severe cutbacks to these people's support systems have created unemployment for their caregivers, have strained home life and caused economic burden to the families and that is out of proportion to the savings for the State budgets.

Thank you for reading and attending to this great need and for using emergency funds to support these programs.



## The Arc of Kauai

for Children and Adults with Disabilities

3201 Akahi Street, Lihue, Hawaii 96766, Phone: (808) 245-4132, Fax: (808) 246-1721

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February 27, 2009

Honorable Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair and  
Members of the Committee on Ways and Means  
State Capitol, Hawaii State Senate  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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

Dear Chair Mercado Kim and Members of the Committee:

My name is Ellen Ching and for the past 25 years, I have served as the Executive Director of The Arc of Kauai. The Arc of Kauai is a private non-profit organization that was formed by parents in 1961. Our primary mission is to secure for all people with developmental disabilities the opportunity to realize their goals and to choose where and how they learn, live, work and play. To this end, The Arc of Kauai develops implements and maintains a variety of programs and services for approximately 191 individuals.

**I am writing this letter in strong support of SB 1679, SD1.**

This bill will restore funding for the Department of Health's Respite Program, the Partnerships in Community Living (PICL) Program and the DD/MR Waiver Program.

The budget cuts have resulted in the termination of the PICL Program and the loss of \$395,505.00 in services to children and adults on Kauai. The budget reductions to the DD/MR Waiver Program at a minimum will result in the loss of approximately \$162,850.64 in services. The full impact of the loss of DD/MR services is still unknown as families are appealing the budget cuts and service reductions.

The real tragedy however is human suffering and the burden this puts on our families...a single elderly mom with two adults with developmental disabilities that was counting on the PICL funds to provide services to her son for eight weeks while she is in Honolulu with her daughter who needs treatment for breast cancer. She was also counting on MR/DD services for her daughter whose prognosis is about another 4 years.

When You Give Help - You Give Hope



The Arc of Kauai Testimony Re: SB 1679, SD1

Page 2

February 27, 2009

A mother suddenly dies on December 24, 2008 and leaves behind a grieving family that includes an ailing husband and a daughter with developmental disabilities. Her other daughter, moves her sister with a developmental disability into her home but she doesn't even know her sister's social security number or the numerous things involved in caring for her sister. On January 2nd, a letter is received telling her she must make a decision to cut her sister's services which will result in the loss of one day of service by January 12<sup>th</sup>. She and her husband work and cannot take care of her during the week. On January 3<sup>rd</sup>, they buried their mom.

While we are fully aware that budget cuts are necessary, we do not believe that the process in which families were asked to make these cuts was fair or equitable throughout the MR/DD Waiver Program. Without clear or full information, most of the families felt intimidated and reduced their services. We hope that should we be faced with a similar situation, a rate reduction will be instituted so that families can continue to support their loved ones with developmental disabilities.

**I humbly ask for your support of SB 1679 SD1 and keeping families whole.** Should you need more information or have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (808) 245-4132 ext. 0 or 16 or [arcklizann@vipuhawaii.net](mailto:arcklizann@vipuhawaii.net). Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Ellen Ching  
Executive Director



FEB 27 2009

# The Arc of Kauai

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

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Date:  
02/27/09  
Attn:  
Members of the Committee on Ways and Means  
Fax #:  
1-800-586-6659  
Pages including cover:  
25  
Subject: Support of SB 1679, SD1 – Relating to the Emergency & Budget Reserve Fund

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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

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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

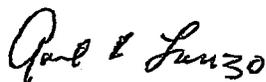
RE: Support of SB 1679, SD1  
Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

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.

In my capacity as a Personal Assistance Habilitation Program Service Supervisor, I know of at least two families who would be greatly affected without restoration of lost funding. In both cases, the parents are elderly and doing the best they can to maintain their adult son and daughter at home. Family "A" has a son who is confined to a wheel chair and totally dependent on his elderly parents for his care. Family "B" is an elderly widow, with her own health issues, taking care of a daughter who, in addition to being totally dependent on her mother, has multiple seizures and may go for days and nights without sleeping. These parents receive minimal service from the state, 30 hrs and 40 hrs per week respectively to support their efforts and desires to maintain thier son/daughter at home. To decrease this support is abusive, undermines family involvement and commitment and not very cost effective if it results in placement out of the home.

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: Gail R. Lorenzo

Address: PO Box 789 Kalaheo, Kauai, Hawaii 96741

Phone No.: 332-7085

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

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*Our individuals with developmental disabilities need the services provided by these essential programs to assure their care and safety. These are individuals that already have limited financial resources. By removing funds for these programs we've made it impossible for them to survive.*

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:

*Lizann Kidina*

Address:

*5867 Aholea St. Kapaa, Kauai, HI 96746*

Phone No.:

*245 4132*

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

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I've worked with the Arc of Kauai, as the Office Manager for over a year now and have come to learn a lot about individuals with developmental disabilities. I've learned that they need a lot of love and attention. Funds help families to get these kinds of attention. I don't work with these individuals first hand, but I do see them when they arrive back from their days activities. May it be volunteer parking cleaning, volunteer recycling or just having a day out in the community with their Personal Assistant. The smiles and appreciation shown upon their face says a million words. By restoring funding we can continue support for our individuals with developmental disabilities as well as support for their families.

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:

Jona Villon

Address:

3116 Akahi St. Lihue, HI 96766

Phone No.:

245-4132 x18

February 27, 2009

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

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During 2001 – 2007 I had the honor of working at The ARC of Kaua'i and with individuals with developmental disabilities and I was able to witness such great successes with these individuals. Having programs such as the Personal Assistance Program and the Partnerships in Community Living Program has allowed individuals with developmental disabilities earn their own income with recycling, be involved in volunteer work such as cleaning parks, and obtain much needed medical supplies to name a few.

Having funds for these individuals will not only enhance these individual's lives, but will also enhance the lives of their families, as care is not always available for by the individuals family members.

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,

*Jamie D. E. Chong*

Name: Jamie D. E. Chong

Address: P. O. Box 3218, Līhu'e, HI 96766

Phone No.: 808-651-9498

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

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*Cuts to persons with disabilities is totally inappropriate. The normal population can somehow possibly find jobs in the market. Persons w/ disabilities have health care situations that are long term.*

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: *Rosette J. Pappas*  
Address: *319 KIHAPAI ST. KAPAA, HI. 96746*  
Phone No.: *822-7157*

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

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I work for ARC of Kauai, which provides services to individuals who are being severely affected by the lost funding mentioned above. Without this funding, these individuals and their families have had to face reduced PAB and other service hours, which presents a great hardship for some of our state's most vulnerable citizens. These individuals and their families have limited financial resources, and this funding is essential for their well-being and safety.

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,

*Jason Calsyn*

Name: Jason Calsyn

Address: 1667 B Waianae Rd.

Phone No.: (808) 652-6077

February 27, 2009

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

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I work with many clients with Developmental Disabilities that benefit greatly from this funding in all aspects. It helps them live independently with the care and support of their PA workers and families. It also helps the families know that they are not alone in caring for them. With this bill they have a chance to be part of society and not forgotten.

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,

*Dorothy L. Hepp*

Name: DOROTHY L. HEPPO

Address: 2839 HAOLAKO ST

Phone No.: 851-1973

February 27, 2009

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

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I am a program participant. I used 3 Days of service per week from 9am to 5pm. Now I have six hours or less per day. I want my hours back! I like sports and take part in special ~~olympics~~ olympics. In 2006, I represented the State at the national Power lifting competition in Iowa. I won a gold medal. My personal assistance aides transported me to all the scheduled practices and practiced with me in a variety of other sports including softball, soccer, basketball and shot put tosses without my PA aides I would not be able to participate in the sports I enjoy and I may just end up staying at home.

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,

*Kylie Moniz*

Name: Kylie Moniz

Address: 2090 Hanalima street AA-101 Lihue, HI 96766

Phone No.: 808-245-4132

February 27, 2009

TO: Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair;  
 Senator Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair;  
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There are not many options available for the population with Developmental Disabilities, They are at a huge disadvantage. The funds provides so many intriguing and stimulating activities, that makes one feel apart of the community. Taking away the funds takes away from ones self-worth and self gratification. It has been an honor, and I'm very grateful to work with adults with Developmental Disabilities.

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,

*Alfonz J. Pratt*

Name: Alfonz J. Pratt

Address: 3-3830 Kuhio Hwy. Lihue, H: 96766

Phone No.: (808) 838-6075

February 27, 2009

TO: Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair;  
 Senator Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair;  
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OUR CLIENTS MAY NOT SPEAK & RESPOND THE SAME WAY WE DO. THEY MAY NOT WALK OR SIT UP THE SAME WAY WE DO. BUT, WE MUST NEVER FORGET THAT THEY ARE JUST LIKE US IN EVERY OTHER WAY.

THEY COULD BE OUR SISTER, BROTHER, UNCLE, AUNT, NIECE, NEPHEW, COUSIN, FRIEND AND NEIGHBOR. HERE, THE CLIENTS WE SERVICE ARE ALL PART OF OUR OHANA. I DEFINATELY WOULD NOT WANT TO HAVE THEM PUNISHED BECAUSE THEY LACK SOME OF THE ABILITIES WE HAVE.

WE, OURSELVES, NEED A LOT OF CARE AND GUIDANCE. OUR CLIENTS REQUIRE DOUBLE & TRIPLE THAT AMOUNT AND THE ONLY WAY THEY WILL RECEIVE THAT IS BY WAY OF FUNDING WHICH IS IN YOUR POWER TO APPROVE.

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,



Donna & MARILYN NUI LOA

Name: LORI ANN CABEBE

Address: PO BOX 522 LITTLE KAUAI HI 96766

Phone No.: 808 346 2409

February 27, 2009

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

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For my opinion it is good to keep this program to maintain a daily of living to become an independent and more oriented and I know they needs this. In my part when I worked with whomever I had I want them to be happy I asked them what they want or what they like as long as good and it helps for them. I'm bringing them out in the community. I'm always listening what there needs and likes. Talked to them often sharing some nice stories. Treat them like my own family or relatives. Respect and supports their daily 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,

Name: WISA P. MANAYTAY

Address: 5003 Kawaihau Rd. KAPAA HI 96746

Phone No.: 1 (808) 822-4071 cell # 1 (808) 674-0983

February 27, 2009

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

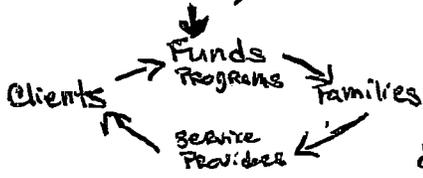
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I strongly support this Bill!! This Bill helps to ensure better care for people. The cuts in these programs caused great deficit in families and our community. I work with adults with disabilities whom this Bill benefits greatly. Cuts in funds affected families and individuals I work with leaving them to change their hours of work or the individuals I work with leaving them home doing nothing. I as well as others who work with people with disabilities will also benefit from this Bill. But its like the circle of life.

Bill -> SB 1679, SD1



- Families can keep homes at work, maintain life styles now
- Workers like me will have job
- Clients can keep doing what they do and have fun, go out & learn!

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,  
*Selomiti Lopez*

Name: Selomiti Lopez  
Address: P.O. Box 488 Hanamaulu HI 96715  
Phone No.: (808) - 212-2828

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

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IT'S SO OBVIOUS THAT OUR CONSUMERS WHO ARE UNABLE OR LESS ABLE TO DO THEIR TASKS OR EVEN "ACTIVITIES OF DAILY LIVING" (EX. BATHING, CARING FOR THEMSELVES) - NEED SOMEBODY WHO REALLY CAN HELP OR DO WHAT THEY CANNOT DO. SO FOR THEIR WELFARE, I STRONGLY SUPPORT THIS BILL IN ORDER TO HAVE A BETTER SERVICE FOR THEM.

