

PATRICIA McMANAMAN DIRECTOR

BARBARA A. YAMASHITA DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES P. O. Box 339 Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

February 12, 2013

MEMORANDUM:

- TO: The Honorable Mele Carroll, Chair House Committee on Human Services
- FROM: Patricia McManaman, Director

SUBJECT: H.B. 1430 - RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES

Hearing: Tuesday, February 12, 2013; 9:30 a.m. Conference Room 329, State Capitol

PURPOSE: The purpose of this bill is to appropriate funds to the Department of

Human Services to establish and operate a comprehensive service center for deaf, hard of hearing, and deaf-blind individuals.

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)

formerly known as the Vocational Rehabilitation and Services to the Blind Division of the Department of Human Services (DHS) supports the intent of this bill. We ask that if this bill is passed that it does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Biennium Budget.

The DVR has worked closely with the deaf community throughout the years to establish a Comprehensive Service Center (CSC) for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Deaf-Blind and is committed to assist in the funding of vocational rehabilitation activities within the center. The DVR does not have sufficient funds to support non-vocational rehabilitation related activities under the proposed center. The DVR is unable to support any further funding beyond the Governor's proposed budget if such additional funding will affect current priorities within the Governor's proposed budget.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony to this Committee.



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

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

February 12, 2013

TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

House Bill 1430 - Relating to Human Services

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) supports the intent of House Bill 1430 – Relating to Human Services. This bill appropriates an unspecified amount for each year of the biennium budget to the Department of Human Services to establish and operate a comprehensive service center for people who are deaf, hard of hearing and deaf-blind.

The Department of Human Services, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) is in the process of establishing a comprehensive service center for clients of DVR. The center will offer a variety of classes to promote individual growth, social awareness and productivity. Members of the deaf, hard of hearing, and deaf-blind community who are not clients of DVR would not be able to participate in center services. An appropriation from the general fund will allow the center to offer services to non-DVR clients.

DCAB defers to the Department of Human Services and the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Advisory Board regarding the amount of an appropriation necessary for a comprehensive service center for individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, and deafblind.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,

BARBARA FISCHLOWITZ-LEONG Chairperson

ancine Wav

FRANCINE WAI Executive Director

REP. MELE CARROLL, CHAIR REP. BERTRAND KOBAYSHI, VICE-CHAIR HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

HOUSE BILL NO. 1430, RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2013 AT 9:30 AM CONFERENCE ROOM 329

Aloha, Chair Carroll, Vice-Chair Kobayashi, members of Committee on Human Services and friends,

My name is Francine Mae Aona Kenyon and am representing the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Advisory Board (DHHAB) as the chair of Comprehensive Deaf Center (CDC)/Comprehensive Service Center (CSC) Ad Hoc Committee and Legislative Committee.

DHHAB was established in 1980 by the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and is comprised of nine (9) deaf and hard of hearing members including four (4) from the neighboring islands who are either current/former VR consumers or doing the business for the Deaf community; parent of deaf, hard of hearing, or deaf-blind child; two (2) special education teachers; and non-voting Vocational Rehabilitation staff and administrator. The purpose of the DHHAB is to oversee the effectiveness and efficiency of the services provided by the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation.

On behalf of DHHAB, we strongly testify in support of House Bill No. 1430, Relating to Human Services, which appropriates monies to establish and operate a comprehensive service center because of our top priorities as follows: 1) communication access; 2) information and referral service/outreach and 3) development of a centralized, coordinated and comprehensive center for improved access to services.

Based on four (4) studies, our mission is to provide a centralized, coordinated, and comprehensive service center to enable people who are deaf, hard of hearing, and deaf-blind and their families to expand access to knowledge and communication through support, empowerment, education and enhancement of self-sufficiency.

Therefore, we seek for the additional funds from the state that would provide services at the CSC for non-DVR consumers or for non-employment related services for DVR consumers. The target population for the CSC are about 10% of 260,000 people who are deaf, hard of hearing, and deafblind, according to the 2012 Disability Statistics Compendium in the State of Hawaii.

In addition to supporting the CSC, please appropriate monies for an Interpreter Referral Services and Independent Living Skills for Deaf which are losing VR funding as of July 1, 2013.

Again, we firmly urge you to passing the Senate Bill No. 148, Senate Draft 1 to have the Comprehensive Service Center be established and operated with additional funding for two service providers to serve the entire Deaf community in the state.

Thank you very much for your support of this important bill on behalf of the Deaf community.

Sincerely,

Francine Mas ana Kenyon

Francine Mae Aona Kenyon Chair of CDC/CSC & Legislative Committee Deaf & Hard of Hearing Advisory Board

LisaAnn For

Lisa Ann Tom Chair Deaf & Hard of Hearing Advisory Board

From:	Billy [wkekua@gmail.com]
Sent:	Monday, February 11, 2013 7:47 AM
То:	HUStestimony
Subject:	HB1430, room 329, 2.12.13 at 9:30 am

Categories: Yellow Category

Dear Chair Carroll and committee members,

My name is Billy Kekua and currently serving as the president for Aloha State Association of the Deaf (ASAD). We have worked hard to ensure that our goal to establish a center for the Deaf since 1972. It has been a long time for us to push for it to happen and I ask of you members to help us to complete our goal.

More and more of our beloved Deaf members are becoming the important part of the community as senior citizens. We need a center that provides the service for our older Deaf people. They eventually will need our help to ensure that they live in a comfortable environment where the language is available.

Also we have many young members who needs our wisdom, leadership, and guidance thus the need of a continuing education program. We can provide the service for them to improve their literacy skills, independent living skills, occupational skills, and many more.

