

HB 200

HD1

POST

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
919 Ala Moana Boulevard, 4th Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

JODIE F. MAESAKA-HIRATA
DIRECTOR

Martha Torney
Deputy Director
Administration

Joe W. Booker, Jr.
Deputy Director
Corrections

Keith Kamita
Deputy Director
Law Enforcement

No. _____

March 28, 2011

**HOUSE BILL 200, HOUSE DRAFT 1
A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET**

Jodie Maesaka-Hirata, Director
Department of Public Safety

Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Senator David Ige, Chair
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

Monday, March 28, 2011, 9:00 AM
State Capitol, Room 211

Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) has reviewed House Bill 200 as amended by House Draft 1. The proposed reductions in the current base budget will have a serious impact on the overall functioning of the Department and make it difficult for us to achieve the Administration's goals for Public Safety.

House Draft 1 reduces program budgets across the board that not only impact current operations but also Governor Abercrombie's decision to return Mainland-housed inmates to Hawaii. The intent of the Department is to return the majority of the inmates to local facilities and community-based programs over the next four years. Based on the past four years of expenditures, we have invested over \$54 million a year with Corrections Corporation of America to keep inmates on the Mainland. By returning as many inmates as possible to Hawaii we can reinvest the contract funds to operate and expand Hawaii-based facilities and develop a continuum of in-facility and community-based programs to promote the successful transition of inmates from incarceration to

the community. This reinvestment will create new jobs locally and support local private non-profits. By reducing the Mainland branch (PSD 808) appropriation by \$3.2 million, we will not have the funds to develop and implement these much needed transitional programs and expand capacity in our current facilities. If local facility budgets are reduced, as proposed in HD 1, it will hamper our ability to bring inmates home as we may not be able to maintain the most basic, constitutionally mandated programs such as food services and medical care. Our number one corrections mandate is to maintain inmates in a safe, secure and humane living environment.

Providing security to our courts is a vital role of the Department's Law Enforcement Division. We have requested funding for 21 new Deputy Sheriff positions to provide security at the Ronald T.Y. Moon Judiciary Complex in Kapolei. Currently, the Department deploys sheriff positions and staff from other needed services to cover the new court. This practice has impacted our ability to fully staff other courts and resulted in some intermittent closures of rural district courts and curtailed evening programs in the Honolulu Circuit and District Courts. Delays in court calendars back up the judicial system and affects access to the Courts by the public.

If the Sheriffs Division's appropriation is reduced, it is highly unlikely that we will be able to move forward with obtaining accreditation through the Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) as recommended strongly by the Legislative Auditor. Seeking accreditation will certainly enhance and improve many aspects of our law enforcement program and defines the level of professionalism we want to achieve.

We understand the difficult decisions this Committee must make in determining how to continue essential State services with revenues falling and ask that you take the above into consideration during your deliberations. Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.

HAWAII FILM & ENTERTAINMENT BOARD



*Brenda Ching, Chair
Screen Actors Guild*

Chris Conybeare, Esq.

*Walea Constantinau
Honolulu Film Office*

*Henry Fordham
I.A.T.S.E., Local 665*

*Dana Hankins
Independent Producer*

*Jeanne Ishikawa
Teamsters, Local 996*

*Stephan Kato
H.I.F.A.*

*John Mason
Big Island Film Office*

*Brien Matson
A.F.M., Local 677*

*David Rosen
A.I.C.P.*

*Brianne Savage
Maui Film Commission*

*Georja Skinner
DBEDT, Creative
Industries Division*

*Jason Suapaia
F.A.V.A.H.*

*Art Umezu
Kauai Film Commission*

*Randall Young
I.B.E.W., Local 1260*

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

April 5, 2011 - 9:00 am -- State Capitol, Conference Room 211

RE: HB 200 HD1 - RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET

Dear Chair Ige, Vice-chair Kidani and members of the committee:

The Hawaii Film and Entertainment Board, whose members include all of the film industry labor unions, associations and film commissions is **in strong support of the portion of HB200 that would provide replacement funding for the Creative Industries Division** that was lost due to an inadvertent error in the 2010 legislative session.

The industry is a proven Revenue Generator that has brought in nearly \$22 million into the State's coffers since the inception of Act 88 in 2006.

The funding requested is crucial to continue the good work that is being done such as the care and maintenance of the Hawaii Film Studio, servicing the local film industry, attracting productions to film in Hawaii, creating employment and business opportunities for the people of Hawaii and generating revenues for the state.

