

  
A M E R I C A N B E V E R A G E  
A S S O C I A T I O N

LATE

Senate Committee on Ways & Means

LATE TESTIMONY

March 23, 2010; 9:30 a.m.

Subject: H.B. 2542 HD1 SD1 (proposed), Relating to Non-General Funds

Chair Kim, Vice Chair Tsutsui, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify on H.B. 2542 HD1 SD1 (proposed), which transfers excess balances from certain special funds to the general fund. **The American Beverage Association (ABA) opposes the diversion of \$1 million from the deposit beverage container deposit special fund.**

ABA is the trade association representing the non-alcoholic beverage industry. Founded in 1919, ABA represents hundreds of beverage producers, distributors, franchise companies and supporting businesses that employ more than 217,000 people across the country. The beverage companies throughout Hawaii directly employ over 500 workers and indirectly impact the jobs of thousands of others across the state.

H.B. 2542 HD1 SD1 seeks to transfer \$1 million from the deposit beverage container deposit special fund to the state's general fund. Hawaii's Beverage Container Deposit Law imposes a five-cent refund value and a one-cent deposit fee (tax) on beverage containers.

Hawaii Act 176 (the 2002 deposit law) impacts beverage containers made of glass, metal, PET, and HDPE containing 68 ounces or less of "beer, ale, or other drink produced by fermenting malt, mixed spirits, mixed wine, tea and coffee drinks..., soda, or noncarbonated water, and all nonalcoholic drinks in liquid form..."

According to Act 176, revenues from the five-cent refund value and one-cent deposit fee (tax) are for payment of refunds and handling fees; administrative, audit, and compliance activities by the state; recycling education and demonstration projects; market development for recyclables; subsidies for handling and transporting beverage container materials to end-users; and periodic management and financial audits of the program.

Hawaii consumers have been paying the five-cent refund value and one-cent deposit fee (tax) for several years and have been led to believe that the unclaimed refund value and the deposit fee (tax) are to be used for running the deposit program and other specific environmental programs.

The many millions of dollars currently in the deposit special fund should be used for its stated purposes of the deposit program and beyond, including funding environmental programs such as recycling education.

David Thorp  
Director, Government Affairs  
American Beverage Association

**Elizabeth K. Tam, M.D.**  
**Honolulu, HI 96816**

Date: March 22, 2010

To: Speaker Say and Ways and Means Committee

Re: Strong Opposition to HB 2542 SD1, "Relating to Non-General Funds," Ways and Means, Room 211 3/23/2010 9:30 a.m.

Please remove language of Part 3 of HB 2542 SD1 that raids the corpus of the Tobacco Prevention and Control Trust Fund. Protect the health of Hawaii's people and preserve the Tobacco Prevention and Control Trust Fund for its original purpose. It is vital that Hawaii continue to fund tobacco prevention and quit-smoking programs, to protect public health and the economic future of everyone in Hawai'i.

Our family has lost loved ones to lung cancer and heart disease related to tobacco use. As a pulmonologist, I care for patients and families who struggle with tobacco-related heart, lung, and vascular disease. Tobacco smoke not only causes and aggravates disease, it can also block the actions of important medications.

Even worse, smoking causes gene modification of the worst kind. Its sinister effects can be passed on to the children and grandchildren of people who breathe smoke. Many of our Asian and Pacific Islanders are particularly susceptible, lacking the more effective forms of some crucial enzymes that break down toxins in smoke.

Tobacco's grip is worsened by a powerful and intelligent industry that spends \$40 million EACH YEAR in Hawaii. This is many times the amount that we invest specifically in tobacco prevention and control. Against this Goliath, our recent efforts have been extraordinarily effective, thanks to the vision of the lawmakers who made the Tobacco Prevention and Control Trust Fund possible. The funding program wisely crafted a decade ago builds the capacity of communities and families to combat industry tactics. It provides for clever, culturally appropriate counter-messages, local style. It is building a system to monitor tobacco use and probe where the industry is targeting.

[tameliza@earthlink.net](mailto:tameliza@earthlink.net)

Elizabeth K. Tam, M.D.  
Honolulu, HI 96816

As a result of resourcefully investing just \$11-\$15 per person per year in tobacco prevention and control, we saw impressive declines in smoking. Between 2002 and 2008, adult smoking rates dropped from 21 to 15 percent. Youth smoking rates dropped from 25% to less than 10%! We expect to see sustained actual health effects of these declines early in this decade.

Please do NOT pass HB 2542 out of committee as it is currently worded. Keep the Tobacco Prevention and Control Trust Funds invested in our communities, in tobacco prevention and control, and the public health. Build the tobacco resistance of the underemployed, less educated, and minority groups who are targeted by the industry. Your decision today can keep saving lives. It is an investment with many priceless returns.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer comment IN OPPOSITION TO HB 2542.

Yours sincerely,



Elizabeth K. Tam  
2010.03.23 01:52:46  
-07'00'

Elizabeth K. Tam, M.D.

[tameliza@earthlink.net](mailto:tameliza@earthlink.net)

**kim2 - Jo Ann**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 23, 2010 12:19 AM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Cc:** lila@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2542 on 3/23/2010 9:30:00 AM  
**Attachments:** Senate Ways & Means HB2542.doc

Testimony for WAM 3/23/2010 9:30:00 AM HB2542

Conference room: 211  
Testifier position: oppose  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Lila Johnson  
Organization: Individual  
Address: PO Box 161258 Honolulu  
Phone: 8083739323  
E-mail: [lila@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:lila@hawaii.rr.com)  
Submitted on: 3/23/2010

**Comments:**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in STRONG OPPOSITION to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1.

**kim2 - Jo Ann**

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**From:** Joseph Pedro [josephpedro@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 23, 2010 2:11 AM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in Strong Opposition to Part III, HB 2542 Proposed SD 1

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

Re: Strong Opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1, Relating to Non-General Funds

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1.

Please do not cut funding for tobacco prevention and control programs.

I am deeply concerned that lawmakers are looking to take funds away from preventing youth from using tobacco and helping smokers quit. I believe these programs work and save lives, and it's very important to me to keep them funded to save lives now and keep them strong into the future.

I also support using the settlement moneys won from the lawsuit against tobacco companies as they were intended: to prevent and reduce tobacco use.

Thanks to the vision and leadership of our Legislature, our State has dedicated funding for tobacco prevention and control programs for the last ten years. This has reduced adult smoking rates from 21.2% to 15.4% and slashed youth smoking rates from 25% to 10%.

Please don't balance the budget on the backs of the next generation's health. Smoking continues to cost our State over half a billion dollars in health-related costs and lost productivity annually and this cost will rise if we cut the programs that reduce smoking. Other states that cut their tobacco prevention efforts are moving backwards in their fight to reduce smoking, save lives and cut health costs.

Please continue funding tobacco prevention and control funding and do not divert moneys away from life-saving and cost-saving efforts. Please do not pass any cuts to funding for tobacco prevention and tobacco treatment efforts.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in opposition to Part III, HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1.

Joseph Pedro  
2160 Vineyard Street, #11  
Wailuku, HI 96793  
8082691642

**kim2 - Jo Ann**

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**From:** Steve Koyama [steve@koyamarealty.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 22, 2010 11:53 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in Strong Opposition to Part III, HB 2542 Proposed SD 1

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

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Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in opposition to Part III, HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1.

Steve Koyama  
PO Box 89518  
Honolulu, HI 96830  
946-6966

**kim2 - Jo Ann**

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**From:** barbara felt [moongoddessbarb@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 22, 2010 11:38 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in Strong Opposition to Part III, HB 2542 Proposed SD 1

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

Re: Strong Opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1, Relating to Non-General Funds

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Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in opposition to Part III, HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1.

barbara felt  
wehelauniu  
pahoa, HI 96778  
808 965-9016

**kim2 - Jo Ann**

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**From:** Barbara Moore [info@dragonflyranch.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 23, 2010 5:37 AM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in Strong Opposition to Part III, HB 2542 Proposed SD 1

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

Re: Strong Opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1, Relating to Non-General Funds

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Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in opposition to Part III, HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1.

Barbara Moore  
PO Box 675  
Honaunau, HI 96726  
808-328-2159



**kim2 - Jo Ann**

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**From:** Elithe Kahn [Elithe@hawaii.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 23, 2010 8:14 AM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in Strong Opposition to Part III, HB 2542 Proposed SD 1

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

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Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in opposition to Part III, HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1.

Elithe Kahn  
212 Merchant Street#5  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
808523-3622

**kim2 - Jo Ann**

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Elithe Kahn  
212 Merchant Street#5  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
808523-3622

**kim2 - Jo Ann**

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**From:** Theresa Fa'asu [tfaasu@kkv.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 23, 2010 8:06 AM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in Strong Opposition to Part III, HB 2542 Proposed SD 1

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Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in opposition to Part III, HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1.

Theresa Fa'asu  
1438 Ahonui St. 15D3  
Honolulu, HI 96819  
80879179401

**kim2 - Jo Ann**

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**From:** Cori Sussman [surfingsussmans@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 22, 2010 8:25 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in Strong Opposition to Part III, HB 2542 Proposed SD 1

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Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in opposition to Part III, HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1.

