HB 1859

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY from the Hawaii State Council on Developmental Disabilities

Testifier's Name: Waynette Cabral

Position Title: Executive Administrator

Organization: Hawaii State Council on Developmental Disabilities

Day, Date, and Time of Hearing: Monday, March 8, 2010, 3:20 pm., Rm. 016

Measure Number: HB 1859 HD1 – RELATING TO FUNDING FOR PARKING FOR

DISABLED PERSONS

Name of Committee(s): Senate Human Services (HMS) and Health (HTH) Committees

Number of copies the Committee is requesting: 1 copy to Committee Clerk

Room Number: 016

E-mailed to: HMSTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov



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 8, 2010

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair Senate Committee on Human Services and The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair Senate Committee on Health Twenty-Fifth Legislature State Capitol State of Hawaii Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senators Chun Oakland and Ige and Members of the Committees:

SUBJECT: HB 1859 HD1 – RELATING TO FUNDING FOR PARKING FOR DISABLED PERSONS

The position and views expressed in this testimony do not represent nor reflect the position and views of the Department of Health.

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities **SUPPORTS THE INTENT OF HB 1859 HD1**. The purpose of this bill is to increase the State motor vehicle registration fee to be paid into the Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) special fund to enforce the Parking for Disabled program. The bill also deletes funding for State credentialing for interpreters under the special fund.

The Council appreciates the Legislature's initiative to designate \$1.00 from the annual motor vehicle registration fee into DCAB's special fund to administer and support the Parking for Disabled program. This seems to be a reasonable alternative to generate revenue to sustain the program. We defer to DCAB for the fiscal impact on the amount of funds the \$1.00 fee would generate.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on HB 1859 HD1.

Sincerely,

Waynette K.Y. Cabral Executive Administrator Rosie Rowe Chair



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

919 Ala Moana Boulevard, Room 101 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96814 Ph. (808) 586-8121 (V/TDD) • Fax (808) 586-8129

March 8, 2010

TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON HUMAN SERVICES AND HEALTH

House Bill 1859, HD1 - Relating to Funding for Parking for Disabled Persons

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) strongly supports House Bill 1859, HD1 to amend Section 249-31, Hawaii Revised Statutes, increasing the motor vehicle registration fee by \$1 to pay for the parking program for persons with disabilities. DCAB is the State agency responsible for the overall coordination and administration of this federally required program.

The parking program consists of a centralized, Internet-based database operated by DCAB staff, issuance of the placards by the counties at twenty-two (22) locations, and accessed by law enforcement personnel. In FY 2009, 33,212 placards were issued. DCAB expects the number to increase to 38,216 for current FY 2010. A total of 73,817 individuals held active placards as of June 2009. DCAB also conducts quality assurance by cross-referencing death records, sending out reminder notices, retrieving, destroying, and shredding 9,245 placards in FY 2009.

The program currently is 100% general funded. The central costs are approximately \$288,774 for supplies (purchasing placards, decals, identification card stock, application forms, operation of the central database, and central staff). The program currently consists of the issuance of the permits by the counties at a cost of \$397,764 in FY 2009. We expect the FY 2010 costs to the counties to be a minimum of \$458,592 based upon projections for this year.

Given the aging of our population and the projected increase in the number of people who are eligible for placards, the program will be a financial drain on the general fund. This bill proposes to create a revenue stream from the motor vehicle registration fee with a modest assessment of \$1 on the motor vehicles. We believe that this nominal increase will ensure the continued existence of this program in a manner that ensures quality and integrity of the program and not detract from the general fund. This bill also amends Section 348F-7 to change the use of the DCAB Special Fund to allow the receipt and expenditure of the money. DCAB has spoken with the counties to ensure that this is administratively feasible, although have been cautioned that projected income should not be counted upon for six (6) months.

We strongly urge your passage of this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important issue.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES FLEMING

Chairperson

Legislative Committee

Hanuni War

FRANCINE WAI Executive Director TO:

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair Senator Les Ihara, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH Senator David Y. Ige, Chair Senator Josh Green, M.D., Vice Chair

FROM:

Eudice R. Schick

PABEA (Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs)

SUBJECT: HB 1859

HEARING: Monday, March 8, 2010 3:20 p.m., Rm. 016

POSITION: Support of HB 1859

I am offering testimony on behalf of PABEA, the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs, which is an appointed Board tasked with advising the Executive Office on Aging (EOA). My testimony does not represent the views of the EOA but of the Board.