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: JEANALYN A. AGCADIUM

Address: 2897 HODDAR ST., LIHAE, HI 96764

Phone No.: (808) 634-0489

February 27, 2009

TO: Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair;  
Senator Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair;  
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I STRONGLY SUPPORT SB 1679, SD1 BECAUSE  
I just recently started work. And as of now <sup>my</sup> I  
am not even making the necessary hours to ~~pay~~ <sup>quality</sup>  
for medical. I enjoy my job and I don't want  
to lose it. and also I'm a single parent supporting 2  
children.

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:

Address:

Phone No.:

ROD MABINI

4014 HUNAKAI ST LIHUE HI

639-1713

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 work with many adults with disabilities. With the support and care of their families, care providers and personal assistance aide, they can function independently out in the community and at home.*

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,

*Trudy DeSilva*

Name:

*Trudy DeSilva*

Address:

*6405 Kawaihau Road Kapaa, Hawaii 96740*

Phone No.:

*639-9331*

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  
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My client is unable to do things for herself. She is an adult but she thinks she is only four years old, unable to communicate. She needs a full supervision day and night.

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,

*Carrie J. Duldulao*

Name:

Carrie J. DULDULAO

Address:

P. O. Box 335, Elele, Kauai, HI

Phone No.:

(808) 652-1028

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  
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I am one of Personal Aide Assistants at ARC of Kauai working with adults having developmental disabilities. It is a big benefit for them to continue this program. Working with these clients is very enjoyable and educational also.

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: Remedios Guyang  
Address: 4000 Hookepe Ln, Lihue, HI 96768  
Phone No.: 808-245-3782

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

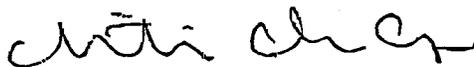
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I think this organization has been very successful in the years that I have been working. The clients, staff, & clients' family all have been a huge part of my life. It's a blessing to have the opportunity to work with people like them. I strongly support this bill in regards to the consumer's rights. Please approve my message.

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: CHRISTINE DELACRUZ

Address: P.O. BOX 323 ELELE, HI 96705

Phone No.: (808) 335-9706

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  
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I HAVE BEEN WORKING WITH CLIENTS FOR  
 ALMOST 5 YEARS - I GUESS THE ORGANIZATION HAS  
 BEEN VERY SUCCESSFUL IN THE YEARS -  
 IT'S A BLESSING TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO  
 WORK WITH THEM - I STRONGLY SUPPORT THE  
 BILL - IN REGARDS OF THE CONSUMER'S RIGHTS  
 PLEASE APPROVE !!!

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, *Edna Saito*

Name: EDNA SAITO

Address: 4311 KAILUA ST.

Phone No.: (808) 245-9294

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  
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I HAVE WORKED WITH ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES FOR 6 YEARS. WE DO OUR BEST AS STAFF, TO BRING A SENSE OF INDEPENDANCE TO OUR CLIENTS, BY BRINGING THEM OUT INTO THE COMMUNITY. THIS HELPS THEM TO SEE THAT THEY DO BELONG AND ARE AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE COMMUNITY. IT'S AMAZING TO SEE THE LOOK ON THEIR FACES AND SEE THEIR EXCITEMENT WHEN THEY CATCH A FISH, BOWL A STRIKE OR SEE THE FINISHED PRODUCT OF THEIR WEEKLY, VOLUNTEER PARK CLEAN UP. IF YOU HAVE NEVER EXPERIENCED THIS, MAYBE YOU SHOULD TAKE SOME TIME TO DO SO. THIS BILL WILL GIVE OUR CLIENTS AND THEIR DESIRE THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONTINUE SOME TYPE OF INDEPENDANCE, WHICH WILL GIVE THEM A SENSE OF DIGNITY AND RESPECT.

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: NINA TASAKA

Address: 6424 ANELE DRIVE, KAPAA, HI 96746

Phone No.: (808) 821-2571

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  
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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.

In working directly with consumers for 3 and a half years who benefit from the funds, I see first hand how much of an impact on how families, consumers and myself have been affected.

Families have to resort to other means of care. For consumers, the loss of hours contributes to less time out in the community, less program time that assist them with health, exercise, daily living activities and community service.

As for myself, I am a single mother of two, finishing up college, struggling to survive.

I strongly support the bill, not just for my own reasons but for the consumers who lose more than just hours, but the quality of time spent in such programs that help them develop who they are, and their sense of belonging.

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: Melissa Iida  
Address: 4160 Hoala St Apt 21-H  
Phone No.: Lihue HI 96766  
346 7486

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  
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*I strongly support of S.B. 1679, SD1 my clients need to live as normal person as they can, need special health care, food, community access.*

*This bill makes my client feel that they are not alone even they have developmental disabilities.*

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: GREGORY I. DELA CRUZ

Address: 1970 HADALIMA ST M-102 LIHUE HI. 96766

Phone No.: 652-8175

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  
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I strongly support this bill because I work & experience to those clients of mental disabilities for more than eight years. They need our help especially who needed 24 hrs. service on those who doesn't have family to take care of them for their daily chores. To those who's paralyzed, bedridden or wheelchair. But we can feel & see them happy & big smile on their face if we're in community access. For high functioning clients this will help them to live independently in the community. They learn for daily program & activities how to communicate especially their needs.

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, *Shirley Negredo*

Name: *Shirley Negredo (SHIRLEY NEGREDO)*

Address: *4719 Opaulea Street, Lihue, HI. 96766*

Phone No.: *241-1340*

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  
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*As a worker of ~~special~~<sup>with</sup> disabilities I believe that they needs a (care) daily services. They are the one who really needs help coz they can not help themselves. If you They can not work, they can not think what is right for them. ~~who's~~ who's gonna help them?*

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, *Kathleen Y. Puplava*

Name: KATHLEEN Y. PUPPLAVA

Address: 4156 Rice St. #403 Kane HI 96766

Phone No: (808) 219574

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, 9:30am, Conference Room 211

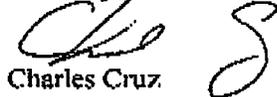
Dear Senators Mercado and Tsutsui & Members of the Committee on Ways & Means:

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 an employee and advocate of participants with disabilities that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the DD/MR Waiver in order to care for people. With the support of these services I am able to provide services and ensure needs are being met and that participants are safe. I am able to put family's minds at peace when they need to go to work, and know their family members who receive services are able to participate in meaningful activities that allow them to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, participants may have to be home alone, disengaged from the community, and could create major health and safety concerns.

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)681-0747, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

  
Charles Cruz

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, 9:30am, Conference Room 211

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*I am an administrative assistant with Easter Seals Hawaii, Ewa ADH Program. I was sad to hear when the State of Hawaii implemented budget reductions that took effect on February 1, 2009. Some participants looked so sad at the end of the day on Thursday, February 5<sup>th</sup> when they said "see you tomorrow" and in turn I would say, no "I'll see you on Monday!" So many participants looked forward to coming to program Mondays-Fridays. It feels so different to see about only 1/3 of the participants who attended program on Fridays. I miss the other 2/3 of our participants who can't come due to the budget reduction. What are they doing on Fridays now? Is someone home to be with them? If so, how much of a hardship it is on those parents, guardians and/or caregivers to give up work for 1 day/week. It also has affected my coworkers who also had hours cut 1 day/week due to less participants coming to program. Just as we strive to provide excellent services and help many in need, budgets are cut and have caused turmoil for participants, families, guardians, caregivers, and staff. We need funds to help keep us going instead of fall behind due to lack of money. Everyone is doing their best to come up with the best solutions but how long will that last without funds?! Also, who will take care of those who can't take care of or speak for themselves?! I beg you to please consider the emergency appropriation.*

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) 927-9025 (cellular) for any further questions.

Sincerely,



Leann S. Uehira  
 Fairway Village at Waikole  
 94-824 Lumiauu Street, Y101  
 Waipahu, HI 96797

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. Brevetania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE  
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I have been an employee of Easter Seals Hawai'i for nearly 10 years and have had the opportunity to work with 50+ adults with Developmental Disabilities. I see how important and meaningful these services are for the people we serve and because of these services, people do not need to stay home and are able to have, and lead, real lives. People are able to get jobs, be active members of their communities, and make lasting and real friendships.

Since the State's recent budget reduction I have seen many changes to participant's services. Some have shown an increase in needs for supports while others are more withdrawn from offered activities and are struggling with the reduction in service days or hours. Other people at our program are concerned because they are missing out on much needed social skills opportunities that support them to build real and meaningful relationships with others.

I also have family members with disabilities who benefit from services. I know how vital services through the DD/MR Waiver are. I urge you to please pass SB 1679!

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) 681-0747, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

  
Sonya J. Kelii

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

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

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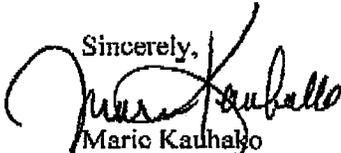
I am an employee with Easter Seals Hawaii, Ewa ADII Program and an advocate of participants with disabilities. The services provided through our program for these participants have been cut to appoint that it affects their daily living and goals. These individuals depend on our program to receive opportunities that allow them to be active members in their community from Educational Programs, associating with leaders and businesses.

Being recognized for their achievements give them a sense of independence and self-worth. By cutting from their days and hours, it becomes difficult for them to be able to accomplish all of their choices. We also had to cut accordingly to meet budgets; a drastic situation for a lot of our participants.

Please put yourselves in their situations if not at present, future, or even another family member and make the right decision to provide for what is needed for us to do what is right for those who need us to speak for them.

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) 681-0747, for any further questions.

Sincerely,



Marie Kauhako

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

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I am a person with a disability that has been able to access support because I receive services offered in the DD/MR Waiver. With the support of these services I am able to participate in meaningful activities that allow me to have a life just like every other person. Easter Seals Hawai'i is good. You can learn. I learn the computer. I learn job skills. I paint the "No dumping in the drain" warnings on the sidewalk. I do hula at different places, e.g. Leeward Nursing Home. My life has meaning and without services my health and safety would be at risk.

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)681-0747, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

David Keawe

David Keawe

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  
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I am a person with a disability that has been able to access support because I receive services offered in the DD/MR Waiver. With the support of these services I am able to participate in meaningful activities that allow me to have a life just like every other person. I like to get to make friends and go places. Without these supports, there will be madness for me if I don't go to program. My health and safety would be at risk.

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)681-0747, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Leigh Kimura  
Leigh Kimura

Friday, February 27, 2009

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State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings -- Senate Committee on Ways & Means  
Twenty-Fifth Legislature  
State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street  
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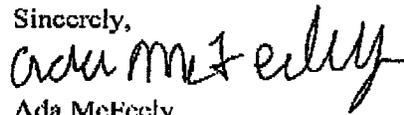
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I am a person with a disability that has been able to access support because I receive services offered in the DD/MR Waiver. With the support of these services I am able to participate in meaningful activities that allow me to have a life just like every other person. I like coming to Easter Seals Hawai'i. I learn money, games, go out, holo holo, check my calendar, check folders, and do my own scheduling. I am happy over here. Without services, my health and safety would be at risk.

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)681-0747, for any further questions.

Sincerely,



Ada McFeely

Friday, February 27, 2009

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State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Ways & Means  
Twenty-Fifth Legislature  
State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street  
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Subject: SB 1679- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE  
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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 a person with a disability that has been able to access support because I receive services offered in the DD/MR Waiver. With the support of these services I am able to participate in meaningful activities that allow me to have a life just like every other person. I like going to program. I like learning hula and everything. I like learning and having choices. Without services, my health and safety would be at risk.

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)681-0747, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Robin Wagner

Robin Wagner

February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
State of Hawaii – Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

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

**Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30 a.m. (Senate Ways and Means Committee),  
Conference Room 211**

**Dear Senator Mercado Kim & Members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee:**

I feel sad because I like Kalima O Maui Waiver program and my hours are cut now.  
I want to stay until 5:00 p.m. every day but now I can't. Please help me.

Thank you,

Jayson Harris

Jayson Harris

February 27, 2009

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
State of Hawaii – Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

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

Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30 a.m. (Senate Ways And Means  
Committee), Conference Room 211

Dear Senator Mercado Kim & Members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee:

I am upset about the time I cannot be at Kalima O Maui. I do not want this to last a long time. I will miss all my friends.

