



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
STATE COUNCIL  
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES  
1010 RICHARDS STREET, Room 122  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543  
January 26, 2024

The Honorable Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair  
Senate Committee on Health and Human Services  
The Thirty-Second Legislature  
State Capitol  
State of Hawai'i  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Senator San Buenaventura and Committee Members:

SUBJECT: SB849 RELATING TO SOCIAL SERVICES

The Hawaii State Council on Developmental Disabilities **STRONGLY SUPPORTS SB849**, which amends the state supplemental payment ceiling for domiciliary care paid to recipients who are eligible for federal supplemental security income or public assistance, or both. Amends the monthly needs allowance for individuals residing in foster homes, care homes, domiciliary homes, and other long-term care facilities.

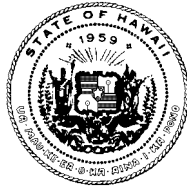
The last personal needs allowance increase was enacted in 2007 to \$50. SB849 will amend Section 346-53 of Hawaii Revised Statutes, subsection (c) to reflect the substantial rise in inflation. Increasing the personal needs allowance (PNA) is essential to compensate for the rising cost of goods and services. PNA funds exist to allow individuals living in long-term care facilities to make personal purchases of goods or services. These personal purchases increase and enable self-determination and personal choice by individuals over their own lives. Increasing the PNA allows individuals with developmental disabilities who reside in these home settings more opportunities to participate in social events and/or on items to improve their quality of life. The PNA enables people in long-term care to have increased autonomy and dignity. Having control over this allowance empowers our population of individuals with developmental disabilities to participate in acts of self-determination and money management skills and increases their abilities in decision-making processes.

The Council emphasizes the need for an increase in the PNA to provide individuals with more opportunities to participate in our communities. Our state is dedicated to maintaining the most integrated community settings for individuals receiving long-term care.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **strong support of SB849**.

Sincerely,  
Daintry Bartoldus, Executive Administrator

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR  
KE KIA'ĀINA



CATHY BETTS  
DIRECTOR  
KA LUNA HO'ŌKELE

JOSEPH CAMPOS II  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
KA HOPE LUNA HO'ŌKELE

STATE OF HAWAII  
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAI'I  
**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**  
KA 'OIHANA MĀLAMA LAWELAWE KANAKA  
Office of the Director  
P. O. Box 339  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

TRISTA SPEER  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
KA HOPE LUNA HO'ŌKELE

January 25, 2024

To: The Honorable Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair  
Senate Committee on Health & Human Services

FROM: Cathy Betts, Director

SUBJECT: **SB 849 – RELATING TO SOCIAL SERVICES.**

Hearing: January 26, 2024, 1:00 p.m.  
Conference Room 225, State Capitol & Video Conference

**DEPARTMENT'S POSITION:** The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports this measure with proposed amendments and provides comments.

**PURPOSE:** This bill amends the state supplemental payment ceiling for domiciliary care paid to recipients who are eligible for federal supplementary security income or public assistance, or both. Amends the monthly needs allowance for individuals residing in foster homes, care homes, domiciliary homes, and other long-term care facilities.

For the Department to increase the state supplemental payment ceiling for domiciliary care by **\$132.10** and the monthly needs allowance by **\$25.00** without an additional appropriation, DHS proposes the following **highlighted** amendments:

SECTION 1. Section 346-53, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

"(c) The director, pursuant to chapter 91, shall determine the rate of payment for domiciliary care, including care provided in licensed developmental disabilities domiciliary homes, community care foster family homes, and certified adult foster homes, to be provided

to recipients who are eligible for federal supplementary security income or public assistance, or both. The director shall provide for level of care payment as follows:

- (1) Beginning on [~~July 1, 2008,~~] **January 1, 2025,** for adult residential care homes classified as facility type I, licensed developmental disabilities domiciliary homes as defined under section 321-15.9, community care foster family homes as defined under section 321-481, and certified adult foster homes as defined under section 321-11.2, the state supplemental payment, **which includes the care rate and personal needs allowance,** shall not exceed [~~\$651.90,~~] **\$809.00;** and
- (2) Beginning on [~~July 1, 2008,~~] **January 1, 2025,** for adult residential care homes classified as facility type II, the state supplemental payment, **which includes the care rate and personal needs allowance,** shall not exceed [~~\$759.90,~~] **\$ 917.00.**

If the operator does not provide the quality of care consistent with the needs of the individual to the satisfaction of the department, the department may remove the recipient to another facility.

The department shall handle abusive practices under this section in accordance with chapter 91.

Nothing in this subsection shall allow the director to remove a recipient from an adult residential care home or other similar institution if the recipient does not desire to be removed and the operator is agreeable to the recipient remaining, except where the recipient requires a higher level of care than provided or where the recipient no longer requires any domiciliary care."

SECTION 2. Section 346D-4.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

"(c) The State's supplemental payment for a needs allowance under subsection (a) shall be increased by an amount necessary to bring the allowance up to [~~\$50~~] **\$75** \_\_\_\_\_ per month. The payment

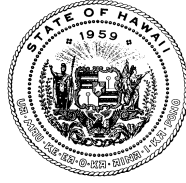
January 25, 2024

Page 3

under this section shall be afforded to an individual notwithstanding that the individual is incapacitated; provided that the moneys may be spent on behalf of the client, with a written accounting, by the operator of the residence or facility."

We are informed that following the passage of the law, the Social Security Administration may need six months to make system changes to implement the increase and request that the amendments become effective on or about January 1, 2025.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments in support of this measure.