PABEA is in support of the increase, by \$1.00, of the annual vehicle registration fee. This is a very minimal amount and will help defray some of the costs of administering parking for disabled persons. As a disabled person, as well as the Chair of PABEA, I very much appreciate the parking benefit. PABEA also supports the depositing of the fees collected into a special fund for DCAB.

Your support of HB 1859 is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Eudice R. Schick, Chair PABEA

TRANSMITTAL

Testifier's name, title and organization

Dennis Kamimura, Licensing Administrator Division of Motor Vehicle, Licensing and Permits Department of Customer Services City and County of Honolulu

Committee

Committee on Human Services and Committee on Health

Date and Time of Hearing

Monday, March 8, 2010, 3:20 pm

Measure Number

HB 1859 HD1

DEPARTMENT OF CUSTOMER SERVICES CITY & COUNTY OF HONOLULU

DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLE, LICENSING AND PERMITS
ADMINISTRATION
P.O. BOX 30300
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96820-0300

MUFI HANNEMANN



GAIL Y, HARAGUCHI DIRECTOR

DENNIS A KAMIMURA LICENSING ADMINISTRATOR

March 5, 2010

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair and Committee Members
Committee on Human Services
The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair and Committee Members
Committee on Health
The Senate
State of Hawaii
State Capitol, Room 016
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Chun Oakland, Chair Ige and Committee Members:

Subject: H.B. No. 1859 HD1, Relating to Funding For Parking For Disabled Persons

The City and County of Honolulu has no objections to H.B. No. 1859 HD1 which will require the addition of \$1 to the State registration fee.

This is the same bill as S.B. No. 2101 SD1 that passed your committees on February 2, 2010.

Sincerely,

Gail Y. Haraguchi

Director

Henry A. Wilks 3219 Ualena Street Honolulu, HI 96819

March 8, 2010

Senate Joint Committee Human Services & Health Hawaii State Capitol 415 South Beretania St. Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: HB 1859, HD1

Dear Chairs Chun Oakland & Ige, & Members of the Joint Committee:

My name is Henry Wilks; as a placard carrier, I support House Bill 1859, HD1. Due to the advances in Healthcare, our population is experiencing a much longer life span and the number of disabled individuals in Hawaii will only continue to increase. The people of Hawaii with disabilities need the DCAB to be adequately funded in order to continually work and upgrade the disability services and infrastructure. One dollar (\$1) per registered vehicle is such a small price to pay when compared to the added benefit that it will provide to the handicap population of Hawaii. For these reasons I urge you to pass this bill.

I thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Henry Wilks



An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shieki Association

March 8, 2010

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair The Honorable David Ige, Chair Senate Committees on Human Services and Health

Re: HB 2774 HD2 - Relating to Human Services

Dear Chair Chun Oakland, Chair Ige and Members of the Committees:

The Hawaii Medical Service Association (HMSA) appreciates the opportunity to testify on HB 2774 HD2 which would require changes be made to the QUEST health plan including the implementation of co-payments for certain services, mandated drug formularies and the application of the medical necessity definition currently in statute. We support the intent of these initiatives.

As you are aware, the Department of Human Services (DHS) has stated that due to budgetary shortfalls, they will delay payments to contracted QUEST plans, beginning in April (potentially March) and extending through June. While we understand the budgetary restrictions the State is facing, DHS' decision significantly impacts a health plan's ability to pay for services. This has caused great concern, not only for the QUEST plans, but for our members and participating providers as well.

We do appreciate the creativity and out-of-the-box thinking of HB 2774 HD2. Many of the discussions taking place today have included the fact that as currently being administered, the QUEST plan is unsustainable over the long term. While DHS has been working towards shortening the amount of time QUEST plans will be facing delayed payments, a delay still exists, which will ultimately eat into future fiscal year funding. Steps need to be taken that will have long term affects on reining in the cost associated with the provision of benefits for QUEST members. The proposals contained within HB 2774 HD2 include some which have been discussed and some which have not. We believe that given the issues facing QUEST, that all options should be open for discussion and revision, if appropriate and possible given federal restrictions and regulatory oversight.