I work for Ka Lima o Maui three days a week. I attend waiver program after work and two days a week, this time is very important to me. It's comfortable here at program and we make a lot of stuff. We have fun with Dana. We weave and make pillows and shirts. I go everywhere. I go beach, I fly kites at parks, and I go to recycle. I don't want to miss that.

I don't want to cut my hours. I want to stay at program for as long as I can. It is very hard for me and I cannot stand it. So please do not cut my hours again. I feel mad and angry. It's not right. Thank you for listening.

Eugene Perreira

Eugene Perreira

**February 27, 2009**

**The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
State of Hawaii – Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813**

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

**Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:30 a.m. (Senate Ways and Means Committee),  
Conference Room 211**

**Dear Senator Mercado Kim & Members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee:**

**I wish my hours was 7:30 am to 4 pm all the time. It makes me feel sad and mad when  
the hours is cut. Can you leave my schedule 7:30am - 4pm?**

**Mahalo and Aloha,  
Brandon Decambra**

BRANDON

DECAMBRA

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 THE STATED APPEAL  
FOR FUNDS ~~FOR~~ THE SAID PROGRAM FOR THE  
BETTERMENT OF THE RECIPIENT.

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: EVA SHARON L. BANTISTA  
Address: 3375 HINAHINA ST., LILUOEA HAWAII 96706  
Phone No.: (808) 245-7260

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  
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I agree with this bill to pass. The clients need that extra attention that they have been used to receiving. They are relying on us to be there for them and their parents or guardians count on us and those hours so they can continue to make a living and help their loved ones.

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: Dreet Feinstein

Address: P.O. Box 1314 Kapaa, HI. 96746

Phone No.: (808) 346-5806

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  
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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.

Speaking on behalf of my client and his mom I can say that a reduction in services would impose an undue hardship on the both of them. She is a single mom working full-time and has no extended family on Kauai to assist her. I am sure she is not alone.

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: Victor A. Rodriguez  
Address: P.O. Box 1725, Kapaa, HI 96746  
Phone No.: (808) 652-3161

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 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 Partnership in Community Living Programs.

As a program aide at the Arc of Kaua'i Kapa'a Center I feel it is absolutely essential that this day program be fully supported. Adults with developmental disabilities who are supported with programs such as our day program are able to maintain a high level of health, wellness and functionality. It would be tragic for clients, families, staff and the community to restrict or deny any of these important services.

In my opinion to do so would create even more need in the community. I am very strongly in support of this Bill because it would impact so many in so many ways.

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, *Carol Volker*

Name: Carol Volker  
Address: 6391 Waipouli Road, Kapa'a HI 96746  
Phone No.: (808) 822-9180

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  
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I am submitting 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 Partnership in Community Living Programs.

I do not want to see our clients lose the opportunity of coming to the Adult Day Health program in Kapa'a because their budgets have been reduced. Also our clients may not see their friends, they may not have the opportunity to learn simple daily living skills, simple educational skills, and also learn to properly interact with others. If they lose these skills they may not be able to function properly interact or we will see lots of behaviors from this and instead of being more independent they will become more dependent and this may put a strain on the families or care providers. These are the reasons why I strongly support S.B. 1679, SD.

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: Marry Sunada

Address: 2080 Manawailea Street, Apt. 207, Lihue HI 96766

Phone No.: (808) 651-1455

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  
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I am submitting 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 Partnership in Community Living Programs.

I have been working with people with Developmental Disabilities for over thirty years and have seen great changes that has afforded them the basic rights that we all have. These past few months, as budget reductions were implemented, it appears that we have taken a step backward and are doing a disservice to this population.

I have received numerous phone calls from families that have tried their best to keep their families together. One of the calls came from a sister who recently took her sister into her own home when their mother suddenly passed away during the holidays. They are all adjusting to this new situation and now are faced with another dilemma...budget cuts. This adult receives Medicaid Waiver services to attend Adult Day Health program daily and now they are being told that services must be reduced. This family wants to keep their sister with them but is having difficulty make things work. Because they are working and must continue to work to support themselves and now their sister they don't know where to turn if she cannot attend a day program on a daily basis.

Another frantic call came from a single mother who is working. He son utilizes services so she can work. They have no family here on Kauai that can help them and they are frantic. She must continue to work and her son is not able to stay by himself as he is not aware of dangers around him.

An elderly mother called to say that her son must have a program to go to daily. He wants to go to an Adult Day Health program to learn new things and be with his friends and this budget reduction will not allow him to do this. This mother reports that her son is angry and does not understand why he cannot do this and it is difficult for her.

I have also been invoked in the Partnership in Community Living program that has assisted consumers and their families. As this contract was at first reduced then terminated, families were in a quandary. The assistance they received from this PICL program helped keep their

family members healthy and safe. Some medical needs are being met on Oahu and extra assistance is needed to transport them there, a computer is needed to assist with communication, medication for someone who does not qualify for Medicaid services are needed, dental care must be up kept and families don't know how to obtain these services without funding.

Many other calls have been received and I don't know what to tell them. Everyone has been looking for other resources to help them but in these economic times there are none. They want to keep their families intact, healthy, and safe but don't know how 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 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,

*Merle Takashima*

Name: Merle Takashima

Address: 3201 Akahi Street, Lihue, HI 96766

Phone No.: 808-821-6944

FEB 27 2009

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  
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I live with my Mother who must work to support us. My sister also helps to take care of me. I attend Adult Day Health program and have PA Services while my Mother works.

I cannot be left alone because I cannot take care of myself. In order for my Mother to work to support us I must have services to take care of me while she is working.

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,

*Jerry Carineo*

Name: Jerry Carineo

Address: 3201 Akahi Street, Lihue HI 96766

Phone No.: (808) 821-6944

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

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I am an adult with developmental disabilities who does not qualify for Medicaid. The partnership in community living program has helped me by paying for some of my medical care. They have helped by paying for travel for myself and my mother when I had to go to Oahu to see medical specialists. They have also helped with my dental expenses as well as care of my glaucoma.

With the assistance from the Partnership in Community Living program I have been able to maintain my health because I would not have been able to afford this expense.

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: Robert Stuart

Address: 3201 Akahi Street, Lihue, HI 96766

Phone No.: 808-821-6944

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

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I am a 58 year old adult with developmental disabilities who lives with my Mom who is getting old. Because of her physical health, my sisters have been helping us so I can continue to live with her.

With the decrease in Medicaid Waiver services, it will be harder for my Mother to keep me at home if I cannot attend my Adult Day Health program daily.

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,

*Jay Padre*

Name: Jay Padre

Address: 5979 Puka Street, Kapa'a HI 96746

Phone No.: (808) 822-4518

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  
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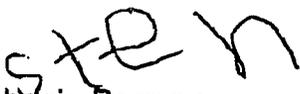
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My Mother who took care of me passed away at Christmas and my sister was good enough to have me move into her house with her family so she can take care of me.

We are having a hard time, missing our Mom and trying to adjust to this new situation. When the Medicaid Waiver Services were cut we worry about what will happen because my sister needs to work and I cannot stay alone.

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: Stephanie Bermov  
Address: 3573 Lilikoi Place, Lawa'i HI 96765  
Phone No.: (808) 332-7478

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

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I am an adult with developmental disabilities that use DD Medicaid Waiver funds to attend a Adult Day Health Program and have PA Services. I live with my Mother who works to support us.

I want to continue to live with my Mother but don't know what will happen if funds are not restored because she needs to continue working and I cannot take care of myself.

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,

*Kahea Lindburg*

Name: Kahea Lindburg

Address: 1206B, Kamalu Road, Kapa'a HI 96746

Phone No.: (808) 821-6944

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

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I live with my Mother who must work to support us. My sister also helps to take care of me. I attend Adult Day Health program and have PA Services while my Mother works.

I cannot be left alone because I cannot take care of myself. In order for my Mother to work to support us I must have services to take care of me while she is working.

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,

*Jerry Carineo*

Name: Jerry Carineo

Address: 3201 Akahi Street, Lihue HI 96766

Phone No.: (808) 821-6944

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

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I am an adult with developmental disabilities who does not qualify for Medicaid. The partnership in community living program has helped me by paying for some of my medical care. They have helped by paying for travel for myself and my mother when I had to go to Oahu to see medical specialists. They have also helped with my dental expenses as well as care of my glaucoma.

With the assistance from the Partnership in Community Living program I have been able to maintain my health because I would not have been able to afford this expense.

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: Robert Stuart

Address: 3201 Akahi Street, Lihue, HI 96766

Phone No.: 808-821-6944

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

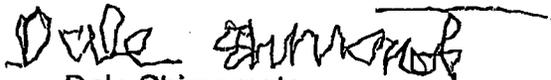
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I am an adult with Cerebral Palsy and the Partnership in Community Living program helped by buying a computer for me to help me with my communication because people have a hard time understanding me. This was 8 years ago and this year my computer broke and I really can use another one so I can tell people how I feel and what I need but I cannot afford a new computer.

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: Dale Shimamoto

Address: P.O. Box 510012, Kealia HI 96751

Phone No.: (808) 822-4092

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

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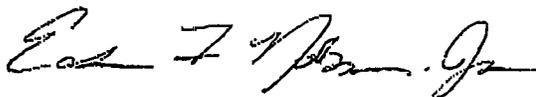
I have been working with the developmentally disabled community for over 7 years in several capacities, the last 5 years as a Director for the Partnership in Community Living program. The program has serviced hundreds of individuals with developmental disabilities with a myriad of services and needs. I believe that the most telling requests were for dental work.

Medicaid did not provide for those requiring dental services except in the case of extractions. The developmentally disabled community was fast becoming edentulous. The Partnership in Community Living program serviced those dental requests. The process was slow at first, trying to convince the community that there was a better alternative than being toothless but, it grew and grew into a service that truly met the needs of those individuals with developmental disabilities.

My only regret is that the developmentally disabled community, without this program, will regress to a point where there again will be no choice but extraction. That, in and of itself, would be a crime against a population that looks to others for guidance.

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: Edwin F. Nilson, Jr.

Address: P.O. Box 1114, Kapa'a, HI 96746

Phone No.: (808) 652-8213

February 27, 2009

FEB 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

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I am an adult with developmental disabilities that attends Adult Day Health program. This is the place that I learn new things and can be with my friends.

I live with my Mother who works and my sister who goes to school and works. They help take care of me because I cannot do this myself.

I must be able to attend Adult Day Health program every day so I can still learn new things and my Mother can continue to work to support us.

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, Jason Felipe

Name: Jason Felipe

Address: 3201 Akahi Street, Lihue HI 96766

Phone No.: (808) 821-6944

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

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I am an adult with developmental disabilities who lives with my parents who takes care of me because I cannot do that myself. I attend Adult Day Health program and have some PA services so that my parents can go to work to support us. The program is helping me learn new things.

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: Randelle Lee

Address: P.O. Box 341, Waimea HI 96796

Phone No.: (808) 338-1207

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

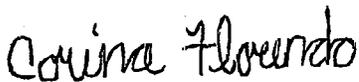
RE: Support of SB 1679, SD1  
Relating to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

I am submitting 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 Partnership in Community Living Programs.

I am a person with developmental disabilities that has used the Partnership in Community Living fund for dental work. I still need to have more dental work done but cannot do this because I cannot afford the cost.

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: Corina Florendo  
Address: P.O. Box 308, Kekaha, HI 96752  
Phone No.: (808) 337-9636

February 27, 2009

FEB 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 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 Partnership in Community Living Programs.

I am an aide at an Adult Day Health program and work with persons with developmental disabilities. Cutting funding would have a tremendous effect on all of the individuals. Our clients worry about who will care for them if they are not able to attend the Adult Day Health program and to take away their PA services places an extra burden on their family. Some clients do not understand why their service is being cut and that makes them apprehensive.

