

brower2-Jenna

From: Kdswriter@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2009 10:00 PM
To: HUS testimony
Subject: Testimony

**LATE
Testimony**

To whom it may concern,

My name is Cheryl Williams. I am a Foster Mom with Catholic Charities. I have been a Foster parent since 1983. I started doing Foster care in Hawaii in 1995. I always wondered why Foster Parents did not receive cost of living raises like everyone else. Raising a child is so expensive. I realize that what we do is a ministry as well as a job. Some people cringe when they think about Foster Care and money. It would be impossible to do our job without money. Like any other job. I think that Foster Children deserve the same things that other children get. Like community sports, piano lessons, bikes and simple things that all other kids get these days. I am asking that you vote yes to SB 186. It is about time. A raise for Room and Board should be a given. At least every two year.

Thank You

Cheryl Williams
94- 343 Keahilele Place
Mililani, Hi. 96789
808-625-4665

Feeling the pinch at the grocery store? [Make meals for under \\$10.](#)

brower2-Jenna

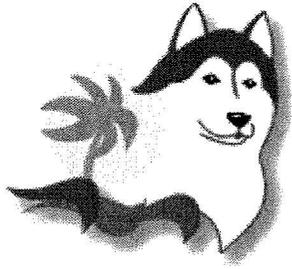
From: Evelyn Souza [esouza_khmn34@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2009 9:02 PM
To: HUS testimony
Cc: Rep. John Mizuno; Rep. Tom Brower; Rep. Della Belatti; Rep. Maile Shimabukuro; Rep. Joe Bertram III; Rep. Ryan Yamane; Rep. Mele Carroll; ward@Capitol.hawaii.gov; Rep. Scott Nishimoto
Subject: SB 186 - Relating to Foster Care
Attachments: Home away from Home.doc

Dear Chairman Mizuno and HUS Committee Members: My husband and I have been foster parents for nearly two decades and leaders of a support group of foster parents since 1993. The introduction of SB 186 is LONG overdue. No thought was given to foster parents when there was a surplus in years past to "take care" of those caring for the special children of this State. But now in these days of economic declines the message is even harder to deliver.. But it needs to be said that the foster board we receive today has proven to be inadequate for a number of years in regards to the needs of the children we share our hearts with. Remember, too, that we are paid NOTHING (theoretically) by the State, what we receive in the form of foster board is a REIMBURSEMENT of money spent for the child. No compensation is given to foster homes upon the entry of a child into our homes. We receive the reimbursement AFTER the first 30 days the child is introduced into the family. Economic times are hard for all of us, but we would never "return" the children in our care. Please be mindful that Federal stimulus funds Title IV E are available and more money available next year to sustain this necessary increase. It is, understandably the worse of times to ask for the increase, BUT we have been silent for so very long.

Please consider this analogy and think of how much the children and the foster homes are being given to provide the best for these children. The board rate is \$529.00...prorated this equates to a mere \$17.00+ a day.. If you to allow my hanai teenagers their \$17.00 a day in cash and told them to feed themselves the breakfast, lunch and dinner and snacks they are accustom to. Add on to that their hair sprays, mousse and gels, hot irons, blow dryers make up, colognes, deodorants, body sprays, acne medications, movie tickets, tennis, art, golf or hula lessons, bus fare to and from wrestling, football, basketball or to the community pool, school field trips, project materials and even a cell phone (for emergencies). And don't forget to add to the cost per day for "room and board". Please take the time to view the attachment and see how well "others" are treated on a daily basis.. **Our children are worth more than this.** Thank you for your time...PLEASE vote in favor of the increase of the foster board. It would be pono! Aloha, Foster parents and children's advocate, Franklin & Evelyn Souza

Hanai Ika U'Hane O Na Keiki
("To foster the Spirit of the Children")
Kapolei, Hi 808-255-8297

LATE
Testimony



NALOWINDS

BOARDING KENNELS

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Our Services...

