SB 809





HENRY OLIVA DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES P. O. Box 339 Honolulu, Hawaii 96809

March 3, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Chair Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM:

Lillian B. Koller, Director

SUBJECT: S.B. 809, S.D. 1, - RELATING TO CHILDREN

Hearing:

March 3, 2009, Tuesday, 9:30 a.m.

Conference Room 221, State Capitol

The purposes of S.B. 809, S.D.1, are to: 1) establish a task force to coordinate resources for homeless children; 2) establish and appropriate funds to the kokua na keiki special fund to create an administrative grant program for the Department of Human Services to award grants for programs that benefit homeless children.

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services strongly opposes this bill for the following reasons:

1. The requirement for a task force to coordinate public and private resources to benefit homeless children is restrictive, duplicative and unnecessary since there already is an Interagency Council on Homelessness that can serve that role and provide reports to the Legislature.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AGENCY

- We believe that the impact of homelessness is not restricted to children. We should be working to minimize the adverse effects of homelessness to the entire family to truly have a significant and positive impact on the homelessness problem facing our community today.
- 3. The Department cannot support this measure because it would adversely impact the priorities set forth in the Executive Biennium Budget for Fiscal Years 2009-2010.

 Given the State's current fiscal difficulties, it would not be prudent to pursue enactment at this time.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

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. 809, S.D. 1

March 3, 2009

RELATING TO CHILDREN

Senate Bill No. 809, S.D. 1, establishes a task force to coordinate public and private resources to benefit homeless children and also establishes and appropriates funds to the Kokua Na Keiki special fund. The special fund is to be administered and expended by the Department of Human Services. The moneys in the special fund shall be used to hire a homeless coordinator, a support staff position, and to provide grants for innovative programs that benefit homeless children or that help coordinate services for the benefit of homeless children. This fund would receive deposits from federal and private entities.

As a matter of general policy, this department does not support the creation of any special fund which does not meet the requirements of Section 37-52.3 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes. Special or revolving funds should: 1) reflect a clear nexus between the benefits sought and charges made upon the users or beneficiaries of the program; 2) provide an appropriate means of financing for the program or activity; and 3) demonstrate the capacity to be financially self-sustaining. It is difficult to determine whether the fund will be self-sustaining.

Furthermore, given the State's current financial situation, it does not appear fiscally prudent to establish the task force and special fund if adequate resources are not available to fund any of the initiatives which may be forthcoming.

Thank you for giving the public the opportunity to comment on SB 1179. I would like to show my support for SB 1179 SD1 upon its second reading.

Farm to school programs can have many interrelated positive impacts: keeping dollars and jobs in Hawai'i; providing fresh, nutritious produce to students; instilling healthy eating habits in Hawai'i's keiki; supporting Hawai'i's farmers; keeping agricultural lands intact by preventing development; and reducing our dependence on imported food thereby moving Hawai'i towards sustainability and food security.

SB 1179 is an excellent opportunity to advance the farm to school process in Hawai'i. The feasibility study could provide much of the information and links to resources that individual school staff, the statewide educational system, farmers, vendors, and distributors need in order to determine how to best work toward increasing the amount of fresh, locally grown produce provided in school lunches for Hawai'i's children. However, we should not stop at a feasibility study.

I respectfully urge you to amend the bill to implement policies to aid in the procurement process for the DOE to be able to source produce more easily directly from Hawai'i farmers and to make sure that the 5 week school lunch calendar can be amended to include healthier CHOICES within the federal guidelines.

Please support this bill and farm to school in Hawai'i.

SB 1179 - Email Testimony

Joshua Leinau

Firefighter, City & County of Honolulu

Parent of 2 young children who will be entering the DOE system.

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SB 1179 - Email Testimony

Jacqueline Leinau

system.

Education & Outreach Director, Kokua Hawai'i Foundation

Parent of 2 young children who will be entering the DOE

LINDA LINGLE GOVERNOR

AARON S. FUJIOKA



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COMMENTS
OF
AARON S. FUJIOKA
ADMINISTRATOR
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE

TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE
ON
WAYS AND MEANS

March 3, 2009

9:30 AM

SB 809, SD1

RELATING TO CHILDREN.

Chair Mercado Kim, Vice Chair Tsutsui and committee members, thank you for the opportunity to comment on SB 809, SD1. This bill, in part, creates an administrative grant program for the department of human services to award grants for programs that benefit homeless children.

The State Procurement Office (SPO) supports the intent of this bill. However, to promote an open, fair, and transparent competitive process, SPO recommends that the bill be amended to require that a request for information process be conducted to publically notify and allow all interested providers to submit a grant application.

The following amendments or similar language to SECTION 3, from page 4, are recommended, for your consideration:

- "(d) Applications for grants shall be made to the department of human services and contain:

 The department of human services shall utilize a request for information process for receiving grant applications and award of grants. At a minimum, a public notice shall be posted on the State

 Procurement Office and the department of human services website for a minimum of seven days until the submittal deadline. The request for information shall include:
 - (1) The name of the requesting organization or individual;
 - (1) Identifying the department of human services as the state agency issuing the request;
 - (2) The purpose of the grant;
 - (3) The <u>description of the service or services</u> to be supported by the grant;

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- (4) The target group to be benefited;
- (5) The cost of the grant; and
- (6) (4) A statement that the grant shall be used for activities that are consistent with the purposes of this Act.;
- (5) The procedure for responding:
- (6) The criteria to be used to evaluate applicants for selection;
- (7) The deadline for submittal of responses to the request for information; and
- (8) Any other requirements that the purchasing agency deem relevant to the request for information.
- (g) Every grant shall be:
- (1) <u>Identified in the procurement file with a written justification for the award to the selected organization(s) or individual(s);</u>
- (2) Posted in a central location on the department of human services' website within five working days of contract execution;
- (1) (3) Monitored by the department of human services to ensure compliance with this Act and the purposes and intent of the grant; and
- (2) (4) Evaluated annually to determine whether the grant attained the intended results in the manner contemplated.