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: Donna Jerves

Address: P.O. Box 1241, Kapa'a, HI 96746

Phone No.: (808) 651-7263

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 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 Partnership in Community Living Programs.

I work with persons with developmental disabilities and seeing their faces every morning with their smiles, excitement and enthusiasm when they get to the Adult Day Health program is so rewarding and a blessing. They need this Bill to pass in order to keep their lives and happiness just as it is right now. It has been such a dramatic situation for them and their families cutting their hours of service because of funding.

Keep them active, busy in their life and help them to fulfill their dreams of happiness. Make this Bill work, please.

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: Darrin Zablan  
Address: 5338 Olopuua Street, Kapa'a, HI 96746  
Phone No.: (808) 652-7207

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 the sister/guardian of a disabled child that has been able to access support afforded by the  
services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. My sister is severely disabled and depends upon the  
waiver services to provide her the support to learn how to be independent as possible. Through  
these services my sister has learned how to complete simple task that many of us may take for  
granted, such as feed herself, communicate and walk. Also, my father s employment requires  
him to be away from home for most of the day and due to this, I am my sister s primary  
caretaker during the day. As the parent of two small children, I also depend upon waiver  
services to provide me much needed respite. Waiver services give my sister the opportunity for  
her to access and be a part of her community and work on becoming more independent.  
Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my sister would have to stay home,  
disengaged from the community which would be major health and safety concern.*

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk  
the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs.  
Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679 SD 1**. I can  
be reached at 808-934-9587 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Jocelyn Ramones

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 the sister in law/guardian of an adult with severe disabilities. Waiver services provide my  
brother in law with a clean, healthy and safe home. Prior to my brother in law living with us he  
was institutionalized. This was not a positive experience, it required him to be hospitalized latter.  
Waiver services also provide my brother in law with opportunities to socialize and access and be  
a part of his community like everyone else.

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 808-990-4286 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Devi Berinobis

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 single working parent of a young child with disabilities. Services help provide my child  
with opportunities to engage with other children and access his community. As a single parent  
my resources are very limited. Both of my parents are elderly and unable to watch my child.  
Having services allow me to continue to work and provide an income for my son and I.  
Without these services, I will not be able to work, because, I will have to stay home to take care  
of my child.*

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 808-895-3116/808-965-9076 for any further questions.

Sincerely,  
Cristina Acupan

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 the aunt/guardian of an adult child that is severely disabled .Waiver services have  
provided my nephew with a safe, healthy environment. Through these services we are able to  
provide a loving home and opportunities for him to access and be a part of his community. My  
nephew many years ago was institutionalized without our knowledge. This experience was  
very horrible for him and not successful. We ask that you continue to support these waiver  
services.*

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, 808-935-2604 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Angeline Moniz

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 young adult with a disability. Waiver services help me greatly. I live all by myself on  
the Big Island. Waiver services have helped me like a family would. Without these services I  
would not be able to do my grocery shopping, banking, bill paying and attend my doctor  
appointments. Waiver services also help me access and be a part of my community. I ask that  
you continue to support these waiver services, without them I would be just staying at home.*

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 808-934-9206, for any further questions.

Sincerely,  
Kyle Nakasone

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 the parent of an adult child who has a disability. We are currently appealing a recent cut  
to her services that were more than 50%. Waiver services have provided my adult child with  
much needed opportunities to access and be a part of her community. Her waiver services also  
provide her with a clean, healthy and safe home along with respite for myself.*

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 808-961-3179 for any further questions.

Sincerely,  
Jutta Halcamau

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 the parent of a disabled child that has been able to access support afforded by the services  
offered in the MR/DD Waiver. My child is blind and depends upon the waiver services to  
provide her the support to learn how to be independent as possible. Through these services my  
child has learned how to complete simple task that many of us may take for granted, such as  
feed herself, bath, walk and clean her living area. Our family resides in a rural area, which  
requires my husband to travel at least 60 miles roundtrip for work. Due to this, I am my child's  
primary caretaker during the day. I depend upon waiver services to provide me much needed  
respite and the opportunity for my child to access and be a part of her community and work on  
becoming more independent. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my  
child would have to stay home, disengaged from the community which would be major health  
and safety concern.*

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk  
the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679 SD 1**. I can  
be reached at 808-962-0806, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Juliet Evangelista

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 writing you as a service provider for waiver services. I have personally witnessed the need  
and importance services are to our disabled community and families. These services provide  
our families and participant opportunities to be a part of their community. Waiver services  
provide healthy and safe homes for needed chores services. Services provide our participants  
the opportunity to apply for volunteer and employment opportunities, participate in Special  
Olympic functions and complete many task that we take for granted daily. I ask you to please  
support SB 1679.*

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 808-756-7740, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Judy Marsh

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/IMR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living  
(PICL Programs).*

*We are the parent/sister of an adult with a disability. These services provide my brother with  
the opportunities to access and be a part of his community. Waiver services have also  
supported my brother with maintaining his health and safety through exercise and seizure  
awareness. Without these services my brother would not be able to go out and learn how to be  
more independent. Instead he would be just sitting at home.*

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 808-969-7197/808-854-5171, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Vincelyn Mehau  
JoLyn Mehau

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 the grandmother/guardian of two disabled grandchildren that have been able to access  
support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. I am also a recent widow and  
depend upon these services greatly to assist with maintaining their healthy and safety. I do not  
drive, however, waiver services have assisted with getting my grandchildren to much needed  
medical/dental appointments. Waiver services has also been beneficial with helping my  
children participate in activities out in the community such as Special Olympics and even  
employment and volunteer opportunities These services have helped my grandchildren to be a  
part of their community and have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services  
provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my grandchildren would have to stay home, disengaged  
from the community which would be major health and safety concern.*

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk  
the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs.  
Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679 SD 1**. I can  
be reached at 808-965-7766 for any further questions.

Sincerely,  
Barbra Remy

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 young adult with a disability. Waiver services help me access my community and take care of my personal needs such as banking, grocery shopping and medical appointments. Without waiver services I do not know how I would be able to do these things, because I do not drive. Also since I live on the Big Island, public transportation is very limited and taxis are an expense that I can not afford. Waiver services also have supported me with Special Olympic participation and they provide respite for my great grandmother who also lives with me. I ask that you continue to support these waiver services, without them I would be just staying at home.*

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 808-969-7107 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Matthew Garcia

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)***.

***Hi I am a participant at Easter Seals Hawaii. I want my services back, because I miss going  
out into the community in the afternoons with my PA. I thought it was my fault that my time  
was cut, but now I don't think that. I would like to have my hours back.***

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 808-959-8099 for any further questions.

Sincerely,  
Denise Demotta  
2469 B  
Kilauea Ave  
Hilo, HI 96720

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)*.

*Aloha,*

*My name is Colleen Daly. I am a Home and Community Based Case Coordinator for  
Easter Seals Hawaii working in at the Hilo Support Services Program. Our program serves  
children and adults with development disabilities through home and community based services  
such as personal assistance, chore assistance, and habilitated employment through the MR/DD  
waiver. Recently our prt s and their families were cut by a 15% budget reduction to their  
services. Some of our participants and families based on the way the cut was made ended up  
losing much more hours than expected, and are now faced with the hardship of losing their  
jobs, hours, medical, and for the participants the activities and care they were previously  
receiving. This saddens me to see, as the people we serve deserve and have the right to be  
provided with the care and activities that this waiver was made to provide.*

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 808-961-3716 for any further questions.  
Sincerely,

*Colleen Daly*  
HCBS Case Coordinator  
1266 Kamehameha Avenue, #12  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720  
Phone: 808.961.3716  
Email: [cdaly@eastersealshawaii.org](mailto:cdaly@eastersealshawaii.org)

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 supporting SB1679, because the services I have received from Easter Seals has helped to  
Teach me future skills, I like going to my bowling club, being able to go out into the  
community. I would be very upset if they tried to cut my services, I wish I could have my week  
ends and evening hours back.*

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 808-989-1938 for any further questions.

Sincerely,  
Allen Kakazu  
PO Box 582  
Mt. View, HI 96771  
Phone: 966-7454

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  
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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 parent of a son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the  
services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these  
services, my husband and I are able to go to work, as well as provide services to our son. My  
other son and his girlfriend also provide services through the MR/DD Waiver to our son which  
allow my husband and I to be able to go to work knowing that his needs are being met and that  
he is safe. My husband and I's joint income is what holds our home together, if my son were  
not able to be provided with these services, I would have to give up my job, and our economic  
hardship would become more stressed. Through the MR/DD Waiver program my son is able  
participate in meaningful activities that allow him to have a life just like every other citizen.  
Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my son would have to be home alone,  
which is not possible due to the extent of his disability, as well as disengaged from the  
community which would be major health and safety concern.*

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk  
the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs.  
Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be  
reached at 808-982-7843, for any further questions.

Sincerely,  
Karen, & Ricky SR. Torres and entire Family.  
16-634 Old Volcano Rd.  
Kea au HI 96749  
982-7843 (home)

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  
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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 well being of my participant will be effected by any more cuts in the budget. I have  
seen a change in behavior already and this could result in angry outbursts.***

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 808-961-3716 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Community Based Provider (Easter Seals)  
Richard Miller  
(808) 935-4371

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  
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Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

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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 supporting SB1679, because Easter Seals helped my son in E.I to achieve success in fine  
motor, and gross motor helping him catch up to his appropriate age level. I work as a PA in  
the home and community based program at Easter Seals and fully support their mission in  
providing exceptional services to people with developmental disabilities. These people need to  
have the same access and opportunities as anyone else, it would be so sad to see anymore cuts  
in this area.*

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 808-989-1938 for any further questions.

Sincerely,  
Richard Ah-Yo III  
P.O Box 1081  
Keaau Hi 96749  
(808)968-6255

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  
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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).*

*Aloha, I am sending you this because I feel that these people needs all the hours and help they  
have been getting. It is unfair to them and their families. They need to go out in to the  
community and do things that others get to do. They need to socialize with othesr in the  
community and get out. Please give them back their rights and freedom.*

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 808-989-1938 for any further questions.

Sincerely,  
Maelisa Evangelista  
P.O Box 1002  
Keaau Hi 96749

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  
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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 do not cut my hours any more as  
it will make me mad. It will stop  
me doing my activities I love.

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 [redacted] for any further questions.

[redacted]

Part of ESH MEDICAID WAIVER

808-961-3167 attn. Colleen Daly

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  
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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 single parent of a son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by  
the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of  
these services I am able to go to work knowing that his needs are being met and that he is safe.  
Not only am I able to go to work, but my son is able to participate in meaningful activities that  
allow him to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the  
MR/DD Waiver, my son would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community which  
would be major health and safety concern.*

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk  
the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs.  
Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. Please feel  
free to contact me my address is P.O. Box 6 Papaikou, HI 96781 and my contact phone numbers  
are (808) 964-1057(H), (808) 937-0104 (Cell) and (808) 930-0210 9(W).

Sincerely,

Desiree M. Amaral

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

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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 primary care giver for my granddaughter who has a disability. We have been able to  
access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in which have provided  
the help we have needed in order to provide care. With the support of these services I am able  
to go to work knowing that her needs are being met and that she is safe. I am 70 yrs old and  
recently (within the last two weeks) underwent eye surgery as I am partially blind and disabled  
my self. With the help from the DD/MR waiver my granddaughter has the opportunity to be  
able to participate in meaningful activities that allow him/her to have a life just like every other  
citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my granddaughter would  
have to be home alone daily, which is not possible,, disengaged from the community, and not  
allotted the same opportunities as every one else which to me would be major health and safety  
concern.*

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk  
the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs.  
Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be  
reached at 808-959-8099, for any further questions.