While the proposals within this measure have merit they do raise some questions regarding the ability for DHS to implement them including:

- While introducing co-payments for QUEST members may be a good start at containing cost, it is
 important to note that current Federal rules may prohibit charging co-payments to certain Medicaid
 eligible non-pregnant individuals over 18. Language may need to be added to the measure to ensure
 compliance with federal regulatory oversight
- Would co-payment amounts be standardized across all QUEST plans? Since benefits are required to be the same across QUEST plans, would DHS set co-payment amounts which all plans would apply?
- The measure is unclear whether it requires DHS to mandate a standard drug formulary to be used by all QUEST plans or not since DHS already has an oversight capacity in relation to all QUEST plans'

- formularies. Standardization may be beneficial to providers from an administrative standpoint, but the language in the measure needs to be clearer on what is trying to be accomplished
- Applying the current statutory definition of medical necessity to QUEST plans is likely quick and easy
 to implement. Instead of limiting the application of HRS 432E-1.4, it may be worth considering
 applying the use of this definition to all QUEST plan services, not just those in the population outlined
 in the measure

All of the proposals in HB 2774 HD2 show some promise in containing the long term costs associated with the state's Medicaid programs. Since DHS announced the difficulty it was facing in funding QUEST plans, all of the stakeholders affected by this issue have come together to work towards a common goal in an unprecedented manner. We believe that the relationships fostered by working through this crisis will continue to exist once this has passed and will ultimately benefit Hawaii's entire health care system.

We look forward to working together as a community to continue the dialogue on the best way to ensure the viability of our safety net. We know that we will continue to strive towards finding workable solutions for problems the state's Medicaid system is facing today.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely

Jennifer Diesman Vice President

Government Relations

47-345 D Hui Iwa Street Kaneohe, HI 96744

March 8, 2010

Senate Joint Committees on Human Services and Health Hawaii State Capitol 415 S. Beretania Street Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: HB 1859, HD1 Relating to Funding for Parking for Disabled Persons

Dear Chairs Chun Oakland and Ige and members of the joint committees,

My name is Debbie Jackson and my mother uses a parking permit for persons with disabilities. She had a stroke approximately five years ago and has had problems walking long distances, so she had to obtain a parking permit for persons with disabilities to allow her to use accessible parking spaces.

I support this bill on behalf of my mother, a user of parking spaces for persons with disabilities. She supports maintaining the parking program by increasing motor vehicle registration fees by \$1.00 and converting the use of the existing special fund at the Disability & Communication Access Board for depositing the fees collected.

My mother feels the increase is nominal and would not be a hardship for her even though she is on a fixed income. She urges you to pass this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Debbie Jackson

chunOakland5 - Michael

From: Sent: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov Friday, March 05, 2010 4:53 PM

To:

HMS Testimony

Cc:

Tlenzer@hawaii.rr.com

Subject:

Testimony for HB1859 on 3/8/2010 3:20:00 PM

Testimony for HMS/HTH 3/8/2010 3:20:00 PM HB1859

Conference room: 016

Testifier position: support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Anthony Lenzer Organization: Individual

Address:

Phone: 261-2095

E-mail: <u>Tlenzer@hawaii.rr.com</u>

Submitted on: 3/5/2010

Comments:

My name is Anthony Lenzer. I have a neurological problem which makes walking any distance a difficult experience. For several years, I have had a parking placard. I can tell you that having this placard has been a Godsend.

I live in Kailua, and frequently have to drive into town for meetings, medical appointments, etc. Having the placard has allowed me to find parking at or near the places I have to go to, including the State Capitol. Having the placard also allows me t a certain amount of free parking, which is also very helpful for those of us who are retired and on fixed incomes.

For these reasons I am more than willing to pay an extra dollar on my vehicle registration fee, as proposed in this bill. I realize that this will only cover a small part of the cost of administering this program. However, given the State's budget crisis, anything that reduces state expenditures by even a small amount is helpful.

