HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE, 2010 STATE OF HAWAII

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H.B. NO. 2694

A BILL FOR AN ACT

PART I

MAKING AN EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO ADDRESS THE BUDGET SHORTFALL.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

2 SECTION 1. This part is recommended by the governor for 3 immediate passage in accordance with section 9 of article VII of 4 the Constitution of the State of Hawaii.

5 SECTION 2. The legislature finds that a critical funding 6 emergency exists. The general assistance program is a block 7 grant program, and the maximum allowance a general assistance 8 recipient may receive is determined by dividing the amount of the appropriation by the number of general assistance 9 10 The general assistance program will expend all recipients. 11 appropriated funds before the end of the current fiscal year and the department will be unable to maintain the current maximum 12 13 general assistance payment benefit.

14 The legislature finds that the current assistance grant for 15 disabled persons is barely enough to cover living expenses for 16 persons on a fixed income who have no other viable means of 17 support. Stopping the grant payment or reducing the amount of



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the grant payment for these persons poses a real threat to these
 their health and safety. To prevent the reduction of general
 assistance payments in the third and fourth quarters of fiscal
 year 2009-2010, additional funds are urgently needed.

5 The purpose of this part is to appropriate additional
6 general funds to address expenses related to general assistance
7 payments from the department of human services.

8 SECTION 3. Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, 9 there is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State 10 of Hawaii, the sum of \$ or so much thereof as may be 11 necessary for the purpose of making general assistance payments 12 for the months of January to June, 2010.

13 SECTION 4. The sum appropriated shall be expended by the14 department of human services for the purposes of this part.

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PART II

16 SECTION 5. If any provision of this Act, or the 17 application thereof to any person or circumstance is held 18 invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or 19 applications of the Act, which can be given effect without the 20 invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions 21 of this Act are severable.



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SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect upon approval.

INTRODUCED BY:

JAN 2 5 2010



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Report Title:

Emergency Appropriation; Budget Shortfall; General Assistance

Description:

Emergency appropriation to address the budget shortfall for general assistance payments in January to June of 2010.

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