Sincerely,  
Ellen Aoki  
1444 Mona Loop  
Hilo, Hi 96720  
(808) 959-8099

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  
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415 S. Beretania Street  
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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 have been both a DOE educator as well as a health care provider for Hawaii's developmentally disabled population for nearly two decades. I am appalled and outraged at the recent lack of compassion shown toward those who are least capable of speaking up for themselves. In a move so swift that it allowed no time for discussion, many of our special clients suddenly found their vital services cut not merely by 15% but up to 50% and beyond.***

***These are good citizens and proud citizens, and many are struggling to live as independently as possible. But to do so, they need help with many of the simple daily tasks that the rest of us take for granted. By taking away even 15% of the PA services they currently receive, many could easily find independent living an impossibility, and the cost of their increased needs will surely fall back onto the taxpayers.***

***It has been said that societies are judged by the manner in which they care for the least of their citizens. In Hawaii, we have a long and proud history of supporting great organizations. I recognize that these are difficult times, financially. But the wide variety of services provided to our disabled population are critically important, and this is the absolute last place we should ever be looking to slash funding.***

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**.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Crabtree

WRITTEN ONLY

TESTIMONY BY GEORGINA K. KAWAMURA  
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
STATE OF HAWAII  
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
ON  
SENATE BILL NO. 1679, S.D. 1

March 2, 2009

RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

Senate Bill No. 1679, S.D. 1, appropriates funds from the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund for Fiscal Year 2010 and Fiscal Year 2011 to the Departments of Health, Human Services, and Education to maintain levels of programs determined to be essential to education, public health and public welfare and for grants to private agencies.

We are opposed to this bill. Rather than using the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund to supplement general funds, in light of the critical budget shortfall facing the State, we believe it is more appropriate to use the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund to replace general funds. Accordingly, in Senate Bill No. 882, we have proposed to use \$60 million from the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund to replace general funds that are currently appropriated for the health care payments program in Fiscal Year 2009. In addition, in Senate Bill No. 883, we have proposed to use another \$15 million from the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund to replace general fund appropriations for the health care payments program in Fiscal Year 2010. This will leave the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund with projected balances of \$6.2 million, \$3.5 million and \$15.7 million in Fiscal Years 2009, 2010 and 2011, respectively.

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, 9:30am, 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 a person with a disability that has been able to access support because I receive services offered in the DD/MR Waiver. With the support of these services I am able to participate in meaningful activities that allow me to have a life just like every other person. With services, I get to participate with Special Olympics, have fun, and make friends. I now have friends. Going to program is good. Everything is good when I get to see staff and my friends. Without services, my health and safety would be at risk.

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)681-0747, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Almer Villanueva

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  
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I am an employee and advocate of participants with disabilities that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the DD/MR Waiver in order to care for people. With the support of these services I am able to provide services and ensure needs are being met and that participants are safe. I am able to put family's minds at peace when they need to go to work, and know their family members who receive services are able to participate in meaningful activities that allow them to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, participants may have to be home alone, disengaged from the community, and could create major health and safety concerns.

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)681-0747, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Charles "Bo" Roy

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  
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I am a person with a disability that has been able to access support because I receive services offered in the DD/MR Waiver. With the support of these services I am able to participate in meaningful activities that allow me to have a life just like every other person. My services help me with daily life skills and I get to make friends. I would miss not getting to go on excursions and see new things. Without services, my health and safety would be at risk.

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)681-0747, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Edward Kepa-Smith

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  
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I am a person with a disability that has been able to access support because I receive services offered in the DD/MR Waiver. With the support of these services I am able to participate in meaningful activities that allow me to have a life just like every other person. I don't want my services to be cut. I want to keep coming to Easter Seals Hawai'i. I am learning how to use money because I come to program. Without services, my health and safety would be at risk.

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)681-0747, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Tabata

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  
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I am a person with a disability that has been able to access support because I receive services offered in the DD/MR Waiver. With the support of these services I am able to participate in meaningful activities that allow me to have a life just like every other person. Belonging to a program and working with staff makes me happy. I have more fun going to program than if I had to stay home alone. I would miss everyone and my health and safety would be at risk.

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)681-0747, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Leighton Nuibe

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  
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FUND

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

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

Please accept this 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 son Robert and daughter Janet attend Easter Seals Hawai'i and without these funds it would be difficult for them to continue. Since they need the continuing socialization and mental stimulation this program affords, they would lose a very important part of their lives. This is something that I have fought for, for our many deserving challenged adults. Please pass this bill.

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)672-0099, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Russell

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)***.

***Hi, my name is Kevin and am a person with a disability that has been able to access support  
afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. With the support of these services I am  
able to work on my goals.***

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 [981-2242](tel:981-2242) for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Kevin Foster

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 a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the  
services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these  
services I am able to know that his needs are being met and that he is safe. My son is able  
participate in meaningful activities that allow him to increase his independence, maintain  
health and safety, continue to participate in his exercise programs, and to have a life 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 be major health and  
safety concern.***

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk  
the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs.  
Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679 SD 1**. I can  
be reached at 935-6046, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Marlene Miprano

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, 9:30am, 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 have been an employee of Easter Seals Hawai'i for several years and have had the opportunity to work with many adults with Developmental Disabilities. I see how important and meaningful these services are for the people we serve and because of these services, people do not need to stay home and are able to have, and lead, real lives. People are able to get jobs, be active members of their communities, and make lasting and real friendships.

Since the State's recent budget reduction I have seen many changes to participant's services. Some have shown an increase in needs for supports while others are more withdrawn from offered activities and are struggling with the reduction in service days or hours. Other people at our program are concerned because they are missing out on much needed social skills opportunities that support them to build real and meaningful relationships with others. This in turn leads to health and safety concerns for the people we support. Please pass this bill.

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) 681-0747, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Michelle Kane

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, 9:30am, 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 work for a provider agency as a Service Supervisor who covers cases of people with developmental disabilities. I have seen first hand the effect of the recent budget reduction on families and participants and it has been a devastating process. Many of our families rely on services funded by the waiver program to work, support their loved ones and their household finances. Many families are unable to provide the opportunities that our provider agencies can provide for these participants.*

*With these essential services, our participants are able to learn valuable life skills in a safe environment. Our people are able to be included in their community with these waiver funded supports which every person on earth is entitled to. Many of the supports that we provide, families can not provide for the simple reason that they do not have the tools or resources that we do. I have assisted many participants with utilizing visual supports at day programs that families just do not have the resources for.*

*In reaction to the budget reduction, I have had to sit down with many family members who provide services to their loved ones and listen to their stories of how they do not know how they are going to make ends meet now that their hours have been cut so significantly. Others have shared how disappointed and sad they are that now their loved one will no longer be able to attend our ADH program which essentially means they will lose out on many opportunities that families can not provided.*

*After sitting down with all my families I support and doing my best to support them through this process, I have had to sit down with many staff to tell them that their hours have been cut so dramatically, now they are at risk of losing their benefits. The past couple of months have been so dismal; this budget reduction has affected so many people; not just the participants we serve. Our families and staff who have dedicated their lives to supporting people with disabilities truly believe that people are people, no matter what disability they may have.*

*Since I have been in the field of supporting people with disabilities, I have seen the quality of services we are able to provide dramatically and steadily improve. We have moved from excommunicating people from the world of "normal" by institutionalizing people to believing that ALL people have rights no matter what shape, size or disability. Cutting these funds and services will push us backwards many years.*

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 678-3754, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Sara Ann Dinkelo

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, 9:30am, 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 care for my sister who has a developmental disability. The support my sister receives through the MR/DD Waiver allows her to access support to a variety of programs that help support our household, my sister's quality of life, and her access of her community.*

*The Waiver allows me to get paid for supporting my sister through a provider agency. With out this support, I would not be able to support our household as I am unable to have another job. My sister is also able to work on her independence through the support of the day programs she attends. The programs provide meaningful activities and access into the community. These programs also support my sister with learning life skills and allow her to learn to do more things for herself. Since my sister's first language is Vietnamese, these programs assist my sister with learning better English and communicating her wants and needs more on her own.*

*The services that my sister receives are crucial for our household survival and also for my sister's quality of life. The services that she receives gives her the ability to participate in meaningful activities that allow her to have a life just like every other citizen. With out the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my sister would have to stay home and be disengaged from the community. Also, I would no longer be able to support our household's financial needs.*

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 677-4717, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Nu Giang

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, 9:30am, 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 care for my nephew who has a developmental disability. As a result of the recent budget reduction, he is no longer able to attend his day program Monday through Friday; he has to stay home on Fridays now. Also, it has resulted a cut in my own hours which has affected our household's situation dramatically.*

*When my nephew attends the day program, he is able to access his community and his challenging behaviors are supported. Also, since I am also caring for my husband who's health has recently declined, I am overwhelmed at home. I try to do my best to support my nephew and my husband but it is often taxing on my own health as well as I do not often get a break.*

*The Adult Day Habilitation program that my nephew attends is crucial in obtaining behavioral supports that he needs, participating in meaningful activities and overall, they are able to support Martin in ways that I am not capable of at home.*

*Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my nephew would miss out on meaningful opportunities for him to manage his challenging behaviors and participate in activities that are crucial for him having a meaningful life. Since I do not drive, I am unable to assist my nephew with going out into the community very often.*

*Without these services, I would lose my paycheck that I receive assisting my nephew with his provider agency and also I will miss out on the support that they provide to me and my family to assist Martin. Since I have to care for both my nephew and my husband, I am unable to work any other job and the funding that this service brings into my household is vital for survival.*

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 734-0925, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Blossom Asunson

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, 9:30am, 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 a parent of a daughter with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. The services that my daughter receives are essential to her involvement in the community. Because of these services my daughter can be involved in the community and have access to activities like the Special Olympics.***

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 685-4644, for any further questions.

Sincerely,  
Paul Kelley

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, 9:30am, 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 a parent of a daughter with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. Because of these services I am able to go to work and have her be in a safe environment where her personal needs are met. Without these services I may not be able to work and meet my own family's needs or pay my mortgage. There is no other place for my daughter to go that could take care of her. If services were lost I would have to quite my job to care for her and we would loose our home. My daughter was born with only one kidney and also has seizures so she needs to be constantly monitored to make sure her medical needs are met. Without these services it would be impossible to meet her needs. I want you to be aware that my daughter is not just a case or another number but she is a real person who cannot take care of herself unless I can receive the help provided by 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**. I can be reached at 255-4897, for any further questions.

Sincerely,  
Janelle Gugudan

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, 9:30am, 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 a mother of a daughter with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. Through the DD waver program I am most grateful for services that my daughter receives. She is not home bound and is out in the community where she has opportunities to make friends, socialize, learn to make good choices, and participate in activities such as water exercise, country line dancing and stretching. With the services my daughter is like a plant that has the right environment and nutrients to grow.***

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 839-4912, for any further questions.

Sincerely,  
Janice Chang

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, 9:30am, 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 a sister of a person with a disability who has been able to access supports afforded by the MR/DD Waiver. With the support of these services I am able to go to work knowing that her needs are being met and that she is safe. My sister needs routine to function and the loss of this routine would result in confusion and increased agitation for her. My sister also has a great bond with her community based provider and this bond is essential to continuity of care and helps her to increase her daily functioning. My sister also has alzheimer's and Dementia and a disruption in her routine may worsen these disorders. Without these services my sister would not be able to be as active or involved in the community. Not only am I able to go to work knowing that my sister is safe, but with these services she is able to participate in meaningful activities that allow her to have a life just like every other citizen.***

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 351-7508, for any further questions.

Sincerely,  
Peggy Maki

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, 9:30am, 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 a sister of a person with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. Without these services my sister would not be able to participate in community activities. Without these services she would not be able to get the help that she needs like being active and healthy within the community. Because my sister is able to have these services she is able to participate in meaningful activities within the community and live life like every other citizen.***

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 262-4515, for any further questions.

Sincerely,  
Cynthia Silva

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, 9:30am, 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 a mother of a daughter with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. I am a single parent and my income is all of the support that I have. If there are any more cuts in services I will have to stay home to take care of my child and we will suffer severe financial difficulty. My child has cerebral palsy and epilepsy and I know that her care takers are trained to handle a seizure if she has one. I know that because of these services she is safe and I am able to work because she can be safe with her care providers.***

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 551-5398, for any further questions.