Our language is the number one priority for our daily needs. I believe that the center should be open and transparent where Deaf people can feel safe and comfortable to use the services through American Sign Language. I cannot stress enough how important for this to happen since we worked hard for 41 years.

In addition to supporting the CSC, please appropriate monies for an Interpreter Referral Service and Adjustment Service which are losing funding form VR as of July 1, 2013

ASAD and I respectfully urge you committee members to help us and set up the center together. I would like to give you my appreciation for your hard work for us.

Malama pono, Billy Kekua ASAD President February 11, 2013

Aloha! My name is Christine "Crissy" Holmes and I'm representing myself as a member of the Deaf Community and a native Deaf individual born here in Oahu. I'm also, an ASL instructor AND ASL coordinator at Kapi'olani Community College. I've been teaching many ASL courses since 2005, a week before I graduated from Gallaudet University. I've been volunteering many roles in the Deaf community and I valued Deaf people, our language – ASL, Deaf culture and our Deaf community. Our Deaf community in Hawaii is so unique differ from the Deaf communities in the mainland. Our Deaf community of all Hawaiian islands are small, of course, however, our needs and our accessibility should be equal as other people such as blind people, people with wheelchair, and so on. When I learned that (DVR) Department of Rehabilitation had determined to cut off two biggest important factors are: 1) cut off interpreter referral services and 2) cut off independent living services. That really devastated the Deaf community and me as well.

How can we survive our communication with people who don't know our language – ASL? Can we survive without interpreters at doctor appointments, workplace meetings, and many more - you name it. Honestly, I can't! Deaf community CAN'T survive without interpreters, PERIOD! It's a fact.

Now, why cut off independent living services? What happen to our Deaf elderly people? What happen to Deaf adults who tried their hardest to find jobs that many places turned them down just because they're Deaf? What happen to our Deaf community if our testimonies were failed and not having these two services? Everything will turn upside down that I can imagine the worst is like I've seen a devastated movie called "2013". I honestly, don't want this to happen.

It really sadden me to realized WOW, DVR stated that they cut off two services that led to a big disappointment to our Deaf community. We have been working so well with DVR in years until now. It was very hurtful to see a lot of emotions among the Deaf and Hearing people (supporters) of our Deaf Community.

We demand to keep two services because they are our main factors to keep our Deaf community stay well nurtured and gives us a great life we can appreciate in daily life. When I think of Maslow's Hierarchy of needs, that's exactly why our Deaf community needs those services to our needs to survive.

I hope you support us, our Deaf community to live and enjoy lives with others who don't know ASL and our Deaf culture. As my role as a Deaf person, I love to educate hearing people to learn ASL and to understand Deaf Culture. I build bridges between two people with two different cultures and love one another as one ohana.

Thank you, Christine "Crissy" Holmes

Neil Okuna 2750A Lowrey Ave. Honolulu, HI 96822 nnokuna@gmail.com

To: House Committee on Human Services Re: HB1430 hearing February 12, 2013, 9:30 a.m. Testimony in support of HB1430 (1 pg.)

Aloha Chair Carroll, Vice-Chair Kobayashi and members of the Committee,

I am writing in support of HB1430. I am testifying as an individual who is hearing, but is married to a sign language interpreter of 30 years, and as a former special license foster parent to two deaf foster sons. Our first foster son will be 31 this year, but was living in our home until last year. He sees us as his "real" parents and we consider him one of our children. Our second foster son is now living with his birth mother in Virginia.

Our son is similar to many other persons who are deaf in Hawaii struggling to learn English. He worked in the food service industry for about six years, but had a misunderstanding with the management and lost his job. He has not been employed for three years. While his reading level is about that of a second-grader, he is very bright and works well with his hands. After high school, he applied to Honolulu Community College (HCC) but failed the prerequisite reading test

We have attempted to teach our foster son living skills while urging him to go back to school to improve his reading skills. Over the years, we have urged him to make appointments with DVR, the Hawaii Center for Independent Living (HCIL) and Signs of Self to obtain assistance with life decisions and direction. In the over 10 years since high school, he has only visited those agencies a handful of times, partly because of logistics. Last year he finally went to DVR to ask for help to return to school, but discovered there would be a long wait to receive services. He would like to enter Honolulu Community College in the Welding program. We understand the wait may be over a year and a half before DVR can assist him.

My wife and I strongly believe that what would really help our Deaf son is to have a "one-stop shop" that offers access to job training, independent living skills training, interpreter services and interpreter referral services to help make appointments with doctors and other professionals, and maybe even psychological counseling services. Ideally, all of the service providers would know how to sign so that there not be a need for an interpreter. Not only would this reduce costs, it would also allow the deaf person to interact directly with the provider.

All of these services currently exist, but in various places on the island, and for the Deaf to make arrangements to access these services on their own can often be a daunting task. Having all of these services available in one place would make the lives of deaf people in Honolulu so much better. It is furthermore quite alarming to hear that DVR does not plan to renew contracts for interpreter referral and independent living skills services. Our son cannot fully access needed services unless his communication needs are met. He cannot communicate through verbal or written means and relies solely on sign language for clear communication. He needs help with independent living skills and job training in order to become a more productive member of society.

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony and the needs of Hawaii's Deaf Community.