I therefore urge you to support HB 1859, and thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

Fax Cover Sheet

Art Frank & Associates Art & Carolyn Frank 86-363 Kawili St Waianae, HI 96792 Ph: (808)744-3128Fax: (808 696-2724)

Cell: (808) 429-3717

Date: 8 MARSH 10
TO: SEVATE SETAT-ARMS
Fax #: 586 669
of pages including this one: 3
Regarding: HB 1859, HD-L
RELATING TO FUNDING FOR PARKING FOR
DISABLES PARKING
HEARING MALE, 2010 @ 3:20 P.M. PMOIL
I WILL BE THERE TO TESTIFY.
Git Hund

ART FRAK 86-363 KAWILI ST WAIANAE, HI 96792-2941

MARCH 8, 2010

HB 1859, HD1 RELATING TO FUNDING FOR PARKING FOR DISABLED PERSONS

SENATE COMMITTEES ON HUMAN SERVICES & HEALTH

SENATOR SUZANNE CHUN OAKLAND, CHAIR; SENATOR DAVID Y. IGE, CHAIR

MONDAY MARCH 8, 2010

Aloha Chair Chun Qakland and Chair Ige. My name is Art Frank and I have been a user of disabled parking for over 31 years. In all this time I've testified on dozens of bills relating to disabled parking at this legislature. I haven't always agreed with all bills submitted by DCAB to this legislature. In fact, I do recall on a couple of occasions knocking heads with my friend Francine Wai because I strongly disagreed with two of her bills.

In this case after questioning and discussing HB 1859, HD1 with the DCAB staff I strongly support this bill because I'm afraid without proper funding we the user will be in trouble. Let me explain my concerns to you. In 1978 when I first started driving with hand controls and needed a placard it was controlled by the Dept of Transportation. I swear back then the placards did not have a expiration date because I had mine forever until the legislature initiated a new plan whereby DCAB's predecessor agency took control of the program. We the disabled asked that something be done because there were no controls over the placards. As an example when somebody died nobody knew what happened to the placards. Any old Tom, Dick or Harry could take over using the placards. Thousands of users could have died over the years and the placards without expiration dates were still out there. Until DCAB took over the program and issued documented rules and regulations through the legislature (I think), the whole program was a mess. Back in the old days if a disabled person like me had questions regarding the disabled parking program or placards there was mass confusion over at the DOT because nobody could adequately answer our questions or we got different answers from different people. I understood they didn't want the job anyway. Today under DCAB they really know what they are doing so there's no confusion for us. As an example about two months ago I read in kokua line about a problem people were having with disabled parking. People were frustrated and in one case angry. I emailed Debbie Jackson at DCAB suggesting that maybe we need ask for a change to the law this upcoming session and that somebody should get to Kokua line and let them know what's up. I received an email back telling me Francine said no change is needed because it's already covered and that Charlotte, her assistant was already working on answers to send to kokua line. That took care of the

confusion and frustrations of the three people who wrote to kokua line regarding problems with disabled parking. My point being Francine and DCAB staff really know what they are doing, and they are doing a damn good job for us, not just with disabled parking either, but many other areas that they help us out with. I want to assure all of you that the additional \$1 that they are asking for will be well spent and necessary to keep the disabled parking program running smoothly-I promise you that because I know it. I've been actively involved with Francine since she worked in a broom closet on King and Richards Street back in 1978-79. She knows what's she's doing so please help her with this funding so she can continue to help us. Mahalo nui loa for your support.

ART FRANK.

Disabled Parking User

for 31 years

chunOakland5 - Michael

From:

Lynn Murakami-Akatsuka [lkakatsu@hawaii.rr.com]

Sent:

Saturday, March 06, 2010 8:09 AM

To:

HMS Testimony

Subject:

Testimony for HB 1859, HD1 on 3/8/2010 at 3:20 PM

Testimony for Committees on Human Services and Health, 3/8/2010 at 3:20 PM

Conference room: 016

Testifier position: Strongly support

Testifier will be present: NO

Submitted by: Lynn Murakami-Akatsuka

Organization: Individual

Address: 45-606 Keole Street; Kaneohe, HI 96744

E-mail: <u>lkakatsu@hawaii.rr.com</u>

Submitted on: 3/6/2010

Comments: The purpose of this bill is to hep cover the costs of administering parking for persons with disabilities by increasing the annual vehicle registration fee by \$1, which will be deposited into the Disability and Communication Access Board Special Fund. With the aging of the population and the projected increase in the number of individuals who are eligible for parking placards, the parking program for persons with disabilities will become a burden on the general fund.