Cori Sussman  
3024 Wawae Rd.  
Kalaheo, HI 96741  
332-7089

## kim2 - Jo Ann

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**From:** Joseph O'Brien [obrienhawaiian@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 22, 2010 6:16 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in Strong Opposition to Part III, HB 2542 Proposed SD 1

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

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Joseph O'Brien  
Nuuanu

Joseph O'Brien  
2025 S. Beretania St.  
Honolulu, HI 96826  
808-555-1212

**kim2 - Jo Ann**

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**From:** Ryan Mandado [ryan\_mandado@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 22, 2010 9:06 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in Strong Opposition to Part III, HB 2542 Proposed SD 1

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Ryan Mandado  
1545 Ahonui st  
Honolulu, HI 96819-3506  
(808)2188286

**kim2 - Jo Ann**

---

**From:** Cori Sussman [surfingsussmans@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 22, 2010 8:18 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in Strong Opposition to Part III, HB 2542 Proposed SD 1

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Cori Sussman  
3024 Wawae Rd.  
Kalaheo, HI 96741  
332-7089

**kim2 - Jo Ann**

---

**From:** Marilyn Nonaka [jam12thpikrinhawaii@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 22, 2010 9:45 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in Strong Opposition to Part III, HB 2542 Proposed SD 1

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Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in opposition to Part III, HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1.

Marilyn Nonaka  
1237 Mokuahano St  
Honolulu, HI 96825  
8083969168



**kim2 - Jo Ann**

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**From:** William Sherman [williamvs Sherman@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 22, 2010 10:23 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in Strong Opposition to Part III, HB 2542 Proposed SD 1

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

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MORE IMPORTANTLY, ENVIRONMENTAL SMOKE IS A PUBLIC HEALTH HAZARD, WITH 400K AMERICANS DIEING EACH YEAR FROM ITS EFFECTS! IN ADDITION, CIGARETTES NOT ONLY KILL US WHILE WE ARE AWAKE AND AWARE OF ITS DETRIMENT, BUT ARE THE SOLE CAUSE FOR 'FIRE DEATHS' IN OUR STATE AND ACROSS THE MAINLAND! THE #1 CAUSE OF FIRE DEATHS IN CIGARETTES, NOT TO MENTION THE #1 CAUSE OF WILD FIRES NATION-WIDE. AGAIN, Please do not pass any cuts to funding for tobacco prevention and tobacco treatment efforts.

Mahalo a nui,

William Sherman, Sr. and Family

William Sherman  
1742 10th Ave.

Honolulu, HI 96816  
808 368-6840

**kim2 - Jo Ann**

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**From:** Ashley Hudson [youwishuwerearedhead@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 22, 2010 9:57 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in Strong Opposition to Part III, HB 2542 Proposed SD 1

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

Re: Strong Opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1, Relating to Non-General Funds

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1.

Please do not cut funding for tobacco prevention and control programs.

I am deeply concerned that lawmakers are looking to take funds away from preventing youth from using tobacco and helping smokers quit. I believe these programs work and save lives, and it's very important to me to keep them funded to save lives now and keep them strong into the future.

I also support using the settlement moneys won from the lawsuit against tobacco companies as they were intended: to prevent and reduce tobacco use.

Thanks to the vision and leadership of our Legislature, our State has dedicated funding for tobacco prevention and control programs for the last ten years. This has reduced adult smoking rates from 21.2% to 15.4% and slashed youth smoking rates from 25% to 10%.

Please don't balance the budget on the backs of the next generation's health. Smoking continues to cost our State over half a billion dollars in health-related costs and lost productivity annually and this cost will rise if we cut the programs that reduce smoking. Other states that cut their tobacco prevention efforts are moving backwards in their fight to reduce smoking, save lives and cut health costs.

Please continue funding tobacco prevention and control funding and do not divert moneys away from life-saving and cost-saving efforts. Please do not pass any cuts to funding for tobacco prevention and tobacco treatment efforts.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in opposition to Part III, HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1.

Ashley Hudson  
12 Olo Place  
Wailuku, HI 96793-9351  
808-269-3550

**kim2 - Jo Ann**

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**From:** Doris Segal Matsunaga [dsmatsunaga@hawaii.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 22, 2010 9:34 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in Strong Opposition to Part III, HB 2542 Proposed SD 1

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

Re: Strong Opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1, Relating to Non-General Funds

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Please continue funding tobacco prevention and control funding and do not divert moneys away from life-saving and cost-saving efforts. Please do not pass any cuts to funding for tobacco prevention and tobacco treatment efforts.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in opposition to Part III, HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1.

Doris Segal Matsunaga  
915 N. King St.  
Honolulu, HI 96815  
791-6330

**kim2 - Jo Ann**

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**From:** Mari Nakama [flossbrushrinse@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 22, 2010 9:15 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in Strong Opposition to Part III, HB 2542 Proposed SD 1

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

Re: Strong Opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1, Relating to Non-General Funds

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1.

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I am deeply concerned that lawmakers are looking to take funds away from preventing youth from using tobacco and helping smokers quit. I believe these programs work and save lives, and it's very important to me to keep them funded to save lives now and keep them strong into the future.

I also support using the settlement moneys won from the lawsuit against tobacco companies as they were intended: to prevent and reduce tobacco use.

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Please don't balance the budget on the backs of the next generation's health. Smoking continues to cost our State over half a billion dollars in health-related costs and lost productivity annually and this cost will rise if we cut the programs that reduce smoking. Other states that cut their tobacco prevention efforts are moving backwards in their fight to reduce smoking, save lives and cut health costs.

Please continue funding tobacco prevention and control funding and do not divert moneys away from life-saving and cost-saving efforts. Please do not pass any cuts to funding for tobacco prevention and tobacco treatment efforts.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in opposition to Part III, HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1.

Mari Nakama  
3672 manoa rd  
Honolulu, HI 96822  
808-392-6346

## kim5 - Deborah

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**From:** Roxine Iijima [Roxine\_Iijima@notes.k12.hi.us]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 22, 2010 6:19 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in Strong Opposition to Part III, HB 2542 Proposed SD 1

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

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

Re: Strong Opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1, Relating to Non-General Funds

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1.

Please do not cut funding for tobacco prevention and control programs.

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I also support using the settlement moneys won from the lawsuit against tobacco companies as they were intended: to prevent and reduce tobacco use.

Thanks to the vision and leadership of our Legislature, our State has dedicated funding for tobacco prevention and control programs for the last ten years. This has reduced adult smoking rates from 21.2% to 15.4% and slashed youth smoking rates from 25% to 10%.

Please don't balance the budget on the backs of the next generation's health. Smoking continues to cost our State over half a billion dollars in health-related costs and lost productivity annually and this cost will rise if we cut the programs that reduce smoking. Other states that cut their tobacco prevention efforts are moving backwards in their fight to reduce smoking, save lives and cut health costs.

Please continue funding tobacco prevention and control funding and do not divert moneys away from life-saving and cost-saving efforts. Please do not pass any cuts to funding for tobacco prevention and tobacco treatment efforts.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in opposition to Part III, HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1.

Roxine Iijima  
145 S. Kainalu Drive  
Kailua, HI 96734  
551-4902



Cancer Research Center of Hawai'i  
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

To: Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair, Committee on Ways and Means  
Senators Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair, Committee on Ways and Means  
Members, Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Re: Strong Opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1:  
Relating to Non-General Funds

Hearing: WAM, March 23, 2010 in Room 211 at 9:30 a.m.

Dear Committee,

My name is Alana Steffen. I work as a faculty of the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii with a focus on cancer prevention. I work with the REAL campaign which empowers youth to be tobacco control advocates.

HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1 proposes to cap the balance of the Tobacco Prevention and Control Trust Fund at \$7,000,000, with any amounts over the \$7,000,000 to be transferred to the Rainy Day Fund.

While I recognize that state has dire financial problems, the Tobacco Prevention and Control Trust Fund is needed for its intended purpose. In recent years our statewide rates for smoking prevalence have decreased significantly in both adults and youth suggesting our programs have been effective. However, tobacco prevention efforts are still needed to maintain our progress and further improve the health of our residents. When other states such as California and Massachusetts cut funding for tobacco prevention and control, there was a reversal in progress against smoking.

Please do not divert funds away from Tobacco Prevention and Control programs. Our program and efforts must continue to save lives and our State money. Every year, smoking costs Hawaii over half a billion dollars and the tobacco industry is spending \$42 million to market their deadly products here. Tobacco prevention is an ongoing need.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1.

Sincerely,

Alana D. Steffen, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor  
Prevention and Control Program  
Cancer Research Center of Hawaii  
(808) 441 8197

March 22, 2010

To: Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair, Committee on Ways and Means  
Senators Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair, Committee on Ways and Means  
Members, Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Re: Strong Opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1:  
Relating to Non-General Funds  
March 23, 2010 in Room 211 at 9:30 a.m.

Dear Legislators,

Please accept my testimony in opposition to HB2542.

I am from the Baldwin High School PEP class. I feel that tobacco prevention is the right way to save lives and reach youth. Tobacco companies are a bad influence for us, and they need to stop. Children should not be pressured to buy or smoke tobacco because it's addictive and kills. Still tobacco companies target us to smoke a product we aren't even allowed to buy. So we have to increase, not decrease, the amount of tobacco prevention in our communities.

You can help do this by saving the Tobacco Trust Fund for prevention programs. You have the ability to help save lives in Hawaii by holding HB 2542.

Mahalo,

Taylor Jade Caliva  
618 Alino Liho St.  
Wailuku, HI 96793



March 22, 2010

To: Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair, Committee on Ways and Means  
Senators Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair, Committee on Ways and Means  
Members, Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Re: Strong Opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1:  
Relating to Non-General Funds  
March 23, 2010 in Room 211 at 9:30 a.m.

Dear Legislators,

Please accept my testimony in strong opposition to HB2542.