From: Sent:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov Monday, February 11, 2013 11:02 AM
To:	HUStestimony
Cc:	heather.interpreter@gmail.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB1430 on Feb 12, 2013 09:30AM

Categories: Yellow Category

HB1430

Submitted on: 2/11/2013 Testimony for HUS on Feb 12, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Heather Benjamin	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am in support of this bill.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing , improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 11, 2013 10:00 AM
To:	HUStestimony
Cc:	keriwlee@gmail.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB1430 on Feb 12, 2013 09:30AM
Categories:	Yellow Category

HB1430

Submitted on: 2/11/2013 Testimony for HUS on Feb 12, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keri Lee	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am in full support of the Comprehensive Service Center. Please support this bill.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing , improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Thursday, February 07, 2013 1:23 PM
То:	HUStestimony
Cc:	lauraterp@yahoo.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB1430 on Feb 12, 2013 09:30AM
• • •	

Categories: Yellow Category

HB1430

Submitted on: 2/7/2013 Testimony for HUS on Feb 12, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
laura Safranski	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I wholeheartedly support this bill. Hawaii is the only state I'm aware of where the Deaf do not have one place that is deaf centric/deaf friendly to meet, share resources and improve their daily lives.. PLEASE pass this bill!! The entire state will benefit by this!!

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing , improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Friday, February 08, 2013 1:35 AM
То:	HUStestimony
Cc:	natividadrg@gmail.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB1430 on Feb 12, 2013 09:30AM

Categories: Yellow Category

HB1430

Submitted on: 2/8/2013 Testimony for HUS on Feb 12, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Renante Natividad	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support HB 1430 to help our Deaf community provide better services with interpreter and independent living services. Without it, we will have a hard time understanding with the hearing world. We need appropriate certified signs language interpreter to help us understand clearly and accurately. Independent living services to help us understand the lifestyle and guide the Deaf people to be independent as possible. Thank you.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing , improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

TESTIMONY OF RODERICK J. MACDONALD

SUBMITTED TO THE HAWAII STATE LEGISLATURE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES REP. Mele Carroll, CHAIR

RELATING TO HB 1430 "A GRANT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF A COMPREHENSIVE SERVICE CENTER"

> TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2013 9:30 AM, CONFERENCE ROOM 329 HAWAII STATE CAPITOL

My name is Rod Macdonald. I am originally from New England but have lived in Hawaii for over fifteen years now. I am blind and deaf, and have been for almost all of my life.

However, despite being deaf-blind I have a Bachelor's degree in Philosophy, a Master's degree in Educational Administration and a year toward a Doctorate in Higher Education Administration. I worked for the Federal Government for 27 years, retiring as a GS-13 Management Analyst in the Policy office. I have held several positions here in Hawaii, the last as an Adjunct Professor teaching a graduate course at the University of Hawaii.

These achievements did not come easily. With a significant disability one cannot "pull yourself up by your bootstraps" because if you try, you'll pull the straps off your boots or pull yourself down to ground level. You need opportunities - opportunities for education, opportunities for training, opportunities for employment - and opportunities to believe in yourself.

I have been very fortunate. I have received services from the area of blindness, the area of deafness, the area of deaf-blindness, and even from a program designed for the developmentally disabled. All helped, but the more specific the service, the more help it provided. I know: I have been there, done that.

Which brings us the our topic for today: Establishment and operation of a Comprehensive Service Center for Deaf, Hard-of-Hearing and Deaf-Blind people, something that has been on the agenda in Hawaii for at least fifteen years but is only now nearing fruition. This Center is needed to prepare us for college, for employment, and to enable us to be independent, self-sufficient and self-reliant members of the community.

While the Comprehensive Service Center is intended to provide basic training, I would also ask that you consider adding funding for Interpreter Referral and Independent Living services that were not a part of the CSC legislation when it was first introduced to the Legislature. These services are needed to assist the exact same population, with the exact same objectives of basic training, community integration and personal empowerment. These services need to be added here because the funding to provide them was lost elsewhere.

I have been very fortunate that I have benefitted from a good education, earned well over a million dollars during my working life, and had many satisfying and rewarding life experiences. Yet I could not provide this testimony were it not for the basic skills I learned along the way - communication skills, braille, using a computer and so on. I could not attend this Hearing were it not for the assistance of an interpreter.

In closing I would like to ask that you support, very strongly, the legislation before you, HB 1430. I ask that you give the Deaf, Hard-of-Hearing and Deaf-Blind people of Hawaii some of the opportunities that were given to me.

thank you.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 11, 2013 4:32 PM
То:	HUStestimony
Cc:	susankroe@gmail.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB1430 on Feb 12, 2013 09:30AM
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Categories: Yellow Category

<u>HB1430</u>

Submitted on: 2/11/2013 Testimony for HUS on Feb 12, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
susan kroe-Unabia	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am in support of HB 1430. Deaf people are a unique group of people that can do anything but hear. The mainstream population does not know sign language so therefore deaf people do not have the same opportunities that their hearing counter-part have. Deaf people can be served best by a cadre of programs that offer their services in sign language.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing , improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Thursday, February 07, 2013 4:45 PM
То:	HUStestimony
Cc:	susankroe@gmail.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB1430 on Feb 12, 2013 09:30AM

Categories:

Yellow Category

<u>HB1430</u>

Submitted on: 2/7/2013 Testimony for HUS on Feb 12, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan Kroe-Unabia	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am in support of HB 1430. Deaf people are a unique group of people that can do anything but hear. The mainstream population does not know sign language so therefore deaf people do not have the same opportunities that their hearing counter-part have. Deaf people can be served best by a cadre of programs that offer their services in sign language.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing , improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Friday, February 08, 2013 8:20 AM
То:	HUStestimony
Cc:	tabraham08@gmail.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for HB1430 on Feb 12, 2013 09:30AM*

Categories: Yellow Category

HB1430

Submitted on: 2/8/2013 Testimony for HUS on Feb 12, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Troy Abraham	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing , improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 11, 2013 12:39 PM
То:	HUStestimony
Cc:	clearaccessinterpreting@gmail.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB1430 on Feb 12, 2013 09:30AM