Sincerely,  
Julie Pleasanton

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, 9:30am, 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 a guardian of a niece with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. These services are important because they teach her independent living skills.***

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 235-7621, for any further questions.

Sincerely,  
Brenda Abe

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, 9:30am, 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 a grandparent who has adopted my grandson with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. I am at the age where I cannot provide all of the supports that he needs and I cannot be as active with him as a young parent could be. The community based provide helps me to take my grandson to events and essential activities in his community. I want the hours to be restored for my grandson because he has very few hours of supports and when these hours are cut it makes a huge impact on his life. Without services my grandson would not be able to participate in the Special Olympics and would not be able to be actively involved in his community living life like everyone else. Without services my grandson would not have help and support to learn independent living skills. I believe that part of the money should go to the department of health to help provide services for the DD/MR population.***

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 625-9183, for any further questions.

Sincerely,  
Linda Cabaal

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, 9:30am, 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 a parent of a son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. My son benefits greatly from these services because they provide him with instruction on life skills, develop his independence and social interaction. My son would not be able to get these supports without the funding provided by the MR/DD Waiver. Easter Seals is an extremely important part of his life. It is so important for my son to lead a “normal” life, and with these supports he is able to get out into the community and really thrive as an individual.***

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 623-6501, for any further questions.

Sincerely,  
Barbara Burke

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, 9:30am, 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 a parent of a son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. Without these services he could not be involved in the community. If he did not have these services he would be at home and not able to attend community events. I feel that it is really important for the DD community to receive services.***

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 221-2971, for any further questions.

Sincerely,  
Sherry Harada

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, 9:30am, Conference Room 211

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***I am a parent of a son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. There have been cuts made already and my son has been affected by this because due to these cuts he no longer has one on one services. The lack of one on one service greatly affects my son because he is not able to participate in community events and which impacts his learning. I am in favor of any funding that can help restore these services.***

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 221-2971, for any further questions.

Sincerely,  
Lauree Kaleikau-Gill

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

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***I am a parent of a daughter with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. These services have helped my daughter in learning to socialize and could help her to work toward employment in the future. I feel that with this support she would be able to become more independent and give back to the community. I really want my daughter to become more independent but she has not yet been able to learn how to cross the street safely. With the services that she has gotten in the past under the DD Waiver she has improve her awareness of safety issues in the community. Routine and repetition are very important to her learning. The more she is out in the community and in those types of environments the more successful she will be in achieving her goals of safety and independence.***

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 351-5935, for any further questions.

Sincerely,  
Rachel Tanaka

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, 9:30am, Conference Room 211

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***I am a parent of a son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. Depriving our son from monthly services that allow him to go out into the community and participate in community activities. This is a disruption in his routine and he can no longer participate in these activities because he does not have the community based provider as a support.***

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 291-0362, for any further questions.

Sincerely,  
Gordon Sam

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, 9:30am, Conference Room 211

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***I am a service supervisor at an agency that provides services to the MR/DD Waiver population. As you already know the families that we serve have been asked to make cuts and sacrifice services because of the recent budget reductions. Many families have lost 15% or more of their services and are in a tight spot. Several participants in our program are severely disabled and need constant care. I feel that it is unfair to ask these people to take a cut in services because they would not be able to hold down a job and care for their loved one without the support provided by the MR/DD Waiver. This means that families will have to give up their jobs to stay at home and provide care, resulting in other consequences like loosing their home because of inability to pay their mortgage or going on welfare because of the lack of income to support their family. If families do not quit their jobs they will be forced to place their loved on in an institution because there will be no one else to provide care for them. Either way, it will ultimately be more expensive for the state to provide institutional care or other welfare services to families than it will be for the state to award some money from the emergency reserve budget to ensure that this does not happen. Please do not make an already bad financial situation worse for families, participants and the state in general. I urge you to use some of the money from the Emergency reserve budget to help support our families in these difficult economic times.***

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 678-3754, for any further questions.

Sincerely,  
Danielle Giroux, B.A.

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  
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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 parent of a son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. My son has benefited greatly from the supports provided by this program. This program has provided my son with routine and support within the community. These supports have allowed him to participate in community activities that he would not otherwise have the chance to be involved in. This program has also enabled my son to participate in meaningful activities in the community when he would otherwise be at home. Without the services provided by the MR/DD waiver, my son would have to be at home disengaged from the community.***

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 456-9893, for any further questions.

Sincerely,  
Lianna McMillan

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  
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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 an individual with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the  
services offered in the MR/DD Waiver. With the support of these services I am able to access  
my community and work on developing my life skills. I am also able participate in meaningful  
activities that allow me to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided  
under the MR/DD Waiver, I would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community  
which would be major health and safety concern as both my mother and sister work and are  
busy. Receiving services makes me happy. I do not like staying at home.***

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 contacted at 16-785 Kikania, Kea'au, HI 96749 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Anna-Lisa Pabro

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  
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Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

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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 person who receives PAB 1 services through the DD/MR Medicaid Waiver Program.  
Through this program, I am able to socialize with my friends and make more friends. I am able  
to exercise every day and stay healthy in a safe environment. I can also work to improve on my  
life skills such as cooking, budgeting, attending necessary appointments, shopping, etc. I really  
enjoy receiving services and being a part of my community.

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 933-2344 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Chloe Awong-Seghorn

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  
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Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living  
(PICL Programs)***.

***I am a parent of a daughter with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by  
the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of  
these services I am able to go to work knowing that her needs are being met and that she is  
safe. Not only am I able to go to work, but my daughter is able participate in meaningful  
activities that allow her to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services  
provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my daughter would have to be home alone, disengaged  
from the community which would be major health and safety concern. For these reasons, I  
am very upset. Why should our children be punished! It is improper and unprofessional for  
services to be taken away from these vulnerable and unfortunate kids. Why do our kids have to  
go without all the time. These funds help my daughter and other individuals with disabilities a  
“normal” life. My daughter is entitled to these funds.***

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 854-6833 for any further questions.

Sincerely,  
Debbie Seghorn

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  
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***I am a parent of a daughter with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by  
the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of  
these services I am able to go to work knowing that her needs are being met and that she is  
safe. Not only am I able to go to work, but my daughter is able participate in meaningful  
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Sincerely,  
Debbie Seghorn

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  
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Twenty-Fifth Legislature  
State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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Respite, DD Division DD/MR Waiver, and the DD Division Partnerships in Community Living  
(PICL Programs)***.

***My name is Gavin-John Mata and I am a Community Based Provider/Direct Service Worker  
and work with individuals with Developmental Disabilities. I support this bill because these  
services are important. Participants get to interact with their community and their community  
gets to interact with them. We are all the same and our participants should be themselves.  
Without this service, our participants wouldn't be able to access the community and would be  
left at home majority of the time. Let's help them to become contributing members of the  
community.***

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 756-0998 for any further questions.

Sincerely,  
Gavin-John Mata  
2706 Pulima Dr.  
Hilo, HI 96720

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  
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Without this service, our participants wouldn't be able to access the community and would be  
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Sincerely,  
Gavin-John Mata  
2706 Pulima Dr.  
Hilo, HI 96720

Friday, February 27, 2009

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State of Hawaii, Joint Hearings – Senate Committee on Human Services & Health & the Ways  
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Twenty-Fifth Legislature  
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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 provider for a young girl with a disability that has been able to access support afforded  
by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to receive care. With the support of  
these services the parents of the child I work with are able to go to work knowing that their  
child is safe and her needs are being met. Not only is the parent able to go to work but her  
daughter is able to participate in meaningful activities that allow her to have a life just like  
every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, this young lady  
would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community which would be a major health  
and safety concern.*

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk  
the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs.  
Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679 SD 1**. I can  
be reached at (808) 990-2701, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Nalani Aiwohi

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  
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The services my daughter receives has changed her life and made my life a lot more manageable. My daughter has Downs Syndrome and was very difficult to teach her appropriate things to do. With the attention I need to give to my ailing husband, who has prostate cancer, and is on dialysis, having no use of his hands or feet due to a stroke he suffered some years ago, it was very difficult to manage the needs of my daughter. The Personal Assistant services she receives from the Medicaid Waiver program has allowed my daughter to grow towards independence. She is able to do things for herself like brush her own teeth, know that she can leave the store after getting a treat, and following a visual schedule to be more independent with her responsibilities after school. The services she receives are definitely invaluable services that have changed her and her whole family's well-being. 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) 956-7294, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Valerie Thompson

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

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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 Personal Assistance / Habilitation (PAB) services from the DD/MR Waiver program that my  
daughter receives is a necessary service that has proven to be beneficial to her health and over all  
well-being. Without these services, my daughter would be at home since there are no other programs  
suitable to meet my daughter's needs. No other program is skilled and trained to curtail the kinds of  
behaviors my daughter displays in situations that only she encounters where coping can be difficult.  
Through the years of receiving PAB services, my daughter has matured, her character molded to  
where she's able to handle situations in a more manageable way. She has made good progress and  
continues to improve in every aspect of her life. Currently she's researching job opportunities, and  
volunteers at a pre-school, becoming a contributing member of her community.**

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) 959-1198, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Mary Lou Benevides

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  
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Health & the Ways and Means Committee:

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 sibling and caregiver of a person with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my brother. Receiving services has helped my brother be able to live with his family instead of living in a care home, where he wouldn't be happy. Through services, he is able to be more independent and receives the best care possible. He receives help with personal care needs and a lot more. If he lived in a care home, it would cost the state and tax payers a lot more money to care for him and he wouldn't be able to get the quality, 24-hour care he does now. With the support of these services, I know that his needs are being met and that he is safe. My brother is able participate in meaningful activities that allow him to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my brother would be in a care home, disengaged from the community which would be major health and safety concern.***

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at 640-2772 or 15-573 South Puni Mauka Lp. Pahoa, HI 96778 for any further questions.

Sincerely,  
Harriet Schilling

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).***

***My name is Nanimahealani Saffery and I am a Community Based Provider/Direct Service  
Worker for an individual with a developmental disability receiving support from the MR/DD  
Waiver. I feel that the service and support I provide is really good in helping my participant  
get out in to the community and work on important life skills goals. Without these services, my  
participant would not be a participating member of the community and she would not be able  
to access the community as much as her mother and sister are very busy.***

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 938-9200 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Nanimahealani Saffery

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).***

***My name is Tisha Takazawa and I work with individuals with disabilities every day. I support  
SB 1679 because the money would help us to support individual with disabilities. Benefits of  
this program include Socialization, Community Access, Improving Life Skills, developing self-  
worth, etc. It is a fact that there is a high rate of isolation among individuals with disabilities  
and one of the focuses of this program is to support our participants to become contributing  
members of their community. A lot of the participants I work with would be left home alone or  
have to be put into a care home if they were unable to receive services. We have done simple  
things such as help individuals get to their doctor's/dentist's appointments, learn to cook, clean  
their home, do the laundry, or personal care items such as taking a bath, assist in feeding,  
accessing the community or even volunteering and getting a job. All of these items are  
meaningful to these individuals. These services help individuals with disabilities to have  
"normal" lives and to be "just like everyone else." Our participants are able to go out into the  
community through our program. Without it, they would be left home alone and for many of  
these individuals, it would be a major health and safety concern.***

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk  
the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs.  
Mahalo for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679 SD 1**. I can be  
reached at 640-4328 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Tisha Takazawa  
27-1049 Mamalahoa Hwy.  
Pepe'ekeo, HI 96783

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 a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the  
services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these  
services I am able to go to work knowing that his needs are being met and that he is safe. Not  
only am I able to go to work, but my son is able participate in meaningful activities that allow  
him to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD  
Waiver, my son would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community which would be  
major health and safety concern.***

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk  
the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs.  
Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679 SD 1**. I can  
be reached at 968-6080, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Dolores Verbanic

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 daughter with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by  
the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of  
these services I am able to go to work knowing that her needs are being met and that she is  
safe. Not only am I able to go to work, but my daughter is able participate in meaningful  
activities such as Special Olympics that allow her to maintain her physical fitness and increase  
her social skills, and have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided  
under the MR/DD Waiver, my daughter would have to be home alone, disengaged from the  
community which would be a major health and safety concern.***

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk  
the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs.  
Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679 SD 1**. I can  
be reached at [935-0537](tel:935-0537), for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Carey Uchida

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 a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the  
services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these  
services I am able to go to work knowing that his needs are being met and that he is safe. Not  
only am I able to go to work, but my son is able participate in meaningful activities that allow  
him to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD  
Waiver, my son would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community which would be  
major health and safety concern. My son is not able to stay home alone, he needs care 24  
hours every day. Due to the budget cuts my son has to stay home two days out of the week and  
I have to hire people to take care of him so that I can work. The thing I am most scared of his  
is the future for the people with disabilities.***

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 982-8719, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Helen Trusdell

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 truly believe that the services my son receives through the DD/MR Waiver services are  
needed for his support, health and well-being. I am a single mom who cannot leave my son  
under the care of unskilled workers who respectfully work in other after school programs.  
Having support under the DD/MR Waiver services, I know my son is under the care of  
trained, skilled staff that is able understand him, redirect his behaviors, and take him into  
the community to learn life skills.**

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) 936-6222, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Angela Evans

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 single parent who has had the privilege to see my special needs daughter in the DD/MR Waiver services grow towards independence in the home as well as out in the community. The DD/MR Waiver services also allowed her to grow in her behavior and character. The skilled, trained staff my daughter has working with her has been the difference in support towards getting her more independent. Without these services, my daughter would spend her time at home, not getting the kind of support and training she so desperately need.**

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) 965-8276, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Laverne Sanchez

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, 9:30am, 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 a parent of a son with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these services, my son has been able to receive personal care and have access to the community. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my son/daughter would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community, which would be a major health and safety concern.