My name is Rachel Hu and I am a sophomore at Baldwin High School. I am a participant in the PEP program, and I am writing you today to save the tobacco trust fund for tobacco prevention.

I truly believe that Hawaii's tobacco prevention programs are working. It is a known fact that smoking kills more people than alcohol, murders, AIDS, car crashes, illegal drugs, and suicide COMBINED! That's a lot of deaths that are preventable. By having programs that teach students the bad effects of smoking, we're reducing the number of youth that start. In fact we've reduced youth smoking from 1 in 4 youth to 1 in 10 youth in just 10 years because of programs made possible through the tobacco trust fund.

Unfortunately for myself and my loved ones, the message about smoking came too late. By the time my brother got to high school and heard these tobacco prevention messages, he had already been smoking for 3 years. Students need to be able to hear messages, and as a PEP student I can see how important it is that the tobacco prevention funds are kept for these programs to continue.

I know as legislators you are concerned about money and what you are spending it on but these tobacco prevention programs are 100% worth it and I ask that funding not be cut.

Please oppose HB2542.

Thank you,

Rachel Hu  
438 Kamehameha Ave.  
Kahului, HI 96732

March 22, 2010

To: Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair, Committee on Ways and Means  
Senators Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair, Committee on Ways and Means  
Members, Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Re: Strong Opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1:  
Relating to Non-General Funds  
March 23, 2010 in Room 211 at 9:30 a.m.

Dear Legislators,

Please accept my testimony in opposition to HB2542.

The tobacco prevention and quit smoking programs need to continue to protect our children and families. Tobacco prevention is saving our state from skyrocketing healthcare costs. Tobacco prevention saves lives, keeps youth from starting, and saves Hawaii money.

There is still a lot of work to do because more than 1,000 teens in Hawaii become daily smokers each year. Tobacco companies spend more than \$42 million per year in Hawaii marketing on this deadly product. All that stands between tobacco marketing and youth is the counter-education efforts of tobacco prevention programs and messages. Cutting funding is likely to increase smoking rates and cost lives, so the funding needs to continue to save the lives of many families and children.

Please oppose HB2542 to save lives.

Thank you,  
Nicole Giannotto  
117 Makahakaha Loop  
Wailuku, HI 96793

March 23, 2010

To: Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair, Committee on Ways and Means  
Senators Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair, Committee on Ways and Means  
Members, Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Re: Strong Opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1:  
Relating to Non-General Funds  
March 23, 2010 in Room 211 at 9:30 a.m.

Dear Legislators,

Please accept my testimony in opposition to HB2542.

I am Narci Magliba. I'm from Baldwin High School, and I'm asking you to please vote "NO" on HB 2542.

This issue is important to me because my brother has been smoking since 12 years old. Now he is 23 and has a hard time breathing.

Funds from the Tobacco Trust Fund help people stop smoking and help educate people to never start. If funds from the Tobacco Trust Fund are cut, programs will be cut. How will our family and friends be able to stop smoking and even know the dangers of ever starting? We all need these programs! From these programs I've learned how many people die from smoking, and I don't want anyone else dying from tobacco use.

I'm asking you to save these funds. Prove to us that you are willing to stand up to protect Hawaii's children. Please take what I've said to heart and oppose HB 2542.

Thank you,

Narcissus Magliba  
608 Kainalu Place  
Wailuku, HI 96793

March 22, 2010

To: Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair, Committee on Ways and Means  
Senators Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair, Committee on Ways and Means  
Members, Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Re: Strong Opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1:  
Relating to Non-General Funds  
March 23, 2010 in Room 211 at 9:30 a.m.

Dear Legislators,

My name is Monica Medrano and I'm a junior at Baldwin High School on Maui. I am a member and statewide leader of REAL: Hawaii's youth-led movement exposing the lies and manipulations of the tobacco industry. I am **STRONGLY OPPOSED TO HB 2542** that would cut the Tobacco Trust Fund.

By taking these funds away the Tobacco Trust Fund prevention programs will be lost and smoking rates will increase. Also campaigns such as REAL will not be able to continue our work to stand up to tobacco companies who are targeting our generation.

As a teenager in Hawaii, I believe that the funding is greatly needed for smoking prevention to continue to protect my generation. Please take action to **OPPOSE HB 2542**.

Sincerely,

Monica Medrano  
REAL Statewide Leader  
Maui

**kim2 - Jo Ann**

---

**From:** Megan Inada [minada@kkv.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 23, 2010 9:16 AM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in Strong Opposition to Part III, HB 2542 Proposed SD 1

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

Re: Strong Opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1, Relating to Non-General Funds

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1.

Please do not cut funding for tobacco prevention and control programs.

I am deeply concerned that lawmakers are looking to take funds away from preventing youth from using tobacco and helping smokers quit. I believe these programs work and save lives, and it's very important to me to keep them funded to save lives now and keep them strong into the future.

I also support using the settlement moneys won from the lawsuit against tobacco companies as they were intended: to prevent and reduce tobacco use.

Thanks to the vision and leadership of our Legislature, our State has dedicated funding for tobacco prevention and control programs for the last ten years. This has reduced adult smoking rates from 21.2% to 15.4% and slashed youth smoking rates from 25% to 10%.

Please don't balance the budget on the backs of the next generation's health. Smoking continues to cost our State over half a billion dollars in health-related costs and lost productivity annually and this cost will rise if we cut the programs that reduce smoking. Other states that cut their tobacco prevention efforts are moving backwards in their fight to reduce smoking, save lives and cut health costs.

Please continue funding tobacco prevention and control funding and do not divert moneys away from life-saving and cost-saving efforts. Please do not pass any cuts to funding for tobacco prevention and tobacco treatment efforts.

Your community needs your support on this issue. Working in Kalihi I see the devastating effect tobacco has on families. I have people telling me they need to quit because currently they have to choose between buying cigarettes and buying bread, and they choose cigarettes. Without tobacco cessation programs like ours supported by the tobacco moneys many people would not have access to medications and treatment they need to help them quit.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in opposition to Part III, HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1.

Megan Inada  
2239 North School Street  
Honolulu, HI 96819  
225-3039

## kim2 - Jo Ann

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 23, 2010 8:50 AM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Cc:** wendywakita@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2542 on 3/23/2010 9:30:00 AM

Testimony for WAM 3/23/2010 9:30:00 AM HB2542

Conference room: 211  
Testifier position: oppose  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Wendy Akita  
Organization: Individual  
Address: PO Box 3985 Lihue HI 96766  
Phone: 8282455344  
E-mail: [wendywakita@yahoo.com](mailto:wendywakita@yahoo.com)  
Submitted on: 3/23/2010

**Comments:**

This bill raids the CORPUS of Tobacco Prevention and Control Trust Fund, about \$43 M, for the Rainy Day Fund. The bill caps what could be left in the Fund year-to-year at only \$7 M.

This means that if any grants for tobacco education are to be given over the next several years, the Trust Fund will be wiped out and so will end tobacco education in Hawaii. Or, if no grants are given, the net effect is the same: the death of tobacco education in Hawaii! \$7 million is not enough to fund comprehensive tobacco prevention and control programs. Either way, this is not the intent of the Trust Fund!

As you know, the Trust Fund receives monies from the Master Tobacco Settlement which our state annually receives from tobacco manufacturers. BUT the Master Tobacco Settlement will end in a few years. Over time, states have been given the chance to build up a Trust Fund to provide tobacco education "in perpetuity."

Last year the Legislature cut half of the money that flows to the Trust Fund. That drastically reduced the grants available this year to community organizations that offer tobacco prevention and quit programs that work - saving lives and future costs for Hawaii.

I lost my 60 yr old mother, a 35 yr old girlfriend, & both grandfathers to lung cancer. All were smokers! Please help to prevent this horrible legacy to continue! Mahalo! Wendy Akita

March 23, 2010

To: Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair, Committee on Ways and Means  
Senators Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair, Committee on Ways and Means  
Members, Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Re: Strong Opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1:  
Relating to Non-General Funds  
March 23, 2010 in Room 211 at 9:30 a.m.

Dear Legislators,

Please accept my testimony in strong opposition to HB2542.

My name is Lachelle Sakamoto and I am currently a senior attending Baldwin High School, and a part of the Peer Education Program. I feel that the tobacco prevention programs are very important to keep. These days a lot of kids are smoking, and this can continue to be reduced by continuing to fund prevention programs. But these programs can't exist with the support from the Tobacco Trust Fund.

The tobacco companies are taking many lives. I have many aunties and uncles who have smoked everyday for a really long time. And just recently my aunty was in the hospital due to chronic asthma due to smoking. I feel we really need more tobacco prevention and stop smoking programs because I don't want to see other people suffer.

Please save the Tobacco Trust Fund by opposing HB2542. We need it to continue funding tobacco prevention and quit smoking programs to protect our children and families' health. Tobacco prevention is saving the next generation and our state from increasing health care costs. These programs are saving so many lives and changing them forever.

Mahalo,  
Lachelle Sakamoto  
P.O. Box 804  
Haiku, HI 96708

March 23, 2010

To: Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair, Committee on Ways and Means  
Senators Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair, Committee on Ways and Means  
Members, Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Re: Strong Opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1:  
Relating to Non-General Funds  
March 23, 2010 in Room 211 at 9:30 a.m.

Dear Legislators,

My name is Melissa Le and I am a sophomore at Henry Perrine Baldwin High School. I'm asking you to save tobacco trust funds for tobacco prevention programs.