Categories: Yellow Category

HB1430

Submitted on: 2/11/2013 Testimony for HUS on Feb 12, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mala Arkin	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, I support the appropriation of funds to establish the Comprehensive Service Center for deaf, hard of hearing, and deaf-blind individuals. Effective July 1, 2013. Mahalo, Mala Arkin

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing , improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

REPRESENTATIVE MELE CARROLL, CHAIR REPRESENTATIVE BERT KOBAYASHI, VICE-CHAIR HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES REPRESENTATIVE DELLA AU BELATTI, CHAIR REPRESENTATIVE DEE MORIKAWA, VICE-CHAIR HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

HOUSE BILL NO.1430, MAKING A GRANT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF A COMPREHENSIVE SERVICE CENTER

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2013 AT 09:30 AM CONFERENCE ROOM 329

I, Cheryl Mizusawa, am a private citizen, distributor for the Better Body System, and leadership for Senior Citizen for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. I learned that Dept of Vocational Rehabilitation will end its contract for Interpreter Referral Services with the state on June 30, 2013 and will not be renewed! I use the interpreting service for many years and have requested interpreters for my training business, during my stay in the hospital for the surgery since no one in my family would interpreted for me. If these services end I will not have the effective, efficient communication access I need and will not fully participate independently as contributing citizen in the General Community.

Please add the Interpreter Referral Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing in the CSC bill. The service is very essential for the Deaf Community to have full communication access.

Thank you for allowing me to testify on behalf of the Deaf Community.

I strongly urge to have this important bill be passed out of the committee.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Mizusawa damizu@me.com

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 11, 2013 2:17 PM
То:	HUStestimony
Cc:	damizu@hawaii.rr.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for HB1430 on Feb 12, 2013 09:30AM*

Categories: Yellow Category

HB1430

Submitted on: 2/11/2013 Testimony for HUS on Feb 12, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stanford Shimizu	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 11, 2013 2:09 PM
To:	HUStestimony
Cc:	edchevy59@gmail.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB1430 on Feb 12, 2013 09:30AM
Categories:	Yellow Category

HB1430

Submitted on: 2/11/2013 Testimony for HUS on Feb 12, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ed Chevy	Individual	Support	No

Comments: There are about 25,000 Deaf and Hard of Hearing people in Hawaii. We desperately need a Center so that we can receive interpreters for service and to seek self-help service when needed to cope with the hearing world. Not only that but we do need more helps above and beyond our struggles. It is very important that we have the Center where we all can get the quality in life. we have significance values and sign language is our mode of communication. the Center would be the only place where we all can come and express yourselves.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing , improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Aloha Representative Mele Carroll, Chair, Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice-Chair, and committee members of House Committee on Human Services:

Hello my name is Albert Marsh and I am deaf and currently stationed on Oahu. I would like to share my experience as a deaf person who has had the opportunity to travel to different countries. I was previously stationed in Germany where I have seen the German version of comprehensive service center for deaf and hard of hearing. At their center, there are several service organizations in a central location where deaf people go to receive assistance effectively without any barriers or other unnecessary bureaucracy with multiple service organizations in different locations. With one central location, it promotes for further collaboration among multiple organizations that has the deaf person's best interests and will expedite the inter-agency communication among the organizations. I urge you to support the Comprehensive Services Center, interpreter referral service, and independent living service for the people of Hawaii.

I strongly support in intent of House Bill 1430, Relating to Human Services that establishes and operates a comprehensive service center because of my experiences as mentioned above.

Also, please allocate moneys for Interpreter Referral Services and Independent Living Skills in the CSC Bill.

Thank you for allowing me to testify, and I hope you will support the Comprehensive Services Center, the interpreter referral services, and independent living services.

Sincerely, Albert Marsh 92-831 Makakilo Dr #29 Kapolei, HI 96707

REPRESENTATIVE MELE CARROLL, CHAIR REPRESENTATIVE BERT KOBAYASHI, VICE-CHAIR HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

HOUSE BILL NO. 1430, RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2013 AT 9:30 AM CONFERENCE ROOM 329

My name is Deborah T. Makahanaloa and am deaf. I work as contracting clerk at Fort Shafter Army Base for over 20 years. Whenever we have staff meeting, Hawaii Interpreting Services (HIS) always provides me ASL interpreters.

I strongly testify in support with intent of House Bill 1430, Relating to Human Services that establishes and operates a comprehensive service center for deaf, hard of hearing, and deaf-blind because of my essential need for effective, efficient communication access between deaf employees and hearing co-workers.

However, I heard that HIS contract with VR will expire June 30, 2013 and there will be no funds beginning July 1, 2013. If there is no interpreter referral services, then it will be a great struggle for me to get the communication access that I need in order to participate at meetings, workshops or trainings offered by Fort Shafter.

Please allocate monies for Interpreter Referral Services and Independent Living Skills in the CSC bill.

Again, I firmly urge you to passing the House Bill No. 1430 to have the Comprehensive Service Center be established and operated to serve the entire Deaf community in the state.

Thank you very much for your support of this important bill on behalf of the Deaf community.

Sincerely,

Deborah T. Makahanaloa Deaf Consumer 3151 Castel Street, Apt. 201 Honolulu, HI 96815 poohbabe53@gmail.com

REPRESENTIVE MELE CARROLL, CHAIR HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

HOUSE BILL NO. 1430, RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES

THE START FEBRUARY 12, 2013 AT 9:30 AM CONFERENCE ROOM 329

Aloha, my name is Douglas Tong. I am a Deaf Vocational Rehabilitation client and a 2004 graduate of Kapiolani Community College with Associate of Arts in Marketing Business with Vocational Rehabilitation assistance. I attended the Honolulu Community College to study to become a licensed pilot, again with the VR assistance, as VR client but postpone it until further notice.