A nominal increase in the annual vehicle registration fee would place the cost upon the users and ensure the continuation of a quality parking program without draining general funds.

HB 1859, H.D. 1 incorporates the changes requested by the City and County of Honolulu to provide time to change the software in its computers. I am in *strong support *of this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

PETER L. FRITZ

414 KUWILI STREET, #104 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814 TELEPHONE: (808) 532-7118 E-MAIL: PLFLEGIS@FRITZHQ.COM

THE SENATE THE TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION OF 2010

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

and

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Hearing March 8, 2010
Testimony on H.B. 1859 HD 1
(Relating to Funding For Parking for Disabled Persons)

Chairs Chun Oakland and Ige, Vice Chairs Ihara and Green and members of the Committees:

My name is Peter Fritz. I am the current chairperson of the Disabilities and Communications Access Board. I am testifying in my personal capacity **in strong support** of H.B. 1859 HD 1.

The purpose of this bill is to help cover the costs of administering parking for persons with disabilities by increasing the annual vehicle registration fee by \$1, which will be deposited into the Disability and Communication Access Board Special Fund.

With the aging of the population and the projected increase in the number of individuals who are eligible for parking placards, the parking program for persons with disabilities will become a burden on the general fund. Parking Placards are used by operators of motor vehicles to park legally in parking spaces reserved for the disabled.

A nominal increase in the annual vehicle registration fee (1) places the cost of issuing parking placards upon the users and beneficiaries of the program; (2) provides an appropriate means of financing for the program; and will make the program financially self-sustaining which would free up general funds.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter L. Fritz

chunOakland5 - Michael

From:

C.Fleming/ M. Lu [kahuna00@hawaiiantel.net]

Sent:

Sunday, March 07, 2010 10:46 AM

To: Subject: HMS Testimony HB 1859, HD 1

Chair Ige, Vice-Chair Green and members of the Committee:

As an individual who uses a wheelchair and must drive a modified vehicle, I am testifying in strong support of H.B. 1859 HD 1.

My ability to carry out necessary tasks like medical appointments, grocery shopping, purchases of medications, clothing and incidentals necessitates a handicapped parking space big enough for deployment of my ramp, in close proximity to my destination. I must therefore have a current blue parking placard and must be assured of it's ongoing availability. The purpose of this bill is to help cover the costs of administering parking for persons with disabilities by increasing the annual vehicle registration fee by \$1, which will be deposited into the Disability and Communication Access Board Special Fund. The \$1 dollar increase is negligible and will probably not even be noticed by most drivers, however it will insure that Hawaii's handicapped parking program, as mandated by Federal law, will continue with adequate funding under the oversight of a State agency and will no longer be subject to budget and political uncertainties. A nominal increase in the annual vehicle registration fee would place the cost upon the users and ensure the continuation of a quality parking program without draining general funds.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Chuck Fleming 75-310 W. Kakalina Pl. Kailua-Kona, HI 96740 (808) 326-4708

Committee on Human Services

Sen. Suzanne Chon Oakland Chair

Sen. Les Ihara, Junior vice chair

Committee on Health

Sen. David Y. Ige Chair

Sen. Josh Green M.D.Vice chair

Subject: Support HB 1859, Relating to Funding for Parking for Disabled Persons

Senators, staff, Ladies and Gentlemen

House Bill 1859 is in the need of your support to pass out of committee and to move forward so that we members of the disability community can depend on the State of Hawaii for the distribution and administration of the disability pla card program.

I myself and my wife depend on disabled parking throughout the state of Hawaii, our van is especially equipped with a Ramp so that my wife and I can ingress and egress our van, although we need special parking to allow the van ramp to access the access aisle. Without the disability parking pla card accessing disabled parking would be to a minimal, we had a lot of problems still in the parking program but House Bill 1859 will help eliminate some of the problems foreseen in the future.