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679**. I can be reached at (808) 291-5771, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Petronilla Eschelbach

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, 9:30am, 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 a parent of a daughter with a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. My daughter is medically fragile and needs constant supervision to remain safe and healthy. She needs to be fed through G-tube, receive suctioning as needed, and range of motion to avoid bed-sores. Because of the recent budget cut, I am unable to go to work as I need to take care of my daughter. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my daughter's health and safety would be a great concern for my family and me.

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) **429-1596** for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Un Hee Lee

Tuesday, February 10, 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 work with individuals with developmental disabilities. For the past 8 years I have seen the positive outcomes of these individuals receiving personal assistance/habilitation from direct service workers through DD/MR Medicaid Waiver programs. With the recent budget cut, these individuals, families, and direct service workers were affected. Individuals that relied on direct service workers to support them in their daily living and independent living skills are isolated from the community. Their health and safety are also put at risk due to the fact that those who need a higher level of care has no one to support that area of their life.***

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 678-3754, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Kwee Ann Yap-Fukunaga

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, 9:30am, 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 a person with a disability that has been able to access support because I receive services offered in the DD/MR Waiver. With the support of these services I am able to participate in meaningful activities that allow me to have a life just like every other person. Without services supported by the DD/MR Waiver I would not get to be around friends. My services help me with daily life skills and I get to make friends. Without services, my health and safety would be at risk.

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)681-0747, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Norine Ng

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, 9:30am, 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 a person with a disability that has been able to access support because I receive services offered in the DD/MR Waiver. With the support of these services I am able to participate in meaningful activities that allow me to have a life just like every other person. I am happy coming to program. I like learning how to write and draw at program. I also get to make choices and purchase products at stores. I am happy coming to a program. Without services, my health and safety would be at risk.

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)681-0747, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Sean Reilley

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, 9:30am, 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 a person with a disability that has been able to access support because I receive services offered in the DD/MR Waiver. With the support of these services I am able to participate in meaningful activities that allow me to have a life just like every other person. Going to program is good. Everything is good when I get to see staff and my friends. I get to have fun. Without services, my health and safety would be at risk.

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)681-0747, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Sharon Bettencourt

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)***.

**My daughter's services through the DD/MR Waiver program have been the difference  
maker in my daughter's life. She has developed life and safety skills she wouldn't have  
gotten if the services weren't in existence. She is now able to cook and bake with assistance,  
she is able to cross the street safely, and able to make her own purchases at the stores in the  
community. If the services were cut any further, or be cancelled altogether, my daughter's  
health and safety would be at risk.**

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) 896-5477, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Lisa Vierra

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 thankful for the services my daughter has received via the DD/MR Waiver Services  
Program. Over the last couple of years, my daughter has increased her independence to  
where I never thought was possible for her. With supports, she is now able to do her own  
laundry, do her own chores, grocery shop at specific stores, and live on her own at her own  
place. She is also volunteering at a hotel and at the food bank, distributing food for the ones  
who are in need. Without these services, my daughter would be home bound and lose her  
independence, increase in negative behavior, and not be a contributing member of her  
community.**

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) 896-3122, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Doris Iwaoka

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 a disability that has been able to access support afforded by the  
services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my child. With the support of these  
services I know that his needs are being met and that he is safe. My son is able to participate  
in meaningful activities that increase his independent living skills, communication skills, social  
skills, and that allow him to have a life just like every other citizen. Without the services  
provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my son would be disengaged from the community which  
would be a major health and safety concern.***

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk  
the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs.  
Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679 SD 1**. I can  
be reached at 966-7579, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Karen Melillo

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 brother/guardian of a woman with a disability that has been able to access support  
afforded by the services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for my sister. With the  
support of these services I am know that her needs are being met and that she is safe. I also  
am ensured that my sister is able participate in meaningful activities that allow her to have a  
life just like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, my  
sister would have to be home alone, disengaged from the community which would be major  
health and safety concern.***

If the emergency appropriation is not approved as soon as possible, the state will be putting at risk  
the thousands of families that are or were served each month in these very valuable programs.  
Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **Strong Support of SB 1679 SD 1**. I can  
be reached at [959-9511](tel:959-9511) for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Ted Furuta

To: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: *Stacie-Ann Jordan*

Date: February 27, 2009

Re: Testimony in Support of S.B. 1679 – Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

*I SUPPORT this bill because  
I need to come to program every day,  
I need to come so I can stay off PRUGS.*

*Stacie Ann Jordan.*

To: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: EDWARD HO

Date: February 27, 2009

Re: Testimony in Support of S.B. 1679 – Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

I support this bill because  
I need to come to Goodwill  
everyday -

I have learned more things here  
than anywhere else -  
that's why!

Edward R. HO

To: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: OLA DOMBROWSKI

Date: February 27, 2009

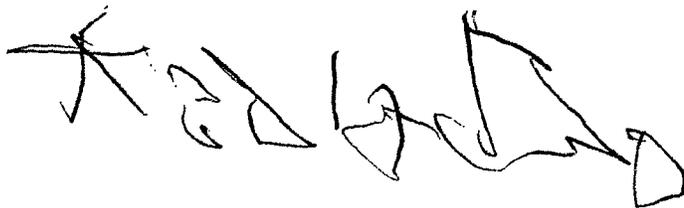
Re: Testimony in Support of S.B. 1679 – Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

I want to come to program

5 days a week -

if I don't go to program I'll be home  
alone -

I need help - if I am home alone  
and I fall I cannot get up.



To: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: *Georgina Kawamoto*

Date: February 27, 2009

Re: Testimony in Support of S.B. 1679 – Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

*I support this bill because I want  
to come more days -*

*Georgina Kawamoto*

To: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: Zenon Dolotina

Date: February 27, 2009

Re: Testimony in Support of S.B. 1679 – Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

I am speaking this bill because I want  
to come to program Monday to Friday  
5 days a week.

ZENON DOLOTINA

To: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: *Freddie Valiente*

Date: February 27, 2009

Re: Testimony in Support of S.B. 1679 – Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

*I support this bill because I need  
to come to program every day.  
Freddie*

To: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: Lawrence Carrates

Date: February 27, 2009

Re: Testimony in Support of S.B. 1679 – Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

I support this bill and I am  
appealing because I need to come to  
Program so I can learn more things  
and not stay home and do nothing.

Lawrence Carrates

To: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: Armando Dickerson Jr

Date: February 27, 2009

Re: Testimony in Support of S.B. 1679 – Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

I support this bill because I am  
mad about not being able to come  
to Goodwill everyday. I need to learn  
more things and I can't do it without  
Program .

Armando Dickerson Jr

To: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: *Kimberly Malajito*

Date: February 27, 2009

Re: Testimony in Support of S.B. 1679 – Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

*I need to come to program everyday. that  
is why I support the bill. I need help  
with my life. Kimberly Malajito*

To: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: Michael Farino

Date: February 27, 2009

Re: Testimony in Support of S.B. 1679 – Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

I fully support

this bill because

I like to attend the  
program everyday

Michael Farino

To: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: Sangmin Byun

Date: February 27, 2009

Re: Testimony in Support of S.B. 1679 – Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

This bill is important because I want to have more P.A. I need program because I would stay home alone and get into trouble. "I LOVE GOODWILL!" "THIS IS MY HOME AWAY FROM HOME."

Sangmin Byun

To: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: Heidi Do

Date: February 27, 2009

Re: Testimony in Support of S.B. 1679 – Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

I WANT TO ATTEND  
PROGRAM ALL 5 days  
to be around my FRIENDS  
AND LEARN how to go out  
IN the community. TO  
LEARN ABOUT TAKING the  
bus AND LEARNING how  
to feel safe.

To: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: Jennifer Lopez

Date: February 27, 2009

Re: Testimony in Support of S.B. 1679 – Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

I WANT to attend Goodwill  
ADH program because  
I don't want to stay home  
AND NOT be able to be  
around friends.

I WANT to stay busy AND  
learn new things.

To: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: *RENANTE SALVIDEA*

Date: February 27, 2009

Re: Testimony in Support of S.B. 1679 – Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

*I feel safe at Goodwill.  
I can learn how to be  
SAFE*

To: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From:

Date: February 27, 2009

Re: Testimony in Support of S.B. 1679 – Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

I support this Bill.

I need help and I support  
the Bill.

by

Cresendo Hevme JR

To: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From:

Date: February 27, 2009

Re: Testimony in Support of S.B. 1679 – Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

I support this Bill.  
I need help, I enjoy  
going to goodwill.

Joan Sekizawa

To: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From:

Date: February 27, 2009

Re: Testimony in Support of S.B. 1679 – Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

I support this bill is.

I love good will and

I need the help

Christopher  
Duramoto

To: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: Dana Kaulana Palakiko

Date: February 27, 2009

Re: Testimony in Support of S.B. 1679 – Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

I support this bill, because if they take another 15% from my emergency budget, I want have a program to help me.

To: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From:

Date: February 27, 2009

Re: Testimony in Support of S.B. 1679 – Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

I support this bill  
because I don't  
want my services to  
be taken away

BLAINE SARDINHA

To: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From:

Date: February 27, 2009

Re: Testimony in Support of S.B. 1679 – Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

I SUPPORT THIS BILL BECAUSE I DO NOT  
WANT MY ADH & PAB SERVICES TO  
BE IN JEOPARDY AGAIN. SALVADOR

To: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: *Christina Moradas*

Date: February 27, 2009

Re: Testimony in Support of S.B. 1679 – Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

*I Love program. I need my  
friends and staff. I can't stay  
home and be alone. Without program  
I have no else place to go to.*

*CM*

*C N/I*

To: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From:

Date: February 27, 2009

Re: Testimony in Support of S.B. 1679 – Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

I SUPPORT this petition  
because if they continue  
to cut MY services  
I won't have a program to help  
me better MY LIFE.

Melie Wore

To: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From:

Date: February 27, 2009

Re: Testimony in Support of S.B. 1679 – Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

I support this Bill

Because I need my program  
to be stable.

Harry Weigle-Kamoky

To: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From:

Date: February 27, 2009

Re: Testimony in Support of S.B. 1679 – Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

I SUPPORT THIS BILL BECAUSE IT'S IMPORTANT TO ME IN SO MANY WAYS. IT ALLOWS ME OPPORTUNITIES TO ACCESS MY COMMUNITY. IT ALSO ALLOWS ME TO BE AROUND MY SUPPORTIVE NETWORK OF FRIENDS. I CAN EXERCISE MY BODY AND BRAIN AND KEEP EMOTIONALLY AND PHYSICALLY FIT. I FEEL I HAVE AN ACTIVE PART IN MY COMMUNITY AND ASSIST MY PEERS.