I strongly testify in support of House Bill No. 1430, Relating to Human Services that establishes and operates a comprehensive service center for deaf, hard of hearing, and deaf-blind because of (1) my experience with Vocational Rehabilitation; (2) concerns; and, (3) a need for a comprehensive service center.

I get lots of support from the VR and appreciate the VR assistance for my schooling. VR helped me a lot to get more schooling that I need but want to see more services and programs to be available to those deaf, hard of hearing, and deaf-blind to have the same opportunity like me.

What about those who are not VR clients? Will VR help them in the same way VR does help me as VR client? If not, who will help those non-VR clients to get better services and attend the same programs I go to? Like my friend who wanted to join me in taking the licensed pilot schooling, he couldn't get the VR assistance because he was not VR client like me. He had to pay for his piloting license out of his own pocket but he did not have a steady job.

Therefore, I feel the additional funds from the state that will help my friends, who are not VR clients, get whatever they need more training or services such as counseling help, math, reading, etc. There is a great need to establish and operate a comprehensive service center for deaf, hard of hearing, and deaf-blind in the state.

Please add moneys for Interpreter Referral Services and Independent Living Skills in the CSC bill because those two service providers are important in our deaf community.

Again, I firmly urge you to passing the House Bill No. 1430 to have the Comprehensive Service Center be established and operated to serve the entire Deaf community in the state.

Thank you very much for your support of this important bill on behalf of the Deaf community.

Sincerely,

Douglas Tong Deaf Consumer 3726 Manini Way Honolulu, HI 96816

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 11, 2013 4:39 PM
То:	HUStestimony
Cc:	echiwa@gmail.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HB1430 on Feb 12, 2013 09:30AM
Attachments:	Testimony4HB1430.doc

Categories: Yellow Category

HB1430

Submitted on: 2/11/2013 Testimony for HUS on Feb 12, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Eileen Chiwa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing , improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Aloha Representative Mele Carroll, Chair, Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice-Chair, and committee members of House Committee on Human Services:

Hello my name is Eileen Chiwa. I am a retired federal worker. I've worked for the federal government for $29\frac{1}{2}$ years, and during my employment with the federal government, I went to various workshops and training and at these required activities, I have always depended on interpreters. I've been retired now for almost 3 years, and I am concerned at hearing that DVR funds for interpreter referral services and independent living services may not be available after June 30^{th} of this year. I feel that these funds are extremely important for these services as well as the Comprehensive Services Center.

I strongly support in intent of House Bill 1430, Relating to Human Services that establishes and operates a comprehensive service center for deaf, hard of hearing, and deaf-blind.

I have often depended on professional interpreter services to assist with communication when I go to a doctors' appointment. I would like to share my experience of having surgery. I thought that I didn't need an interpreter and I would try to read my doctor's lips. However, on learning what would happen on surgery day I panicked when the surgeon told me that he would wear a mask. I insisted on having an interpreter and was so happy they were able to contact the interpreter referral services and hired an interpreter. This interpreter also interpreted the appointment with the admissions department while filling out the most extensive forms. Thank goodness for this service.

I am feeling a bit anxious wondering whether the Social Security Office will be able to contact the interpreter referral service for my future Social Security appointment because I am now 58 years old and will be applying for social security benefits in four years. Can you imagine going to a Social Security appointment and not understanding the language/communication. I ask you all to please support HB637 as this will provide for the very important bridge to communication for deaf and hearing people.

Also, please add moneys for Interpreter Referral Services and Independent Living Skills in the CSC bill.

Thank you for allowing me to testify. I urge you to pass HB1430.

Sincerely, Eileen Chiwa

REPRESENTATIVE MELE CARROLL, CHAIR REPRESENTATIVE BERT KOBAYASHI, VICE-CHAIR HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

HOUSE BILL NO. 1430, RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2013 AT 9:30 AM CONFERENCE ROOM 329

My name is Elena M. Respicio and I am deaf. I graduated from Hawaii School for Deaf and Blind in 1977. I worked at Burger King but was fired because I cannot talk or hear ar work. No one understood me. Me got upset. Don't know what to do. Now I am 55 years old - no job long time no one helped me but my friend Francine helped me a lot.

Please add \$\$ to keep interpreter Referral Services and Independent Living Skills for deaf.

I strongly support House Bill 1430, Relating to Human Services that establishes and operates a comprehensive service center for deaf, hard of hearing, and deaf-blind so I want to learn more about the classes and be independent.

The center will be a great place where more deaf people can go.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Elena m. Reepico

Elena M. Respicio.

Aloha, Representative Mele Carroll, Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice-Chair, and committee members of House Committee on Human Services:

I do support HB1430 for the Comprehensive Service Center (CSC) because I support Deaf people what we need as students and community members. We have education and we feel we also need fairness with hearing schools. Our Deaf school and Deaf people are small, but we learned in history class about our rights and still need your support for the CSC, interpreter referral services, and independent living services.

Thank you for listening to my testimony. I urge you to pass HB1430.

Sincerely, Fritz-Ann Marie Divina 8th Grade Student Hawaii School for the Deaf and the Blind 3440 Leahi Avenue, Honolulu, HI 96815 Aloha Representative Mele Carroll, Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice-Chair, and committee members of House Committee on Human Services:

Hello my name is Grace Hika and I am a junior at Kalaheo High School. I would like to tell you my story. For the last three years I've been battling leukemia and because of the chemotherapy I have gone deaf. There are others in our community with stories like mine. And imagine how much more people in the future will have chemo and become deaf like me. I use an interpreter daily at school; if I do not have my interpreter, there is no way for me to access my education. I desire my family to learn how to communicate with me so that I don't feel left out and neglected, and the Comprehensive Services Center would be able to provide families with deaf children the language needed classes.