Smoking tobacco doesn't just affect the smoker it affects everyone around them. My grandpa used to smoke but the health effects stayed with him until his death. He was tobacco-free for 20 years, but what it had done to him stayed with him forever. My late uncle also smoked a lot of tobacco. It was unfortunate that the day of his death was also the day of my birthday. I remember that day so well. I had to cancel all the plans I made and I haven't celebrated my birthday since then. You see, tobacco affects everyone even those that don't smoke it including entire families who lose the people they love.

I myself also used to smoke tobacco. I experienced it firsthand and I know what it can do to you. You just keep on craving it and craving it causing the tobacco industries to make more money.

I believe that we need to continue to fund tobacco prevention programs. There is evidence that these programs have been highly successful in the past decade. The percentage of youth who smoke has dropped from 24.5% to 9.7%. Smoker healthcare costs also cost about 40% more compared to non-smokers. That is over half a billion dollars every year in healthcare for smokers in Hawaii. Hawaii's economy is really low right now so if we prevent people from buying and using tobacco, it would really help now and in the long-run.

Cutting prevention funds makes it likely for smoking rates to rise so it's important to keep these funds for prevention. Sure, these programs may seem like they cost a lot but they do work and they cost much less in the long run. Please keep the Tobacco Trust Fund for tobacco prevention to better Hawaii. Please oppose HB2542.

Mahalo,

Melissa Le  
North Kihei



March 22, 2010

To: Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair, Committee on Ways and Means  
Senators Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair, Committee on Ways and Means  
Members, Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Re: Strong Opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1:  
Relating to Non-General Funds  
March 23, 2010 in Room 211 at 9:30 a.m.

Dear Legislators,

My name is Monica Medrano and I'm a junior at Baldwin High School on Maui. I am a member and statewide leader of REAL: Hawaii's youth-led movement exposing the lies and manipulations of the tobacco industry. I am **STRONGLY OPPOSED TO HB 2542** that would cut the Tobacco Trust Fund.

By taking these funds away the Tobacco Trust Fund prevention programs will be lost and smoking rates will increase. Also campaigns such as REAL will not be able to continue our work to stand up to tobacco companies who are targeting our generation.

As a teenager in Hawaii, I believe that the funding is greatly needed for smoking prevention to continue to protect my generation. Please take action to **OPPOSE HB 2542**.

Sincerely,

Monica Medrano  
REAL Statewide Leader  
Maui

March 23, 2010

To: Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair, Committee on Ways and Means  
Senators Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair, Committee on Ways and Means  
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Re: Strong Opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1:  
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March 23, 2010 in Room 211 at 9:30 a.m.

Dear Legislators,

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I am Narci Magliba. I'm from Baldwin High School, and I'm asking you to please vote "NO" on HB 2542.

This issue is important to me because my brother has been smoking since 12 years old. Now he is 23 and has a hard time breathing.

Funds from the Tobacco Trust Fund help people stop smoking and help educate people to never start. If funds from the Tobacco Trust Fund are cut, programs will be cut. How will our family and friends be able to stop smoking and even know the dangers of ever starting? We all need these programs! From these programs I've learned how many people die from smoking, and I don't want anyone else dying from tobacco use.

I'm asking you to save these funds. Prove to us that you are willing to stand up to protect Hawaii's children. Please take what I've said to heart and oppose HB 2542.

Thank you,

Narcissus Magliba  
608 Kainalu Place  
Wailuku, HI 96793

March 22, 2010

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Senators Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair, Committee on Ways and Means  
Members, Senate Committee on Ways and Means

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Dear Legislators,

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The tobacco prevention and quit smoking programs need to continue to protect our children and families. Tobacco prevention is saving our state from skyrocketing healthcare costs. Tobacco prevention saves lives, keeps youth from starting, and saves Hawaii money.

There is still a lot of work to do because more than 1,000 teens in Hawaii become daily smokers each year. Tobacco companies spend more than \$42 million per year in Hawaii marketing on this deadly product. All that stands between tobacco marketing and youth is the counter-education efforts of tobacco prevention programs and messages. Cutting funding is likely to increase smoking rates and cost lives, so the funding needs to continue to save the lives of many families and children.

Please oppose HB2542 to save lives.

Thank you,  
Nicole Giannotto  
117 Makahakaha Loop  
Wailuku, HI 96793

March 22, 2010

To: Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair, Committee on Ways and Means  
Senators Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair, Committee on Ways and Means  
Members, Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Re: Strong Opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1:  
Relating to Non-General Funds  
March 23, 2010 in Room 211 at 9:30 a.m.

Dear Legislators,

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My name is Rachel Hu and I am a sophomore at Baldwin High School. I am a participant in the PEP program, and I am writing you today to save the tobacco trust fund for tobacco prevention.

I truly believe that Hawaii's tobacco prevention programs are working. It is a known fact that smoking kills more people than alcohol, murders, AIDS, car crashes, illegal drugs, and suicide COMBINED! That's a lot of deaths that are preventable. By having programs that teach students the bad effects of smoking, we're reducing the number of youth that start. In fact we've reduced youth smoking from 1 in 4 youth to 1 in 10 youth in just 10 years because of programs made possible through the tobacco trust fund.

Unfortunately for myself and my loved ones, the message about smoking came too late. By the time my brother got to high school and heard these tobacco prevention messages, he had already been smoking for 3 years. Students need to be able to hear messages, and as a PEP student I can see how important it is that the tobacco prevention funds are kept for these programs to continue.

I know as legislators you are concerned about money and what you are spending it on but these tobacco prevention programs are 100% worth it and I ask that funding not be cut.

Please oppose HB2542.

Thank you,

Rachel Hu  
438 Kamehameha Ave.  
Kahului, HI 96732

March 22, 2010

To: Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair, Committee on Ways and Means  
Senators Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair, Committee on Ways and Means  
Members, Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Re: Strong Opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1:  
Relating to Non-General Funds  
March 23, 2010 in Room 211 at 9:30 a.m.

Dear Legislators,

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You can help do this by saving the Tobacco Trust Fund for prevention programs. You have the ability to help save lives in Hawaii by holding HB 2542.

Mahalo,

Taylor Jade Caliva  
618 Alino Liho St.  
Wailuku, HI 96793



Cancer Research Center of Hawai'i  
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

To: Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair, Committee on Ways and Means  
Senators Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair, Committee on Ways and Means  
Members, Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Re: Strong Opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1:  
Relating to Non-General Funds

Hearing: WAM, March 23, 2010 in Room 211 at 9:30 a.m.

Dear Committee,

My name is Alana Steffen. I work as a faculty of the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii with a focus on cancer prevention. I work with the REAL campaign which empowers youth to be tobacco control advocates.

HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1 proposes to cap the balance of the Tobacco Prevention and Control Trust Fund at \$7,000,000, with any amounts over the \$7,000,000 to be transferred to the Rainy Day Fund.

While I recognize that state has dire financial problems, the Tobacco Prevention and Control Trust Fund is needed for its intended purpose. In recent years our statewide rates for smoking prevalence have decreased significantly in both adults and youth suggesting our programs have been effective. However, tobacco prevention efforts are still needed to maintain our progress and further improve the health of our residents. When other states such as California and Massachusetts cut funding for tobacco prevention and control, there was a reversal in progress against smoking.

Please do not divert funds away from Tobacco Prevention and Control programs. Our program and efforts must continue to save lives and our State money. Every year, smoking costs Hawaii over half a billion dollars and the tobacco industry is spending \$42 million to market their deadly products here. Tobacco prevention is an ongoing need.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1.

Sincerely,

Alana D. Steffen, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor  
Prevention and Control Program  
Cancer Research Center of Hawaii  
(808) 441 8197



LATE

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair

Conference Room 211  
March 23, 2010 at 9:30 a.m.

**Recommending an amendment to HB 2542 HD 1.**

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii represents its member organizations that span the entire spectrum of health care, including all acute care hospitals, as well as long term care facilities, home care agencies, and hospices. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of an amendment to HB 2542 HD SD 1 Proposed which, among other things, transfers money from various special funds to the general fund.

Section 16 of the bill authorizes the transfer of funds from the tobacco settlement special fund to the general fund. Section 245-15, Hawaii Revised Statutes, designates taxes collected from the sale of tobacco for certain purposes. Currently, .75 cents per cigarette is deposited into the trauma system special fund. Moneys from the trauma system special fund are designated for the continuing development and operation of a comprehensive state trauma system. That funding has contributed significantly to the development of Hawaii's trauma system, and it is still needed.

We would request an amendment to Section 16 that preserves funding for Hawaii's trauma system, and the committee report should reflect the intent of protecting the vitality of Hawaii's trauma system.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

**kim2 - Jo Ann**

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**From:** Stacey Krenelka [stacey@ccmaui.org]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 23, 2010 11:57 AM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in Strong Opposition to Part III, HB 2542 Proposed SD 1

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

Re: Strong Opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1, Relating to Non-General Funds

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1.

Please do not cut funding for tobacco prevention and control programs.

I am deeply concerned that lawmakers are looking to take funds away from preventing youth from using tobacco and helping smokers quit. I believe these programs work and save lives, and it's very important to me to keep them funded to save lives now and keep them strong into the future.

I also support using the settlement moneys won from the lawsuit against tobacco companies as they were intended: to prevent and reduce tobacco use.

Thanks to the vision and leadership of our Legislature, our State has dedicated funding for tobacco prevention and control programs for the last ten years. This has reduced adult smoking rates from 21.2% to 15.4% and slashed youth smoking rates from 25% to 10%.

Please don't balance the budget on the backs of the next generation's health. Smoking continues to cost our State over half a billion dollars in health-related costs and lost productivity annually and this cost will rise if we cut the programs that reduce smoking. Other states that cut their tobacco prevention efforts are moving backwards in their fight to reduce smoking, save lives and cut health costs.