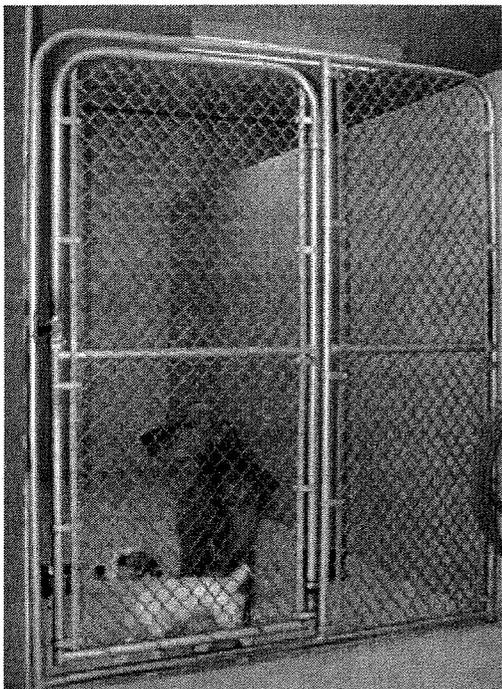
Our Boarding Kennels offer many services built into our one accommodating price.

Basic Kenneling Service

Our basic service includes all this:

- Your dog will have his own large, private, sanitized run - Either 4'x10' or 5'x13'. You're welcome to bring along any toys that will make your dog feel "at-home." For our smaller guests we can offer boarding in our home (with their own separate play area).
- Three exercise sessions a day.





Fred and Haze waiting for their turn for playtime in the park.

- Meals per your dog's needs - Because ours is a home-based kennel, which means that we are available at all times, we can feed your dog on his/her regular schedule, just as you request.
- We proudly offer Eukanuba and Iams dog meals - or you can bring your dog's dietary food supplies along. We have a refrigerator if you need it.
- Medication administration - If your dog requires any special medications, we will happily manage it for you during his/her stay, at no extra charge.

- **Complimentary Beauty Bath** - If your dog is staying 8 days or longer, a complimentary wash & brush is given. This includes a conditioning shampoo, as well as a thorough brush-out and dry.

The cost?

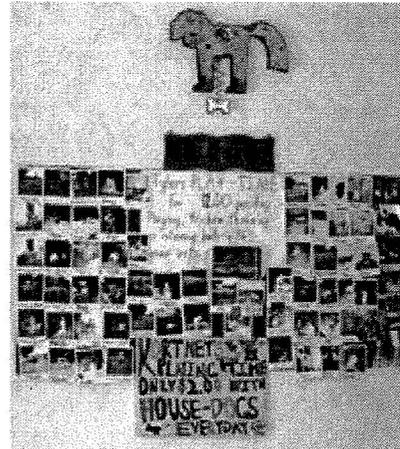
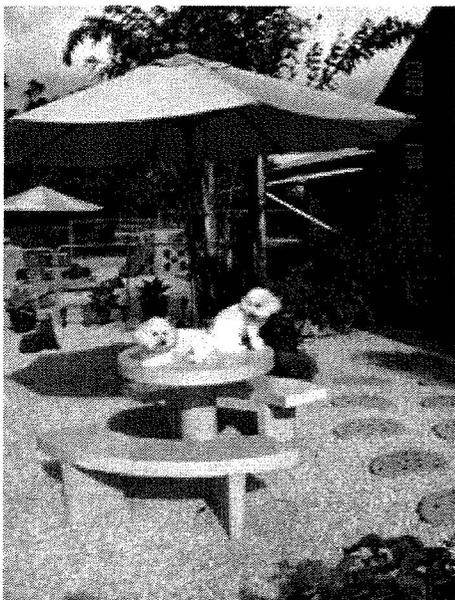
Kenneling - Just \$23.00 to \$30.00 per dog, per calendar day, depending on the size of your dog. (For dogs weighing over 120 pounds, please call for pricing.)

Salon Services- If you prefer additional washing of your dog (as described above), it is \$10.00 to \$20.00, depending on your dog's size and type. Nail trims are \$10.00.

EXTRA * EXTRA * EXTRA

For our medium to large guests we have a 1/3 acre dog park, all fenced in, that they are able to run and play in with our son Tyler or our daughter Kortney. This service can be provided for an additional \$3.00 per dog for each 1/2 hour. For our small guests, we have a playground specifically for them and the cost is \$1.00 per day in addition to boarding fees.

Accepted forms of payment:
We take cash, checks or travelers checks. We do not accept credit cards.



Pictures of Tyler and Kortney's playtime friends.



Kortney and friends.



Tyler and friends.

We do our best...

to provide your pet with a clean, safe and loving environment. We ask that you help us out by informing us of any problems your pet may have (i.e. medical needs; special dietary needs, etc.). We would also appreciate if you inform us about any personality traits that we should be aware of (i.e. fearfulness, anxieties, able to scale an eight-foot fence, etc.).