I strongly support in intent of Senate Bill No. 148, Senate Draft 1, Relating to Human Services, that establishes & operates a comprehensive service center for deaf, hard of hearing, and deaf-blind.

I plan to go to college in the future and if I will be successful and independent, I will soon need to learn how to be independent. Without the independent life skills services, I think I would be staying with my parents.

Thank you for allowing me to testify on behalf of deaf and hard of hearing students in the mainstreaming public school system.

Please pass SB 148, SD1 to provide these services.

Sincerely,

Grace Hika Daughter of Gregory Hika gegory.m.hika.mil@mail.mil

REPRESENTATIVE MELE CARROLL, CHAIR REPRESENTATIVE BERT KOBAYASHI, VICE-CHAIR HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

HOUSE BILL NO. 1430, RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2013 AT 9:30 AM CONFERENCE ROOM 329

My name is Greg Hika and I am the father of a deaf child. I am a Soldier with the Hawaii Army National Guard and have been in the military for 23 years. I am fairly new to the deaf family (2.5 years) now and have learned many hard lessons thus far about the deaf family. Yes normally we refer to this family as the deaf community; however I have seen and learned that they are more of family than some I have seen in my career. I am an indirect user of the Hawaii Interpreting Services (HIS) and depend on them for their services to educate my child.

I want to submit my testimony in support with intent of House Bill 1430, Relating to Human Services, that establishes and operates a Comprehensive Service Center because of my essential need for effective, efficient communication access between my child, school, hospitals, colleges and potential employers in the future.

I have used both Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) and (HIS) services many times for hospital visits, operations and chemotherapy treatments. Yes this is for my daughter who lost her hearing during her treatment for cancer. I cannot as parent deny my child everything I can to succeed in life; however I am not a millionaire and am in need of services such as these. I have a need to learn American Sign Language (ASL) to communicate with my daughter. I need interpreting services for things like career exploration in the medical field where my daughter's career dreams lay. However, I heard that HIS contract with VR will expire June 30, 2013 and there will be no funds beginning July 1, 2013. If there is no interpreter referral services, then it will be a great struggle for me to arrange further life enhancements that I have thus far set in place for my child. Is it not (according to our constitution) that we are all created equal, that we all have inalienable rights under our constitution. All Americans have a right to live independently and be productive citizens.

Please allocate monies for Interpreter Referral Services and Independent Living Skills in the CSC bill.

Again, I firmly urge you to passing the House Bill No. 1430 to have the Comprehensive Service Center be established and operated including Interpreter Referral Services and Independent Living Skills for Deaf to serve the entire Deaf community in the state.

Thank you very much for your support of this important bill on behalf of the Deaf community.

Sincerely,

Gregory M. Hika Jr Parent of Deaf Consumer 44-141 Hako Street #2 Kaneohe, HI 96744 Gregory.m.hika.mil@mail.mil Aloha Representative Mele Carroll, Chair, Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice-Chair and committee members of House Committee on Human Services:

Hello my name is Jared Katakura and I am a deaf teacher at Hawaii School for the Deaf and the Blind. As a teacher for the DOE, I rely on interpreters more than once a week. I use interpreters on average 6 hours a week, meeting with a mentor, the principal, state meetings and trainings. Without the interpreter referral services, our school will have a difficult time finding available interpreters. I will suffer and ultimately my deaf students will also suffer. I urge you to support the Comprehensive Service Center, interpreter referral service, and independent living service.

I strongly support in intent of House Bill 1430, Relating to Human Services that establishes and operates a comprehensive service center for deaf, hard of hearing, and deaf-blind.

Thank you for allowing me to testify. In behalf of the teachers at Hawaii School for the Deaf and the Blind, I thank you for your support of the Comprehensive Services Center, the interpreter referral services, and independent living services.

Sincerely, Jared Katakura

3731 Kanaina Avenue, #325 Honolulu, HI 96815 Aloha, Representative Mele Carroll, Chair, Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, and committee members of House Committee on Human Services:

Hi, my name is Kammi Koza. I am deaf and will plan to go to college. I want to go to school to become a counselor for Deaf youth. I hope that DVR will have funds to assist me with the services I need for independent living. I used to work at an independent living center in Honolulu, where I helped deaf people achieve their goals. My dream is to help Hawaii's deaf youth and other community members achieve their independent living goals. People in general need interpreter services, not only deaf people but hearing people like yourself; communication is the key to our communities success in living side by side.

I strongly support intent of House Bill No. 1430, Relating to Human Services, that establishes and operates a comprehensive service center for deaf, hard of hearing, and deaf-blind including moneys for Interpreter Referral Services and Independent Living Skills.

Also, please include the moneys for Interpreter Referral Services and Independent Living Skills for Deaf which expires on June 30, 2013 so they can continue their services after July 1, 2013 and on.

I urge you to pass HB1430 and thank you for allowing me to testify.

Sincerely, Kammi Koza 98-1355 Apt A Nola Street, Pearl City, HI 96782 Aloha Representative Mele Carroll, Chair, Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice-Chair, and committee members of House Committee on Human Services:

Hello my name is Laura Raiola and I am a deaf individual who relies on interpreter services for my employment at the Social Security Administration. As a mother, federal worker, and a leader in the Deaf community, I use interpreters very often. For example, parent teacher conferences, doctor appointments, and work related meetings and trainings. I am also a very active member in a variety of deaf organizations, such as I am the treasurer for Hawaii Silent Bowlers, secretary for Hawaii School for the Deaf and the Blind 100th Anniversary Alumni celebration, membership coordinator for Aloha State Association of the Deaf, and temporary treasurer for He Alaka Wahine Kuli (Deaf Women Leaders). The Comprehensive Services Center would enable many deaf, hard of hearing, and deaf-blind organizations to use the much needed meeting facilities. Currently we hold meetings in rented rooms throughout the community. I urge you to support the Comprehensive Service.