Please continue funding tobacco prevention and control funding and do not divert moneys away from life-saving and cost-saving efforts. Please do not pass any cuts to funding for tobacco prevention and tobacco treatment efforts.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in opposition to Part III, HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1.

Stacey Krenelka  
172 Waipahe St  
Kihei, HI 96753-8059  
8088724011



March 23, 2010

LATE

To: Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair, Committee on Ways and Means  
Senators Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair, Committee on Ways and Means  
Members, Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Re: Strong Opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1:  
Relating to Non-General Funds  
March 23, 2010 in Room 211 at 9:30 a.m.

Dear Legislators,

Please accept my testimony in strong opposition to HB2542.

My name is Lachelle Sakamoto and I am currently a senior attending Baldwin High School, and a part of the Peer Education Program. I feel that the tobacco prevention programs are very important to keep. These days a lot of kids are smoking, and this can continue to be reduced by continuing to fund prevention programs. But these programs can't exist with the support from the Tobacco Trust Fund.

The tobacco companies are taking many lives. I have many aunties and uncles who have smoked everyday for a really long time. And just recently my aunty was in the hospital due to chronic asthma due to smoking. I feel we really need more tobacco prevention and stop smoking programs because I don't want to see other people suffer.

Please save the Tobacco Trust Fund by opposing HB2542. We need it to continue funding tobacco prevention and quit smoking programs to protect our children and families' health. Tobacco prevention is saving the next generation and our state from increasing health care costs. These programs are saving so many lives and changing them forever.

Mahalo,  
Lachelle Sakamoto  
P.O. Box 804  
Haiku, HI 96708

March 23, 2010

To: Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair, Committee on Ways and Means  
Senators Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair, Committee on Ways and Means  
Members, Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Re: Strong Opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1:  
Relating to Non-General Funds  
March 23, 2010 in Room 211 at 9:30 a.m.

Dear Legislators,

My name is Melissa Le and I am a sophomore at Henry Perrine Baldwin High School. I'm asking you to save tobacco trust funds for tobacco prevention programs.

Smoking tobacco doesn't just affect the smoker it affects everyone around them. My grandpa used to smoke but the health effects stayed with him until his death. He was tobacco-free for 20 years, but what it had done to him stayed with him forever. My late uncle also smoked a lot of tobacco. It was unfortunate that the day of his death was also the day of my birthday. I remember that day so well. I had to cancel all the plans I made and I haven't celebrated my birthday since then. You see, tobacco affects everyone even those that don't smoke it including entire families who lose the people they love.

I myself also used to smoke tobacco. I experienced it firsthand and I know what it can do to you. You just keep on craving it and craving it causing the tobacco industries to make more money.

I believe that we need to continue to fund tobacco prevention programs. There is evidence that these programs have been highly successful in the past decade. The percentage of youth who smoke has dropped from 24.5% to 9.7%. Smoker healthcare costs also cost about 40% more compared to non-smokers. That is over half a billion dollars every year in healthcare for smokers in Hawaii. Hawaii's economy is really low right now so if we prevent people from buying and using tobacco, it would really help now and in the long-run.

Cutting prevention funds makes it likely for smoking rates to rise so it's important to keep these funds for prevention. Sure, these programs may seem like they cost a lot but they do work and they cost much less in the long run. Please keep the Tobacco Trust Fund for tobacco prevention to better Hawaii. Please oppose HB2542.

Mahalo,

Melissa Le  
North Kihei

**kim2 - Jo Ann**

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**From:** Christopher Lum Lee [clumlee@ymail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 23, 2010 4:00 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in Strong Opposition to Part III, HB 2542 Proposed SD 1

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

Re: Strong Opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1, Relating to Non-General Funds

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1.

Please do not cut funding for tobacco prevention and control programs.

I am deeply concerned that lawmakers are looking to take funds away from preventing youth from using tobacco and helping smokers quit. I believe these programs work and save lives, and it's very important to me to keep them funded to save lives now and keep them strong into the future.

I also support using the settlement moneys won from the lawsuit against tobacco companies as they were intended: to prevent and reduce tobacco use.

Thanks to the vision and leadership of our Legislature, our State has dedicated funding for tobacco prevention and control programs for the last ten years. This has reduced adult smoking rates from 21.2% to 15.4% and slashed youth smoking rates from 25% to 10%.

Please don't balance the budget on the backs of the next generation's health. Smoking continues to cost our State over half a billion dollars in health-related costs and lost productivity annually and this cost will rise if we cut the programs that reduce smoking. Other states that cut their tobacco prevention efforts are moving backwards in their fight to reduce smoking, save lives and cut health costs.

Please continue funding tobacco prevention and control funding and do not divert moneys away from life-saving and cost-saving efforts. Please do not pass any cuts to funding for tobacco prevention and tobacco treatment efforts.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in opposition to Part III, HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1.

Christopher Lum Lee  
1688 Hoonipo  
Pearl City, HI 96782  
(808) 927-3484

**kim2 - Jo Ann**

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**From:** Shelly Ogata [shellyogata@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 23, 2010 4:00 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in Strong Opposition to Part III, HB 2542 Proposed SD 1

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

Re: Strong Opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1, Relating to Non-General Funds

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1.

Please do not cut funding for tobacco prevention and control programs.

I am deeply concerned that lawmakers are looking to take funds away from preventing youth from using tobacco and helping smokers quit. I believe these programs work and save lives, and it's very important to me to keep them funded to save lives now and keep them strong into the future.

I also support using the settlement moneys won from the lawsuit against tobacco companies as they were intended: to prevent and reduce tobacco use.

Thanks to the vision and leadership of our Legislature, our State has dedicated funding for tobacco prevention and control programs for the last ten years. This has reduced adult smoking rates from 21.2% to 15.4% and slashed youth smoking rates from 25% to 10%.

Please don't balance the budget on the backs of the next generation's health. Smoking continues to cost our State over half a billion dollars in health-related costs and lost productivity annually and this cost will rise if we cut the programs that reduce smoking. Other states that cut their tobacco prevention efforts are moving backwards in their fight to reduce smoking, save lives and cut health costs.

Please continue funding tobacco prevention and control funding and do not divert moneys away from life-saving and cost-saving efforts. Please do not pass any cuts to funding for tobacco prevention and tobacco treatment efforts.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in opposition to Part III, HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1.

Shelly Ogata  
17468 N. Ala Road  
Kurtistown, HI 96760  
8089668870

## kim5 - Deborah

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**From:** Terry Lee Poaipuni [tpoaipuni@hnkop.org]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 23, 2010 1:06 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in Strong Opposition to Part III, HB 2542 Proposed SD 1

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

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

Re: Strong Opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1, Relating to Non-General Funds

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1.

Please do not cut funding for tobacco prevention and control programs.

I am deeply concerned that lawmakers are looking to take funds away from preventing youth from using tobacco and helping smokers quit. I believe these programs work and save lives, and it's very important to me to keep them funded to save lives now and keep them strong into the future.

I also support using the settlement moneys won from the lawsuit against tobacco companies as they were intended: to prevent and reduce tobacco use.

Thanks to the vision and leadership of our Legislature, our State has dedicated funding for tobacco prevention and control programs for the last ten years. This has reduced adult smoking rates from 21.2% to 15.4% and slashed youth smoking rates from 25% to 10%.

Please don't balance the budget on the backs of the next generation's health. Smoking continues to cost our State over half a billion dollars in health-related costs and lost productivity annually and this cost will rise if we cut the programs that reduce smoking. Other states that cut their tobacco prevention efforts are moving backwards in their fight to reduce smoking, save lives and cut health costs.

Please continue funding tobacco prevention and control funding and do not divert moneys away from life-saving and cost-saving efforts. Please do not pass any cuts to funding for tobacco prevention and tobacco treatment efforts.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in opposition to Part III, HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1.

Terry Lee Poaipuni  
5101 Uakea Street  
Hana, HI 96713-0189  
808-248-7502

**From:** [Rose Cabanlit](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in Strong Opposition to Part III, HB 2542 Proposed SD 1  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 23, 2010 4:10:04 PM

---

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

Re: Strong Opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1, Relating to Non-General Funds

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1.

Please do not cut funding for tobacco prevention and control programs.

I am deeply concerned that lawmakers are looking to take funds away from preventing youth from using tobacco and helping smokers quit. I believe these programs work and save lives, and it's very important to me to keep them funded to save lives now and keep them strong into the future.

I also support using the settlement moneys won from the lawsuit against tobacco companies as they were intended: to prevent and reduce tobacco use.

Thanks to the vision and leadership of our Legislature, our State has dedicated funding for tobacco prevention and control programs for the last ten years. This has reduced adult smoking rates from 21.2% to 15.4% and slashed youth smoking rates from 25% to 10%.

Please don't balance the budget on the backs of the next generation's health. Smoking continues to cost our State over half a billion dollars in health-related costs and lost productivity annually and this cost will rise if we cut the programs that reduce smoking. Other states that cut their tobacco prevention efforts are moving backwards in their fight to reduce smoking, save lives and cut health costs.

Please continue funding tobacco prevention and control funding and do not divert moneys away from life-saving and cost-saving efforts. Please do not pass any cuts to funding for tobacco prevention and tobacco treatment efforts.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in opposition to Part III, HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1.