The plan proposed by the administration is sound as it is based on the minimum operating monies necessary to have the Creative Industries Divisions and its state film office function. In addition, the measure would establish film office staffing and solidify the transfer of positions that were temporarily assigned to the division which provided crucial support during one of the busiest times in the film industry's history.

In 2010 the state film office was able to manage multiple complex projects and open up areas for filming that had been previously been 'off limits,' such as the H-3 Freeway filming permit for BATTLESHIP. Going forward this level of support is vital to sustain the current industry that generates revenue for the state and is critical to creating a solid foundation for the continued growth of Hawaii's film and creative industry sectors.

We respectfully request that funding and positions for the CID as proposed in HB200 be supported. Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments

Sincerely,

Brenda Ching,
Chair

ORI (Opportunities and Resources Inc.)
64-1510 Kamehameha Highway
Wahiawa, HI 96786
Phone: (808) 622-3929

Decision-Making Hearing Date/Time: Tuesday, April 5, 2011, 9:00 am

The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Twenty-Sixth Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**RE: Testimony opposing cuts to HTH 501 in
HB 200, HD1 – RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET**

Dear Members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee:

My name is Ann Higa, Chief Operating Officer, of ORI (Opportunities and Resources Inc. – formerly Opportunities for the Retarded, Inc.). Thank you for the opportunity to tell you that I **strongly oppose the proposed cuts of \$ 2.6 million in HB 200 HD1, Program ID HTH 501 Developmental Disabilities budget**, which will directly affect the services we and other agencies provide.

We serve adults with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities. Their chronological age may be, for example, 40 years old, but mentally they are much younger. The problem is that they are deteriorating mentally and yet physically age at a much faster rate leading to greater medical concerns.

The size of the proposed cuts amounting to \$ 2.6 million is significant enough to possibly result in reduction or elimination of the existing special housing subsidy for the Developmental Disabilities Domiciliary Homes. The amount of resources that our clients have is inadequate to finance the quality residential care required by State licensure standards and needed by the people with special needs whom we serve. If the HTH 501 funds are cut, it will result in the closure of such critically needed programs and the end result may be that many of our clients will join the homeless population.

Many of the individuals who reside at ORI do not have parents or their parents are aging and have Alzheimer's or dementia. ORI residents are also aging and we are finding that our agency is now a "semi-orphanage" for individuals with intellectual / developmental disabilities.

As much as we've tried to find ways to support our programs, business in Wahiawa and Waialua is dismal. The financial situation now is worst than ever and I have been with ORI for nearly 30 years. We are trying very hard to keep our operations going and to keep people employed, but it has been very difficult.

We understand that we all have to tighten our belts to reduce the deficit; however, you will be squeezing from those who have little else to squeeze. We appreciate any consideration you will be able to give on this matter.

Sincerely,
Ann Higa, Chief Operating Officer

From: Paul Groesbeck [paul@lifefoundation.org]
Sent: Monday, April 04, 2011 12:30 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Written Comments HB 200 4-5-11 at 9

WRITTEN COMMENTS

**Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Tuesday, April 5, 2011, 9:00 a.m. in Room 211**

HB 200 HD 1 RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET

Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means:

As the executive director of Life Foundation, Hawaii's oldest and largest AIDS organization, in on behalf of other AIDS organizations in Hawaii, I am writing to respectfully offer the following brief comments relative to the above entitled measure and, in particular, to budget section **HTH 100**, the Division of Communicable Diseases.

1. The disease that came to be known as AIDS was first observed thirty years ago in 1981.
2. The State of Hawaii quickly organized to confront this calamitous health issue with the knowledge that AIDS would not be confined to the major early onset cities such as New York and San Francisco. As a result, a highly efficient public/private sector system was developed that has shown significantly positive results in the areas of HIV prevention and care throughout the past three decades.
3. In 1988, the State began to purchase AIDS services from a small number of organizations located throughout the islands and has continued, through the Department of Health in budget item HTH 100, to make these services available to the people of Hawaii.
4. The organizations receiving state funds have also attracted significant amount of federal and private funds to supplement state funds so that the state allocation, which has declined rather than increased throughout the years, can remain at a reasonable level. As a result, the average state funding for AIDS organizations in Hawaii is only about 25% of the organizations' total budgets.
5. Funds cut from HTH 100 purchase of services, while they may seem modest from an external financial point of view will have immediate, lasting and extremely negative impacts on a system that is regarded nationally as a model program.

I know you have hard decisions to make but please preserve AIDS funding in HTH 100 at its budgeted FY 2010-2011 levels. It is not an exaggeration to say that lives are at stake. Thank you for your consideration.

Paul Groesbeck, Executive Director
Life Foundation
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