I strongly support in intent of House Bill 1430, Relating to Human Services that establishes and operates a comprehensive service center for deaf, hard of hearing and deaf-blind.

Thank you for allowing me to testify, and I hope you will support the Comprehensive Services Center, the interpreter referral services, and independent living services.

Sincerely, Laura Raiola P.O. Box 29252, Honolulu, HI 96820 Aloha Representative Mele Carroll, Chair, Representative Bertrand Kobaysahi, Vice Chair, and committee members of House Committee on Human Services:

My name is Lena Merrill and I am a deaf high school student at Hawaii School for the Deaf and the Blind.

I strongly testify in support with intent of House Bill 1430, Relating to Human Services that establishes and operates a comprehensive service center for deaf, hard of hearing, and deaf-blind.

I had the experience of having a deaf worker from Signs of Self come to my school and teach us about independent living skills. As a deaf high school senior, I do not need to depend on my hearing parents to teach me all about independence. This service has helped us seniors a lot; we learned how to appropriately socialize, dress, and communicate. Without that service deaf students would have a difficult time learning independent living skills.

In the year 2010 I won Miss Hawaii Outstanding Teen, and without the services of the interpreter I would never have had that awesome opportunity.

In the future what will happen to other deaf students having no access to services individually to learn how to be an independent community member. In my near future after graduation I will most definitely need interpreter services to succeed in college. If anything important occurs in my life, I hope to have the confidence in Hawaii's government to meet my needs and rights as a deaf citizen.

Thank you for allowing me to testify. I urge you to pass HB1430 on behalf of the students at Hawaii School for the Deaf and the Blind.

Sincerely,

Lena Merrill Hawaii School for the Deaf and the Blind 3440 Leahi Avenue, Honolulu, Hi 96815 Aloha, Representative Mele Carroll, Chair, Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice-Chair and committee members of House Committee on Human Services:

Hello my name is Mariah Dawn Ralar Punzalan and I am in the 8th grade at Hawaii School for the Deaf and the Blind. What is important to me is the Comprehensive Services Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing people, also interpreter referral services and independent living services. There are many deaf students at my school who agree with me.

I strongly support House Bill 1430, Relating to Human Services, that establishes and operates a comprehensive service center for deaf, hard of hearing, and deafblind to provide services for all our future. In school we learned about our right for equal access to communication with our fellow hearing society. We deaf people want to know what important information hearing people say to us.

Thank you for allowing me to testify on behalf of the students of Hawaii School for the Deaf and the Blind. I urge you to pass HB1430.

Sincerely,

Mariah Dawn Ralar Punzalan Hawaii School for the Deaf and the Blind 3440 Leahi Avenue, Honolulu, HI 96815

REPRESENTATIVE MELE CARROLL, CHAIR REPRESENTATIVE BERT KOBAYASHI, VICE-CHAIR HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

HOUSE BILL NO. 1430, RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2013 AT 9:30 AM CONFERENCE ROOM 329

My name is Mildred Garrett and am deaf senior citizen. I am 88 years old. I used to work as pattern layer and garmet cutter .

I strongly testify in support with intent of House Bill 1430, Relating to Human Services that establishes and operates a comprehensive service center.

Before there were no sign language interpreters in my old day. But now we have sign language interpreters and now I understand better. Also, during my day, there were no services for me to learn independent living skills. I was relieved when we have independent living skills and interpreting services now.

However, I heard that HIS contract with VR will expire June 30, 2013 and there will be no funds beginning July 1, 2013. If there is no interpreter referral services, then it will be a difficult hardship for me to get the communication access that I need in order to participate fully as senior citizen.

Please help give monies for Interpreter Referral Services and Independent Living Skills for Deaf in the CSC bill.

Again, please pass the House Bill No. 1430 to have the Comprehensive Service Center be established and operated to serve the entire Deaf community in the state.

Thank you very much for your support of this important bill on behalf of the Deaf community.

Sincerely,

Mildred Garrett

REPRESENTATIVE MELE CARROLL, CHAIR HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

HOUSE BILL NO. 1430, RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2013 AT 9:30 PM CONFERENCE ROOM 329

Aloha, I am Natasha M.K. Otani. I am a Deaf VR client and do receive the services from the Vocational Rehabilitation. At first, I took a training class in cooking at Lanikala Pacific where I started working. Then I got the job at Safeway as the bagging clerk and stock clerk through the help of VR for ten (10) months before working at Dave & Busters as dishwasher and laundry cleaner where I now work.

I strongly testify in support of House Bill No.1430, Relating to Human Services that establishes and operates a comprehensive service center for deaf, hard of hearing, and deaf-blind because Vocational Rehabilitation helped me in many ways. Without the help from VR, I would not have gotten the jobs. Since I now work at Dave and Buster, I couldn't get the continued financial assistance from VR so I could go back to school to study to becoming a cartoonist for the newspaper because I now work part-time at Dave and Busters, trying to save for my further study.

Therefore, I feel the additional funds from the state may help me get whatever I need to further my training for the job that I want to be someday.

Please add moneys for Interpreter Referral Services and Independent Living Skills in the CSC bill.