Rose Cabanlit  
PO Box 380  
Paauilo, HI 96776  
640-4218



16-540 Kea'au-Pahoa Highway, Ste.6  
Kea'au, HI 96749  
Ph.(808) 966-6354

SENATE WAYS AND  
MEANS COMMITTEE

Regarding HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1, Relating to Non-General Funds

Tuesday March 23, 2010 9:30 AM

Dear Senators:

My name is Linda Penn and I am beseeching you to please vote to "hold" HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1, Relating to Non-General Funds in Committee or to vote against cuts to funding. I care about tobacco prevention and control having seen first hand the many consequences when people are not educated.

I work at Kea'au Youth Business Center, which does entrepreneurial and skill building programs for the extremely disadvantaged youth in the Puna District. These funds are important. Without funding for tobacco prevention and control, our doors would have to shut.

We are a tobacco-free, drug-free zone in the middle of an area that is overly saturated with both. We are one of the few remaining Youth Services in this area that engages youth before they enter a life path of no return which leads to violent acting out or incarceration. We have had many success stories, i.e. one of our students won the National Spirit of Youth Award. Our students either quit smoking (or chewing) tobacco and most will not even begin. The programs we offer in sound recording, digital arts and culinary arts are appreciated immensely by parents and children alike who have somewhere to go and learn skills they can use in life. We are not simply a "hang-out" facility. Students come here and learn and thrive because they bond with our staff. We are highly trained instructors and teachers who have worked with youth for many decades.

Our students create video and radio PSA's that point out the dangers of tobacco use. With all the social services being cut back, it would be a tragedy to have to close a

facility that has proven its worth to the community. The end result would actually cost the state more as many of these children could end up incarcerated.

In March, 2007, the House of Representatives presented Kea'au Youth Business Center with a certificate congratulating us on opening our facility. The 24<sup>th</sup> Legislature of the State of Hawaii, "extend its warmest aloha and sincere best wishes...and offers its support and encouragement for continued success in all future endeavors."

I sincerely hope that the 27<sup>th</sup> Legislature will continue to support us.

Please vote to "hold" HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1, Relating to Non-General Funds in Committee or to vote against cuts to funding. Hawaii needs funding for tobacco prevention and control. Our efforts work—we've saved lives and our State money. We still have so much to do. Please ensure funding for tobacco prevention and control."

Sincerely,

Linda Penn

HCR2 Box 6838,

Kea'au, HI 96749





## University of Hawai'i Foundation Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON THE WAYS AND MEANS  
by  
Donna Vuchinich  
President & CEO, University of Hawai'i Foundation

### **HB 2542 & SB2695 HD1 – Relating to Non-General Funds and Proposed Cuts in University of Hawai'i Funds**

Chair Kim, Vice Chair Tsutsui and Members of the Committee:

The University of Hawai'i was created by visionaries and they also served as legislators as you do today. They were bold thinkers who recognized the critical nature of providing the people of Hawai'i with an affordable post high school education. Over the last century, 10s of thousands of you have been able to get a quality education which has benefited society in general and many of you specifically. If you pass this legislation you will reverse the vision and dreams of your predecessors and do irreversible damage to Hawaii, its people and its economy.

We have grave concerns about these cuts and their impact on our students and on our state's future. **Our future depends on education.**

From early-childhood education to geriatric care, University of Hawai'i graduates touch our lives every day. Don't we want our workforce to be well educated? Don't we want Hawai'i residents to reap the benefits of higher education?

**By the end of this decade, more than 60% of jobs will require college education.<sup>1</sup> However, today, only 41% of Hawaii's adults aged 25 – 34 have a college degree.<sup>2</sup> With these proposed cuts, there may be even fewer Hawai'i residents with college degrees in 2020.**

---

<sup>1</sup> Carnevale, T., Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce, 2009. High growth fields based on national projections of total new and replacement jobs. <http://cew.georgetown.edu/research/jobs/79012.html>

<sup>2</sup> National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS), 2008 (from U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 American Community Survey Public Use Microata Sample File.) <http://www.higheredinfo.org>

What are some of the jobs that will go unfilled if Hawai'i does not have an educated workforce?

- Nurses
- Computer software and network systems analysts
- Teachers
- Physicians
- Engineers
- EMTs, Medical Technicians
- Healthcare providers
- Carpenters
- Electricians
- Plumbers
- Firemen
- Biologists
- Chemists
- Pharmacists

These are just a few of the many professionals and technicians whose ranks are trained at UH campuses. We can hope that the students who are forced to leave the Islands because they could not get their degrees here will come back. What about those who can't afford to go elsewhere?

High school graduates without any higher education:

- will earn 60% less than peers who attain undergraduate degrees
- will likely die sooner than others with more education.
- will contribute less money to Hawai'i's tax base.
- may need government assistance.
- may never realize their full potential.

Just as sadly, we as a State may never realize their full potential.

What does Hawai'i's future hold if we cannot educate our young people? In the book *Three Cups of Tea*, Greg Mortenson describes how the poorest of people in the mountains of Pakistan and Afghanistan are going to great lengths to build schools for their children. They know that their future is in the hands of their young people and they need to give them every opportunity to learn. Those village elders have the vision that created the University of Hawai'i. Where is that vision in Hawai'i today?

I urge you to make no further cuts to the funding of the University of Hawai'i.

Testimony by Barry Weinman  
Chairman, Board of Trustees  
University of Hawaii Foundation

To the Senate Committee on the Ways and Means  
On House Bill 2542 & Senate Bill 2695 HD1  
March 28, 2010

Relating to HB2542 & SB 2695 HD1 Relating to Non-General Funds  
Proposed Cuts in University of Hawaii Funds.

Aloha Chair Kim, Vice Chair Tsutsui and Members of the Committee

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

I am specifically opposed to Sections 16 ( \$15 Million for the Cancer Research Special Fund), Section 19 ( \$10 Million for Research and Training Revolving Fund), Section 22 ( \$20 Million for Tuition and Special Fee Special Fund), and Section 23 ( \$11 Million for University Revenue –Undertakings).

I am the Chair of The UH Foundation and former Chair of the Centennial Campaign. UHF was tasked with asking donor support for UH and has raised \$336 Million ( against a target of \$250 Million) during the recently completed Centennial Campaign. We expect to raise an additional \$50 Million this fiscal year ending June 30<sup>th</sup> 2010. We have promised donors that these funds would be used to supplement tuition increases with student scholarships, help with prior cuts in programs, and specific support for initiatives such as the Cancer Research Center. Donors , many of which are feeling the effects of the economic downturn , have stepped up to support Hawaii's University and help UH maintain these critical initiatives.

My wife and I have personally donated over \$5 Million to the campaign including \$1 Million in scholarships for local medical students tuition at JABSOM if they agreed to practice medicine in rural and underserved communities in Hawaii after graduation. Earlier this month we donated \$1.7 Million to the Cancer Research Center to help convince the accreditation committees that Hawaii and its people were serious about building the new Cancer Center. The Cancer Center brings in 10s of Millions of Dollars to Hawaii, creates quality jobs and benefits the health and economy of the community. This donation has already sponsored Dr Baruch Blumberg's visit to Hawaii. He is the Nobel Lauriat who discovered the Hepatitis B virus and developed a vaccination that has saved the lives of 10s of millions. Hepatitis B often leads to Liver Cancer, which is the major Cancer affecting Hawaii. If any of you are members of the Hawaiian, Philippine, Japanese or Korean communities, Liver Cancer is your #1 enemy. This \$1.7 donation is designed to bring Dr Blumberg and Researchers of his stature to Hawaii for 2-4 weeks per year to work with UH, Queens Medical Center and other health organizations to find cures for the prevalent diseases that strike Hawaii.

If the proposed cuts mentioned above are enacted, it will make our efforts and the efforts of all UH donors, worthless. In one piece of legislation, \$50 + Million dollars of cuts will wipe out the entire years philanthropy and send a message to donors ---both alumni and friends of UH, that the effort to keep UH sustained and moving forward is not only, not appreciated, but is irrelevant.

I am normally opposed to tax increases in down or recessionary economic periods---it tends to exacerbate a bad situation. However, if the choice is added taxes or these draconian and irreversible cuts to UH, PLEASE raise my taxes.

Sincerely yours

*Barry Weinman*  
4471 Kahala Ave  
Honolulu, HI, 96816  
Cell: +1 808.927.9931

Saturday, March 27, 2010

Hawaii State Senate

Ways and Means Committee

REF: HB 2542

In supporting the re-direction of funds held in the Hawaii tobacco prevention and control trust fund we anticipate the Legislature using a portion of these funds to at least continue, if not expand, the critical work of the Kupuna Care Program.

We must not become a community who puts emphasis on the needs and wants of our own generation and those following us above the needs of those whose lives have built our foundations. Our senior community not only needs the Kupuna Care Program, it deserves the program and we as beneficiaries of their efforts are obligated to provide services that allow our *kupuna* to live in security, comfort and peace.

Many projects can be postponed and accomplished at a later date. The lives of our elders do not stop and wait for a better economic day. If we must give up something, let it be something out of our own needs and wants – not those of our parents and loved ones.

Sincerely,

Gary A. Powell

Executive Director

**From:** [eleanor himes](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in Strong Opposition to Part III, HB 2542 Proposed SD 1  
**Date:** Friday, March 26, 2010 3:20:08 PM

---

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

Re: Strong Opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1, Relating to Non-General Funds

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1.

Please do not cut funding for tobacco prevention and control programs.

I am deeply concerned that lawmakers are looking to take funds away from preventing youth from using tobacco and helping smokers quit. I believe these programs work and save lives, and it's very important to me to keep them funded to save lives now and keep them strong into the future.

