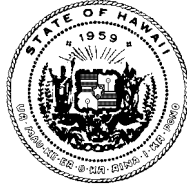




HB 1347 HD1

Measure Title:	RELATING TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.
Report Title:	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program; Appropriation (\$)
Description:	Appropriates funds to the Department of Human Services to increase staff, improve systems, and contract for necessary services relating to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. (HB 1347 HD1)
Companion:	
Package:	None
Current Referral:	HSH, WAM
Introducer(s):	MORIKAWA, CACHOLA, LUKE, MIZUNO

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



RACHAEL WONG, DrPH
DIRECTOR

PANKAJ BHANOT
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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

March 18, 2015

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senate Committee on Human Services and Housing

FROM: Rachael Wong, DrPH, Director

SUBJECT: **H.B. 1347 HD 1 – RELATING TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL
NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

Hearing: Thursday, March 19, 2015 1:45 p.m.
Conference Room 016, State Capitol

PURPOSE: The purposes of H.B. 1347 HD 1 is to appropriate funds to the Department of Human Services to increase staff, improve systems and contract for necessary services related to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports the intent of this measure and appreciates the Legislature's continued support of the DHS's Benefit, Employment, and Support Services Division (BESSD), and BESSD's efforts in administering the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

The DHS has requested funding for staffing and modernization efforts to improve on its administration of the SNAP Program through the Executive Budget. We ask for the Legislature's support of the Executive Budget request.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this bill.

Please pass HB 1347:

The wealthiest individuals in our state, country, and world are gaining increasing amounts of power and control over the money and resources that are available. This phenomenon is due to their high positions within society as well as tax codes that benefit wealthy individuals, CEOs and managers of large organizations, and large organizations themselves.

Since the tax codes and rapid rates of inflation benefit the wealthy while disadvantaging the middle class, working class, and working poor, it is contributing to a shrinking middle class as well as a growth in the working class and working poor populations. Therefore, the demand for SNAP benefits will grow as the rates of poverty increase at faster rates than adequate pay structures do for middle class, working class, and impoverished people within their jobs. A greater number of employees within the SNAP program is crucial in meeting this demand.

While increasing the number of SNAP employees as well as SNAP recipients may place an immediate tax burden upon society, this tax burden is trivial compared to the consequences of not addressing the issue of hunger that SNAP seeks to alleviate. These consequences include crime triggered by attempts to get food, short-term and long-term medical conditions caused by a lack of adequate nutrition, and many others.

Please create a more accommodating environment in Hawaii by supporting HB 1347!

Yours Truly,

Jessica Yaple
Registered voter from Aiea, HI

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HSH Testimony](#)
Cc: leimomikekina@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1347 on Mar 19, 2015 13:45PM*
Date: Sunday, March 15, 2015 11:23:49 AM

HB1347

Submitted on: 3/15/2015

Testimony for HSH on Mar 19, 2015 13:45PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leimomi Dierks	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.

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