Again, I firmly urge you to passing the House Bill No. 1430, to have the Comprehensive Service Center be established and operated to serve the entire Deaf community in the state.

Thank you very much for your support of this important bill on behalf of the Deaf community.

Sincerely,

Natashi M.K. Otani Deaf Consumer 3151 Castle Street, Apt. 201 Honolulu, HI 96815 notani23@gmail.com Aloha Representative Mele Carroll, Chair, Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice-Chair and committee members of House Committee on Human Services:

Hello my name is Norman Galapin and I am a retired deaf federal worker. Eleven years ago I retired after working at Schofield Barracks for 22 years. I grew up as a young boy on the island of Kauai, moved to Oahu when I was 14 years old, and have lived in Kalihi for ever since. For many years I have dreamed that Hawaii would some day have a place like the Comprehensive Services Center where deaf people like myself could go to ask for assistance with contacting doctors, businesses, reading mail and other forms, and just helping us resolve a variety of life problems. Deaf individuals myself included, are usually the only deaf person in their family, and their family is not able to communicate with them and thus not able to explain things to them. Today's society is very complicated, and deaf people face so many problems that they need help with. I urge you to support the Comprehensive Service Center, interpreter referral service, and independent living service.

I strongly support in intent of House Bill 1430, Relating to Human Services that establishes and operates a comprehensive service center for deaf, hard of hearing and deaf-blind.

Please add monies for Interpreter Referral Services and Independent Living Skills in the CSC Bill.

Thank you for allowing me to testify, and I hope you will support the Comprehensive Services Center, the interpreter referral services, and independent living services.

Sincerely, Norman Galapin 2008 Puaala Lane, Honolulu, HI 96819

REPRESENTATIVE MELE CARROLL, CHAIR REPRESENTATIVE BERT KOBAYASHI, VICE-CHAIR HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

HOUSE BILL NO. 1430, RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2013 AT 9:30 AM CONFERENCE ROOM 329

My name is Severo Cargo and my friend's name is Roselyn Engleman. We both are deaf non-VR clients. We both are senior citizens. We went to Hawaii School for Deaf and Blind (formerly the Diamond Head School for Deaf and Blind).

We strongly support in intent of House Bill 1430, Relating to Human Services that establishes and operates a comprehensive service center for deaf, hard of hearing, and deaf-blind.

Before the Vocational Rehabilitation helped us get the jobs. Now we are retired.

We feel the center is important. Why? Easy for deaf people to go to one place where staff skilled in sign language work and to get services what we want.

Also, please help keep interpreting services and independent living skills for deaf - very important for us. We need interpreters and go to classe, s too.

Thank you for supporting the bill by passing House Bill 1430.

Sincerely,

Roselyn Engleman

Goselon Engleman Servers Cargo

Severo Cargo

Aloha Representative Mele Carroll, Chair, Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice-Chair and committee members of House Committee on Human Services:

Hello my name is Susan Nishino and I am a deaf senior citizen. I am the sole caretaker of my 79-year-old husband who is also deaf. Several years ago I was in a car accident and taken to Queen's Hospital emergency room. I am so grateful that the hospital contacted the interpreter referral agency and a sign language interpreter came to the emergency room and helped me understand what the doctor and nurses needed to tell me. I urge you to support the Comprehensive Service Center, interpreter referral service, and independent living service.

I strongly support in intent of House Bill 1430, Relating to Human Services that establishes and operates a comprehensive service center for deaf, hard of hearing, and deaf-blind.

Thank you for allowing me to testify. In behalf of deaf senior citizens, I thank you for your support of the Comprehensive Services Center, the interpreter referral services, and independent living services.

Sincerely, Susan Nishino 1348 Hoolaulea Street, Pearl City, HI 96782

To:	Representative Mele Carroll, Chair Representative Bert Kobayashi, Vice Chair House Committee on Human Services
From:	Colleen Cidade-Matusof <u>colleenaloha@signsofself.com</u> Text Message: 808-442-6434
Hearing:	February 12, 2013, 9:30 a.m., Conference Room 329
Re:	HB1430, Relating to Human Services: Appropriates funds to establish and operate a comprehensive service center for deaf, hard of hearing, and deaf-blind individuals

Aloha, my name is Colleen Cidade Matusof, I am a Deaf as single mother of my hearing two sons, Independent Living Specialist at Signs of Self, Educator, Leader as advocate, and Read Aloud to Deaf Keiki. I testify in 100 percent support of **House Bill No. 1430** – **RELATION TO HUMAN SERVICE: Appropriates funds to establish and operate a comprehensive service center for deaf, hard of hearing, and deaf-blind individuals.**

- ONE language communicate access
- ONE culture cherished histories
- ONE unite our empowerment
- ONE community our second home as socialize

Our language, our community, our unite, and our cultures are very important for our people who live as second home because we do communicate access as we need, do for fight our rights as empowerment, and don't want us break up – left behind on us. Please support this **House Bill No.1430** and very strong support this bill. Are we worthless or do we have worth as our people?

Again, I firmly urge you to supporting the **HOUSE BILL No.1430**: Appropriates funds to establish and operate a comprehensive service center for deaf, hard of hearing, and deaf-blind individuals to for our future so we can all use their services more!

Thank you very much for support of this important bill on behalf of the Deaf Community.

Sincerely,

Colleen Cidade Matusof 1481 South King St. #541 Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

From: Sent:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov Monday, February 11, 2013 4:45 PM
To:	HUStestimony
Cc:	ckcidade2@gmail.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for HB1430 on Feb 12, 2013 09:30AM*

Categories: Yellow Category

<u>HB1430</u>

Submitted on: 2/11/2013 Testimony for HUS on Feb 12, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
colleen matusof	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing , improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.