I also support using the settlement moneys won from the lawsuit against tobacco companies as they were intended: to prevent and reduce tobacco use.

Thanks to the vision and leadership of our Legislature, our State has dedicated funding for tobacco prevention and control programs for the last ten years. This has reduced adult smoking rates from 21.2% to 15.4% and slashed youth smoking rates from 25% to 10%.

Please don't balance the budget on the backs of the next generation's health. Smoking continues to cost our State over half a billion dollars in health-related costs and lost productivity annually and this cost will rise if we cut the programs that reduce smoking. Other states that cut their tobacco prevention efforts are moving backwards in their fight to reduce smoking, save lives and cut health costs.

Please continue funding tobacco prevention and control funding and do not divert moneys away from life-saving and cost-saving efforts. Please do not pass any cuts to funding for tobacco prevention and tobacco treatment efforts.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in opposition to Part III, HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1.

eleanor himes  
kILOU pL  
WAILUKU, HI 96793  
808-244-5314

**From:** [Jack Bennett](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in Strong Opposition to Part III, HB 2542 Proposed SD 1  
**Date:** Thursday, March 25, 2010 10:00:48 PM

---

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

Re: Strong SUPPORT of HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1, Relating to Non-General Funds

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong SUPPORT to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1.

Please CUT funding for tobacco prevention and control programs. Giving the state's budget woes, tobacco settlement moneys should be used to provide services that benefit a greater portion of the population.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony to Part III, HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1.

Jack Bennett  
1717 Mott-Smith Drive  
Honolulu, HI 96822-2806  
8086205735

March 25, 2010

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

From: Tricia Wright, MD, Assistant Professor Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology & Women's Health, University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine. Founder and Medical Director, Perinatal Addiction Treatment of Hawaii (PATH) clinic.

Re: In strong opposition of HB2542, transferring money from the tobacco settlement to the general operating fund

I am writing to oppose this bill, which would transfer funds from the tobacco settlement. These funds are being used to support many education, prevention, and treatment programs within the state. As an Obstetrician/Gynecologist who specializes in the care of women with addictions, I can say that the most insidious addiction of all is that to nicotine. It is also one with known deleterious effects to the mother and her newborn, not just immediately, but throughout their lifetimes. Infants exposed to tobacco *in utero* are more likely to be born prematurely, small for gestational age, suffer from learning disabilities, asthma, obesity, and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS). In addition, it is an addiction that disproportionately affects women of Hawaiian ancestry (3X greater risk). For these reasons, I urge you to resist the urge to balance the budget on the backs of those most vulnerable.

Thank you.

This is not an official position of the University of Hawaii.

**kim5 - Deborah**

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**From:** Vuchinich, Donna [Donna.Vuchinich@uhf.hawaii.edu]  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 28, 2010 7:47 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Cc:** King, Bill; Schrire, Margot; Hanson, Martha  
**Subject:** Testimony HB2542 & SB2695 - Relating to Non-General Funds and Proposed Cuts in University of Hawai'i Funds  
**Attachments:** hb2542 & SB2695 HD1 TESTIMONY FOR SENATE W&M.pdf  
**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

I am attaching my testimony to the Senate Ways & Means Committee re: HB 2542 and SB2695 HD1 relating to Non-General Funds and Proposed Cuts to University of Hawai'i Funds. It follows below as well. Thank you for this opportunity to share my concerns.

Donna Vuchinich

Donna Vuchinich, President & CEO  
University of Hawaii Foundation  
2444 Dole Street, Bachman Hall 105  
Honolulu, HI 96822-2330

808-956-3711/1-888-846-4262

FAX(808)956-5115

[donna.vuchinich@uhf.hawaii.edu](mailto:donna.vuchinich@uhf.hawaii.edu)

**Visit us on the web at:** <http://www.uhf.hawaii.edu>

## **University of Hawai'i Foundation**

### **Legislative Testimony**

Testimony Presented Before the  
SENATE WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE

by

Donna Vuchinich

President & CEO, University of Hawai'i Foundation

### **HB 2542 & SB2695 HD1 – Relating to Non-General Funds and Proposed Cuts in University of Hawai'i Funds**

Chair Kim, Vice Chair Tsutsui and Members of the Committee:

The University of Hawai'i was created by visionaries and they also served as legislators as you do today. They were bold thinkers who recognized the critical nature of providing the people of Hawaii with an affordable post high school education. Over the last century, 10s of thousands of you have been able to get a quality education which has benefited society in general and many of you specifically. If you pass



this legislation you will reverse the vision and dreams of your predecessors and do irreversible damage to Hawaii, its people and its economy.

We have grave concerns about these cuts and their impact on our students and on our state's future. **Our future depends on education.**

From early-childhood education to geriatric care, University of Hawai'i graduates touch our lives every day. Don't we want our workforce to be well educated? Don't we want Hawai'i residents to reap the benefits of higher education?

**By the end of this decade, more than 60% of jobs will require college education.<sup>1</sup> However, today, only 41% of Hawaii's adults aged 25 – 34 have a college degree.<sup>2</sup> With these proposed cuts, there may be even fewer Hawai'i residents with college degrees in 2020.**

What are some of the jobs that will go unfilled if Hawai'i does not have an educated workforce?

- Nurses
- Computer software and network systems analysts
- Teachers
- Physicians
- Engineers
- EMTs, Medical Technicians
- Healthcare providers
- Carpenters
- Electricians
- Plumbers
- Firemen
- Biologists
- Chemists
- Pharmacists

These are just a few of the many professionals and technicians whose ranks are trained at UH campuses. We can hope that the students who are forced to leave the Islands because they could not get their degrees here will come back. What about those who can't afford to go elsewhere?

High school graduates without any higher education:

- will earn 60% less than peers who attain undergraduate degrees
- will likely die sooner than others with more education.
- will contribute less money to Hawai'i's tax base.
- may need government assistance.
- may never realize their full potential.

Just as sadly, we as a State may never realize their full potential.

What does Hawai'i's future hold if we cannot educate our young people? In the book *Three Cups of Tea*, Greg Mortenson describes how the poorest of people in the mountains of Pakistan and Afghanistan are going to great lengths to build schools for their children. They know that their future is in the hands of their young people and they need to give them every opportunity to learn. Those village elders have the vision that created the University of Hawai'i. Where is that vision in Hawai'i today?

## I urge you to make no further cuts to the funding of the University of Hawai'i

1 Carnevale, T., Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce, 2009. High growth fields based on national projections of total new and replacement jobs.

<http://cew.georgetown.edu/research/jobs/79012.html>

2 National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS), 2008 (from U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample File.)

<http://www.higheredinfo.org>

**kim5 - Deborah**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2010 2:35 AM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Cc:** fwrawe2@hawaiiantel.net  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2542 on 3/29/2010 10:00:00 AM

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

Testimony for WAM 3/29/2010 10:00:00 AM HB2542

Conference room: 211  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Fred Rawe  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [fwrawe2@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:fwrawe2@hawaiiantel.net)  
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:

**kim5 - Deborah**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2010 2:15 AM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Cc:** mrawe17@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2542 on 3/29/2010 10:00:00 AM

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

Testimony for WAM 3/29/2010 10:00:00 AM HB2542

Conference room: 211  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: maria rawe  
Organization: Individual  
Address: 32 kalihi place Kula, Hi 96790  
Phone: 808 876 1064  
E-mail: [mrawe17@gmail.com](mailto:mrawe17@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:



To: Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
Senator Kim, Chair  
Senator Tsutsui, Vice-Chair

Date: March 23, 2010 - Conference Room 211 – 9:30 a.m.

Re: **HB 2542, HD1, PROPOSED SD1 RELATING TO NON-GENERAL FUNDS.**

Chair Kim, Vice Chair Tsutsui, and Committee Members:

My name is Barbara Kim Stanton, State Director of AARP Hawaii. AARP is a membership organization of people 50 and older with nearly 150,000 members in Hawaii. We are committed to championing access to affordable, quality health care for all generations, providing the tools needed to save for retirement, and serving as a reliable information source on issues critical to Americans age 50+.

The purpose of this bill is to close the budget shortfall for fiscal year 2010-2011 by transferring excess balances (of about \$59.3m) from certain special and revolving funds to the general fund. This would include the transfer of \$7.2 m in excess funds of the requirements from the Tobacco Settlement Special Fund (Special Fund) to the general fund for FY 2010-11. The proposed SD1 also caps the amount of the Hawaii Tobacco Prevention and Control Trust Fund (Trust Fund) at \$7m and transfers lapsed excess balances after June 30<sup>th</sup> of each year to the emergency budget and reserve fund (aka Rainy Day Fund).

AARP Hawaii supports the proposed SD1, specifically with regards to the Tobacco Settlement Special Fund and the Tobacco Prevention and Control Trust Fund.

Due to the severe recession, the needs of our most vulnerable populations have grown at the same time that the State has fewer resources to help them. As such, it becomes necessary to deploy all available resources to ensure that immediate critical public health and safety concerns are addressed and safety net services are maintained. Particularly vulnerable are abused children and the elderly, the disabled and mentally ill, and an increasingly large number of frail and home-bound seniors in need of long-term care.

We are in favor of transferring excess funds from the Trust Fund (currently \$52m and growing annually with additional payments) to the Rainy Day Fund because the annual limit to its allowable expenditure (Section 328L-5c) and share of the Special Fund's expenditure ceiling already preclude the spending of these monies. These dollars can be used immediately to help struggling people stay afloat. Tobacco prevention efforts will not be affected by the transfer of the excess Trust Funds or the excess Special Funds since current funding levels for prevention programs would be maintained.