AVELINO  
(Avelino Armas)

To: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From:

Date: February 27, 2009

Re: Testimony in Support of S.B. 1679 – Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

I want No more cut off  
No more because we need  
help and I want it back  
how was it really a Major  
lost to Me, I really miss  
hanging with Friends and Miss  
Michael Reid ~~teaching~~ learning  
My work

To: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From:

Date: February 27, 2009

Re: Testimony in Support of S.B. 1679 – Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

I support this Bill. Because  
I love coming to Good Will.

*JL Morgan*

To: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From:

Date: February 27, 2009

Re: Testimony in Support of S.B. 1679 – Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

I support this Bill  
I love coming to Good Will

Barney Jang

To: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From:

Date: February 27, 2009

Re: Testimony in Support of S.B. 1679 – Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

I SUPPORT this Bill  
GOOD WILL PROGRAM

Mary Ling

To: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: Herman Kilii

Date: February 27, 2009

Re: Testimony in Support of S.B. 1679 – Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

I SUPPORT THIS BILL.

To: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From:

Date: February 27, 2009

Re: Testimony in Support of S.B. 1679 – Relating to Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund

Ronald Gonzales

I support the S.B. 1679

## kim2 - Arline

---

**From:** Gracie Pakani (Hilo SSV) [Gracie@eastersealshawaii.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 27, 2009 1:00 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

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 Program)s.***

***I am an Easter Seals Hawai'i employee. Recently the state cut a part of our funding that supports our Medicaid Waiver Program. Through the waiver, it allows our participants with developmental disabilities to be important members of our community. I see first hand how the recent budget cuts have affected our participants. Participants have less time to access their community and work on their goals. It has been difficult for families to find coverage for the times that are being cut, especially for the families that need to work to support their family. The cuts have also affected the 80 plus direct services workers that we employ. Some of their paychecks have been cut in half and some are losing their medical benefits. It has become a hardship for participants, families and our workers especially in these tough times.***

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 961-3716 for any further questions.

Sincerely,

*Gracie Pakani*  
Easter Seals Hawaii

**Hilo Support Services**  
**1266 Kamehameha Ave. Ste. C**  
**Hilo, HI 96720**  
**Phone: (808) 961-3716**  
**Fax: (808) 969-3234**

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## kim2 - Arline

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**From:** Kathy Harper (Director of Development) [KHarper@eastersealshawaii.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 27, 2009 1:00 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** SB 1679 SD1 - Monday, March 2, 2009 at 9:30 a.m.

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Dear Honorable Senate Committee members,

On behalf of Easter Seals Hawaii, one of the state's oldest, largest and most respected non-profit providers of programs and services to infants, children, youth and adults with disabilities or special needs and their families, I am submitting testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** OF SB 1679 SD 1. This bill relates to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund and includes appropriations for various "safety net" services deemed 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.**

Every day I witness parents of children with disabilities benefit from the support afforded by services offered in the MR/DD Waiver in order to care for their son or daughter. Thanks to these services, parents and caregivers can go to go to work knowing that their children's special needs are being met and that they are safe. In addition, children can participate in meaningful activities that allow them to live a life of inclusion, quality and independence like every other citizen. Without the services provided under the MR/DD Waiver, these children would be home alone and disengaged from the community which would represent a major health and safety concern.

If SB 1679 SD 1 does not pass, the state will be putting at risk thousands of families that are or were served each month under 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 529-1706 for any further questions.

Mahalo,  
Kathy Harper

Director of Development

Easter Seals|Hawaii  
710 Green Street, Honolulu, HI 96813  
Phone: (808) 536-1015  
Fax: (808) 536-3765

[www.eastersealshawaii.org](http://www.eastersealshawaii.org)

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Support Easter Seals Hawaii just by searching the Web. It will also keep you connected and informed about Easter Seals Hawaii news and events.

It's FREE !! <http://www.freelanthy.com/esh>

## kim2 - Arline

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**From:** Gracie Pakani (Hilo SSV) [Gracie@eastersealshawaii.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 27, 2009 1:06 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** SB 1679 SD 1- RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY AND BUDGET RESERVE FUND

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

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 grandparent of a child with a disability. My grandchild received services from Easter Seals Hawai`i and, I have two children that are employed by Easter Seals Hawai`i. I believe that Easter Seals provides services that are much needed for children and adults with disabilities. It is sad to see their services being cut!***

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 887-0942, for any further questions.

Sincerely,

Yvette Swope

## **kim4 - Elizabeth**

---

**From:** James R. (Bob) Proffitt [bob@pixi.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 27, 2009 2:43 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Cc:** Debbie Miyasaka-Gushiken; Tom Huber  
**Subject:** SB1679,SD1 Monday, March 2, 2009 at 9:30 a.m.

WE are in support of SB1679, SD1 Relating the emergency and budget Reserve Fund.

Our son receives services from both The ARC of Hawaii and Easter Seals. We have recently cut both services because of an across the board cutback in services. This means his learning to take care of his own daily needs (bathing, dressing, taking his medicine, eating and cooking simple meals) and learning to be in the community (take the bus for himself, buy things and get change, and communicate with people in the community) is hurt.

We hope you will restore the funding for the folks receiving the services in SB1679,SD1.

Thank you for your attention to this. Bob & Peggy Proffitt 2024 Aaniu Loop Pearl City Phone # 456-2777.

Bob and Peggy Proffitt  
[bob@pixi.com](mailto:bob@pixi.com)

**kim4 - Elizabeth**

---

**From:** Wanda Stuart [sunflowergirl1935@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 27, 2009 2:58 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Senate Bill 1679 SD1

My comments are relating to Senate Bill 1679 SD1.

We are a family of three. I am a 73 year old caregiver. My son, Robert, 40, and my daughter, Jeanella, 41 complete our family.. My son and my daughter are both developmentally disabled. My daughter has spent the last 11 months fighting Inflammation Breast Cancer. It is a very aggressive cancer. According to the National Cancer Institute, the 5 year survival rate is between 25% and 50%. The average survival time is about 3 years. She attends the P.A. program at Arc of Kauai, and enjoys it very much. To be able to go out and socialize with her peers, and to spend time with her P.A., is a very important part of her life. To have her service hours cut would be a great disappointment to her. Please consider those who are not able to speak for themselves.

Wanda Stuart  
236 Koili Lane  
Kapaa, Hi 96746  
Phone: 822-9984  
e-mail: [sunflowergirl1935@yahoo.com](mailto:sunflowergirl1935@yahoo.com)

**kim2 - Arline**

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**From:** Tara Sabado [Tara.Sabado@co.maui.hi.us]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 27, 2009 8:17 AM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Aloha,

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Aloha,

I would like to take the time to speak about my support of the Senate Bill 1679 SD1 which refers to a safety net of services. I previously work for a non-profit agency that proceed the (PICL) Partnership in Community Living fund for our Maui Community, with this fund we were able to service all of the needs presented within the requirements for families and persons with disabilities. The impact and benefits of this program reached out to the families that were otherwise ineligible for services due to various reasons. This small but important population involved the purchase of items of many categories, personal items, companionship services, specialized equipment, clothing allowance, adaptive equipment, environmental modifications, dental needs, emergency services, and several other categories. When we sent out the letters of unavailable funds to finish the open requests, the response was disheartening. Recipients were in shock and unable to lobby for funding, most families turned in the survey of services with words of appreciation for the services they did receive and the hope of a change in funding appropriations. This is what this bill will support, please hear our plea for the need of this bill being supported and passed.

Mahalo Tara Sabado

Tara Sabado  
Maui County Parks and Recreation  
Inclusion Specialist  
275-D Uhu Street  
Kahului, HI 96732  
Phone: (808) 270-7979  
Fax: (808) 872-5627  
[tara.sabado@mauicounty.gov](mailto:tara.sabado@mauicounty.gov)

- - - - -

County of Maui.

IT Security measures will reject attachments

larger than 12 MB, and will block or quarantine

high-risk file types in attachments.

## **kim2 - Arline**

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**From:** anne chipchase [annechipchase@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 27, 2009 10:51 AM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Support of SB1679

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Aloha and thank you for the opportunity to speak in favor of SB1679 and particularly in favor of the appropriation of funds to continue the Ke Ola Pono (Chronic Disease Self-Management Program and EnhanceFitness) program statewide. These evidence-based programs are important to our state for two important reasons:

1. The programs have significant positive impact on the lives and longevity of Hawaii's seniors and people living with chronic disease
2. They are providing the scientific basis for measurement of efficacy and efficiency, proving that \$1.00 spent on programs of this type can save as much as \$2.50 in medical expenses per year.\*

I therefore respectfully ask for passage of this measure.

Mahalo nui loa,

\*Source: Dr. Lorrin W. Pang during a Healthy Aging Program - Empowering Elders teleconference February 25, 2009.

Anne M. Chipchase, MA  
P.O. Box 3319  
Honolulu, HI 96801  
808-282-3899

zero tolerance = zero thought

tomas j. oberding

**kim2 - Arline**

---

**From:** Duane Bartholomew [dpbartholomew@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 27, 2009 11:26 AM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Support for SB 1679 SD 1

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

February 27, 2009

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

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

Dear Senator Kim and Members of the Committee:

My name is Duane Bartholomew and I strongly support SB 1679 SD 1. This bill would, among other important purposes, restore recent reductions in Medicaid waiver payments to a large number of persons with developmental disabilities. Restoration of these payments would allow persons with disabilities to continue to receive five regular days of the Adult Day Health services they need to allow them to maintain life skills and allow family members to keep working during these tough economic times. Finding alternate care for persons who have lost one day of services is a financial burden with the alternative being that they would lose one work day per week. Curtailment of services also has an adverse effect on the health and safety of persons receiving such services.

Thank you for considering this important Bill.

Sincerely yours,

Duane P. Bartholomew  
Member of the Board of The Arc in Hawaii  
518 Kaumakani St.  
Honolulu, HI 96825

## kim2 - Arline

---

**From:** Tom Huber [hubert001@hawaii.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 27, 2009 11:58 AM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** CORRECTED testimony on SB 1679 SD 1  
**Attachments:** Arc Testimony on SB 1679.doc

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

The Arc in Hawaii  
3989 Diamond Head Road  
Honolulu Hawaii 96816

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

[WAMTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:WAMTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov)

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

Dear Senator Kim and Members of the Committee

The Arc in Hawaii strongly supports SB 1679 SD 1.

SB 1679 SD 1 would, among other important purposes, restore recent reductions in Medicaid waiver payments to a large number of persons with developmental disabilities.

These reductions have left many of the people that we serve without vital services that they have come to rely upon. In a typical case, our clients have lost one out of their five regular days of Adult Day Health services. This has denied them of meaningful habilitation services and daily activities for a full day. In addition, finding alternate care for these persons on the service day that has been eliminated has caused a strain on the working families who must now care for these individuals on one work day per week.

The curtailment of service has adversely affected the health and safety of many of our clients.

The Arc in Hawaii serves over 170 persons with developmental disabilities, many on a 7-day 24-hour basis, more than 90 of whom receive Medicaid waiver service.

Thank you for considering this important Bill.

Thomas P. Huber  
President

**kim4 - Elizabeth**

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**From:** Constance Smith [conkay@hawaii.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 27, 2009 5:43 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** SN1679

Donna Mercado  
Chair of Senate Committee Way and Means  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, Hawaii

I am a single mother with an adult son with Down syndrome. I would like to ask you to strongly support SB 1679.  
Please help to restore funds for the Emergency and Budget Reserve fund. This money is so important for our children and adults with disabilities.  
Please help these people in our community that can't help themselves.  
Sincerely,  
Constance Smith  
419 Keoniana St. #804  
Honolulu, Hi. 96815  
808 949-1999