Therefore I'm asking for your support in passing House Bill 1859.

Thank you

Malcolm Giblin

Ewa Beach Hawaii

TO:

Senate Committee on Human Services / Senate Committee on Health

Monday, March 8, 2010 at 3:20 p.m.

Conference Room 016

FROM:

Kirby L. Shaw

425 Ena Road, #706-A Honolulu, HI 96815 k.shaw@hawaii.rr.com

944-0828

SUBJ:

HB 1859, HD1 - RELATING TO FUNDING FOR PARKING FOR DISABLED PERSONS

Sen. Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair, Committee on Human Services Sen. David Y. Ige, Chair, Committee on Health Members of the Senate Committee on Human Services & Senate Committee on Health Kirby L. Shaw – Individual with a disability, parking placard holder Monday, March 8, 2010

Support for HB 1859, HD1 - Relating to Funding for Parking for Disabled Persons

Dear Members of the Senate Human Services and Health Committees,

I am an individual with a disability who uses a power wheelchair. I have a van that deploys a ramp from the passenger side of the vehicle. I need to park my van in a parking space reserved for persons with disabilities that provides an adjacent access aisle. Because I have a parking placard, I am able to use such parking spaces. Thus, HB 1859, HD1 Relating to Funding for Parking for Disabled Persons, is of significant interest to me.

I am writing to express strong support for HB 1859, HD1. The bill raises the annual motor vehicle registration fee by \$1 for deposit into the Disability and Communication Access Board special fund to cover the costs of administering the disability parking program under Chapter 291, Part III, HRS.

The parking placard affords me and others with disabilities who require either an access aisle to deploy a mobility device or close proximity to a facility's entrance the ability to conduct business, grocery shop, visit the doctor, see a movie, dine at a restaurant, and attend community meetings, etc. Thus, it is important that the parking program remain intact and adequately funded to allow persons with disabilities to generate economic activity and to participate in society.

Raising the annual registration fee by \$1 for each motor vehicle is a nominal amount to ensure that the disability parking program continues to give persons with disabilities the ability to generate economic activity and to participate in society. In light of the current State budget shortfall and looking toward the future, an eventual, fully funded special fund for the disability parking program would provide a stable funding source to foster desirable economic activity and societal participation by persons with disabilities. Significantly, the special fund for the disability parking program would result in savings to the General Fund.

Therefore, I urge the committees to support this bill. Thank you for considering my testimony. Please contact me by mail, e-mail, or phone if you have any questions. Mahalo nui.

Sincerely,

__/s/ KIRBY L. SHAW Louise Horio Phone: 488-0179

Email: smahtcookie@hawaiiantel.net

To: Senator David Ige, Chair Senate Committee on Health 25th Legislature March 8, 2010 3:20 PM

Re: HB 1859, HD 1
To add a fee of \$1 to the motor vehicle registration fee.

Aloha Sen. Ige and members of this committee,

I am Louise Horio, retired Elementary Teacher. I am physically disabled as well as visually impaired. I am writing in support of HB 1859, HD 1, a bill that will add a fee of \$1 to the motor vehicle registration fee.

Most Respectfully, Louise Horio March 8, 2010

Senator David Ige, Chair Senate Health Committee

Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland. Chair Senate Committee on Human Services

RE: HB 1859, HD1: Relating to Funding for Parking for Disabled Persons

Dear Senator Ige, Senator Chun-Oakland and members of the Senate Committees on Health and Human Resources.

I am writing in support of HB 1859, HD 1, Relating to Funding for Parking for Disabled Persons, that increases the vehicle motor vehicle registration fee by \$1 to support the administration of the Parking for Persons with Disabilities program.

I understand that this fee targets all motor vehicles registered in the state of Hawaii. As a vehicle owner I believe that the increase in fees is well worth the long-term investment of guaranteeing this essential program. My family members who use the parking placards enjoy greater independence and safety in accessing doctors appointments, shopping trips and family outings.

The one-dollar increase should not be seen as a tax on the people but an investment in their independence and buying power as we live longer with disability.

Mahalo for your support,

/s/

Teodoro P. Lazaga