Sadly, the Rainy Day fund's allotment from the Tobacco Settlement Special Fund has been reduced from 40% in 1999 to 15% in 2009. This has occurred as community programs have cut services despite increased demand, and look to the Rainy Day Fund for funding support.

In summary, the proposed SD1 preserves ongoing efforts in tobacco prevention and control at the same expenditure level while freeing up excess balances to help and protect our most vulnerable population. Tapping into these reserve funds may also avoid the need to raise taxes.

For these reasons, AARP asks for your favorable consideration of this measure.

To: The Senate Ways and Means Committee  
The Honorable Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair  
The Honorable Senator Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair

From: Shim Kanazawa, Founder, Project Dana  
Rose Nakamura, Administrator, Project Dana

Subject: Late Testimony In Support of HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1- Relating to Non General Funds.

Date: Tuesday, March 23, 2010, Room 211, 9:30 a.m.

Please accept this late testimony.

We are in strong support of the need to transfer excess funds (\$7.2 million) from the Tobacco Settlement Special Fund to the Rainy Day Fund so that critical needs for vital social services can be met in Hawaii's community.

One of the major community needs is Kupuna Care. Project Dana is a Kupuna Care program partially funded by the State of Hawaii funds approved by the Legislature. Kupuna Care needs proper attention from you as needs of the elderly keep escalating and additional funds to support agencies with Kupuna Care are so badly needed. Kupuna Care provides services such as case management, meals on wheels, transportation, personal care, attendant care, etc.

Kupuna Care needs an additional \$3 million and using excess funds from the Tobacco Settlement Special Fund can reduce the suffering of many of the homebound frail seniors.

Sponsored by Moiliili Hongwanji Mission, Project Dana is a Faith in Action program that provides a variety of services to the frail elderly, disabled persons and family caregivers to ensure their well being, independence, and dignity in an environment of their choice. Many frail elders live alone and are shut-ins. Support comes from a corps of trained volunteers guided by the universal principle of "Dana" which combines selfless giving and compassion. Composed of a coalition of 33 churches, temples and groups to care for people, there are 850 dedicated volunteers across the state with the majority on Oahu to assist the frail and elderly with:

- Friendly visits
- Respite services

- Transportation to medical appointments, grocery shopping and religious services
- Telephone visits
- Home safety assessments and education
- Light housekeeping and minor home repairs
- Family Caregivers Support

The additional funds of \$7.2 million from the Tobacco Settlement Special Fund to the Rainy Day Fund would provide increased assistance and services to more seniors; thus allowing them to live independently and longer in Hawaii's community. This fund will also help other social services that are critical in Hawaii.

Thank you very much.



Testimony by Barry Weinman  
Chairman, Board of Trustees  
University of Hawaii Foundation

To the Senate Committee on the Ways and Means  
On House Bill 2542 & Senate Bill 2695 HD1  
March 28, 2010

Relating to HB2542 & SB 2695 HD1 Relating to Non-General Funds  
Proposed Cuts in University of Hawaii Funds.

Aloha Chair Kim, Vice Chair Tsutsui and Members of the Committee

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

I am specifically opposed to Sections 16 ( \$15 Million for the Cancer Research Special Fund), Section 19 ( \$10 Million for Research and Training Revolving Fund), Section 22 ( \$20 Million for Tuition and Special Fee Special Fund), and Section 23 ( \$11 Million for University Revenue –Undertakings).

I am the Chair of The UH Foundation and former Chair of the Centennial Campaign. UHF was tasked with asking donor support for UH and has raised \$336 Million ( against a target of \$250 Million) during the recently completed Centennial Campaign. We expect to raise an additional \$50 Million this fiscal year ending June 30<sup>th</sup> 2010. We have promised donors that these funds would be used to supplement tuition increases with student scholarships, help with prior cuts in programs, and specific support for initiatives such as the Cancer Research Center. Donors , many of which are feeling the effects of the economic downturn , have stepped up to support Hawaii's University and help UH maintain these critical initiatives.

My wife and I have personally donated over \$5 Million to the campaign including \$1 Million in scholarships for local medical students tuition at JABSOM if they agreed to practice medicine in rural and underserved communities in Hawaii after graduation. Earlier this month we donated \$1.7 Million to the Cancer Research Center to help convince the accreditation committees that Hawaii and its people were serious about building the new Cancer Center. The Cancer Center brings in 10s of Millions of Dollars to Hawaii, creates quality jobs and benefits the health and economy of the community. This donation has already sponsored Dr Baruch Blumberg's visit to Hawaii. He is the Nobel Lauriat who discovered the Hepatitis B virus and developed a vaccination that has saved the lives of 10s of millions. Hepatitis B often leads to Liver Cancer, which is the major Cancer affecting Hawaii. If any of you are members of the Hawaiian, Philippine, Japanese or Korean communities, Liver Cancer is your #1 enemy. This \$1.7 donation is designed to bring Dr Blumberg and Researchers of his stature to Hawaii for 2-4 weeks per year to work with UH, Queens Medical Center and other health organizations to find cures for the prevalent diseases that strike Hawaii.

If the proposed cuts mentioned above are enacted, it will make our efforts and the efforts of all UH donors, worthless. In one piece of legislation, \$50 + Million dollars of cuts will wipe out the entire years philanthropy and send a message to donors ---both alumni and friends of UH, that the effort to keep UH sustained and moving forward is not only, not appreciated, but is irrelevant.

I am normally opposed to tax increases in down or recessionary economic periods---it tends to exacerbate a bad situation. However, if the choice is added taxes or these draconian and irreversible cuts to UH, PLEASE raise my taxes.

Sincerely yours

*Barry Weinman*  
4471 Kahala Ave  
Honolulu, HI, 96816  
Cell: +1 808.927.9931

## kim5 - Deborah

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 28, 2010 1:24 AM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Cc:** anwprods@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2542 on 3/29/2010 10:00:00 AM

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

Testimony for WAM 3/29/2010 10:00:00 AM HB2542

Conference room: 211  
Testifier position: oppose  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Alvin Wong  
Organization: Individual  
Address: 1163 Hooli Circle Pearl City, HI  
Phone: 456-2189  
E-mail: [anwprods@hotmail.com](mailto:anwprods@hotmail.com)  
Submitted on: 3/28/2010

**Comments:**

I oppose using the Tobacco Settlement money to balance the buget. All of the Tobacco Settlement money should be used for tobacco prevention programs.

## **kim5 - Deborah**

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**From:** Angela Sy [asy@email.unc.edu]  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 27, 2010 2:20 PM  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in Strong Opposition to Part III, HB 2542 Proposed SD 1

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

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

Re: Strong Opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1, Relating to Non-General Funds

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong opposition to HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1.

Please do not cut funding for tobacco prevention and control programs.

I am deeply concerned that lawmakers are looking to take funds away from preventing youth from using tobacco and helping smokers quit. I believe these programs work and save lives, and it's very important to me to keep them funded to save lives now and keep them strong into the future.

I also support using the settlement moneys won from the lawsuit against tobacco companies as they were intended: to prevent and reduce tobacco use.

Thanks to the vision and leadership of our Legislature, our State has dedicated funding for tobacco prevention and control programs for the last ten years. This has reduced adult smoking rates from 21.2% to 15.4% and slashed youth smoking rates from 25% to 10%.

Please don't balance the budget on the backs of the next generation's health. Smoking continues to cost our State over half a billion dollars in health-related costs and lost productivity annually and this cost will rise if we cut the programs that reduce smoking. Other states that cut their tobacco prevention efforts are moving backwards in their fight to reduce smoking, save lives and cut health costs.

Please continue funding tobacco prevention and control funding and do not divert moneys away from life-saving and cost-saving efforts. Please do not pass any cuts to funding for tobacco prevention and tobacco treatment efforts.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in opposition to Part III, HB 2542, HD 1, Proposed SD 1.

Angela Sy  
1255 Nuuanu #414  
Honolulu, HI 96817  
956-8711

**From:** LAURA MANIS  
**To:** WAM Testimony  
**Subject:** HB2542 PROPOSED SD1  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 24, 2010 1:43:45 PM

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HB 2542, HD1

Proposed SD1

WAM 3/23

LATE Testimony

RELATING TO NON-GENERAL FUNDS.

Addresses the fiscal year 2009-2010 budget shortfall by transferring to the general fund an unspecified amount of excess balances from certain special funds; amends the refundable charge of the fuel tax credit for commercial fishers to be from the state highway fund; requires moneys in excess of a certain amount in the Hawaii tobacco prevention and control trust fund to lapse to the emergency budget and reserve fund each June 30; amends the disposition of revenues collected pursuant to chapter 245, HRS. Effective July 1, 2020. Proposed (SD1)

SUPPORT LATE TESTIMONY

My name is Laura Manis and I am a member of AARP, on the Board of Kokua Council and HARA as well as a member of the Legislative committee of PABEA.

**While we all support the raising of the G.E.T. we also agree it should be a last resort.** We understand the political realities of raising taxes and have all agreed that the **first** effort to balance the budget is to transfer **excess** funds from special funds.

For example, we understand that the tobacco fund spends only about 6 million dollars a year leaving about 30-32 million dollars that is carried over year to year. Surely, there are other funds with this excess money.

We are not suggesting that all the money in these funds be used, but that current funding for these worthy programs be continued at their present level and enough left in to not jeopardize the programs.

Our primary concern is that social services and safety net services are not cut, exacerbating already shortages and waitlists. We will support the legislature in this effort.

Laura G. Manis

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Honolulu, HI 96814

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