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**  
**KA 'OIHANA OLAKINO**  
P. O. Box 3378  
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378  
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony in SUPPORT of SB849**  
**RELATING TO SOCIAL SERVICES**

SENATOR JOY A. SAN BUENAVENTURA, CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Hearing: Friday January 26, 2024, 1:00PM, Conference Room 225

1 **Fiscal Implications:**

2 Undetermined.

3 **Department Position:**

4 The Department of Health (DOH) supports this measure and offers comments.

5 **Department Testimony:**

6 The Developmental Disabilities Division (DDD) provides the following testimony on  
7 behalf of the Department.

8 SB 849 amends the state supplemental payment ceiling for domiciliary care paid to  
9 recipients who are eligible for federal supplementary security income, public assistance, or  
10 both. It amends the monthly needs allowance for individuals residing in foster homes, care  
11 homes, domiciliary homes, and other long-term care facilities.

12 The measure would be beneficial to recipients who reside in these settings.

13 **Offered Amendments:**

14 DOH supports the Department of Human Service's proposed amendments to this  
15 measure.

16 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



**WorkNowHawaii.org**

1050 Queen St Suite 100  
Honolulu, HI 96814

<https://WorkNowHawaii.org>

**Call or Text:** (808) 202-2310

Aloha,

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 849 - Increase in Personal needs allowance.

As a Certified Work Incentive Practitioner, my role is to support people with disabilities in understanding their government benefits, including financial assistance and healthcare. I serve people who have difficulty affording basic necessities, because their supplemental security income falls far below the federal poverty line.

At Work Now Hawaii, we also support employment for individuals living in developmental disabilities domiciliary homes, community care foster family homes, and certified adult foster homes. We have seen that a limited \$50 / month allowance has provided barriers to employment, including lack of access to reliable transportation and communication.

Personal appearance and hygiene are also vital in getting and keeping a job. The Personal needs allowance should be increased to allow people to present well to increase the likelihood of successful employment.

Barriers in limited personal needs allowances can perpetuate dependence on benefits and limit opportunities for financial independence.

It is of my opinion that the State's supplemental payment for a monthly needs allowance should be increased, leading to a greater opportunity for health and independence in peoples' lives.

Patrick Gartside  
Executive Director

[Patrick@WorkNowHawaii.org](mailto:Patrick@WorkNowHawaii.org)

(808) 202-2310

THE THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2024



**LA'AKEA**  
VILLAGE

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La'akea Village  
empowers people of  
all abilities to live,  
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639 BALDWIN AVENUE  
PĀ'ĪA, HI 96779  
(808) 579-8398  
LAAKEAVILLAGE.ORG

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Ashlee Klemperer

Senate Committee on Health and Human Services  
Senator Joy San Buenaventura, Chair  
Senator Henry Aquino, Vice Chair

Friday, January 26, 2024, 1:00pm  
Conference Room 225 & Video conference  
State Capitol, 15 South Beretania Street

SB 849 Testimony in support

Dear Senator Joy San Buenaventura and Senator Henry Aquino,

I am in support of SB 849, which increases the personal allowance of \$50 a month.

My name is Ashlee Klemperer, Executive Director of La'akea Village – a Maui nonprofit that provides services to adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. I am writing on behalf of our organization and participants in support of SB 849, which increases the monthly needs allowance for individuals residing in foster and community care homes, residential care homes, domiciliary homes, and other long-term care facilities.

For nearly 10 years the organization ran a residential domicile home for adults with disabilities and we experienced firsthand how the limited personal allowance of a meagerly \$50 per month is not nearly enough to cover personal needs. \$50 per month is not enough to cover important personal expenses like adult diapers, haircuts, clothing, personal hygiene products, and more. The organization had to absorb much of those costs to ensure our residents had what they needed; I can tell you from personally overseeing the budget and expenses the \$50 is not enough and we urgently request you all support SB 849 and increase the personal allowance as there has been no increase since 2007.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in support of SB 849

Ashlee Klemperer  
Executive Director

ashlee@laakeavillage.org  
808-579-8398

**SB-849**

Submitted on: 1/25/2024 12:36:18 PM

Testimony for HHS on 1/26/2024 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
austin salcedo	Individual	Oppose	In Person

Comments:

STRONGLY OPPOSE, DUE TO NO MEASUREMENTS/DATA FOR ALL STATE OPERATIONS FOR ENTIRE WESTSIDE 96792



**SB-849**

Submitted on: 1/25/2024 12:37:10 PM

Testimony for HHS on 1/26/2024 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
gina salcedo	Individual	Oppose	In Person

Comments:

STRONGLY OPPOSE, DUE TO NO MEASUREMENTS/DATA FOR ALL STATE OPERATIONS FOR ENTIRE WESTSIDE 96792

**SB-849**

Submitted on: 1/25/2024 8:48:02 AM

Testimony for HHS on 1/26/2024 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kaili	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

i am in full support of sb849 witch increases the personal allowance of 50.00 a month please pass this bill thank you.

**SB-849**

Submitted on: 1/25/2024 10:16:04 AM

Testimony for HHS on 1/26/2024 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
suzie Holtzman	Testifying for Arc of Maui County	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

Senator Joy San Buenaventura, Chair

Senator Henry Aquino, Vice Chair

Friday, January 26, 2024, 1:00pm

Conference Room 225 & Video conference

State Capitol, 15 South Beretania Street

SB 849 Testimony in support

Dear Senator Joy San Buenaventura and Senator Henry Aquino,

I am in support of SB 849, which increases the personal allowance of \$50 a month.

My name is Suzie Holtzman and I am in support of SB 849, which increases the monthly needs allowance for individuals residing in foster and community care homes, residential care homes, domiciliary homes, and other long-term care facilities.

I think this bill is important because I only receive \$50 a month for my personal allowance. I must use my personal allowance for my bus pass, personal clothing, haircuts and weekend outings while in my foster home. \$50 a month does not go far in one month.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in support of SB 849

THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2024

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Senator Joy San Buenaventura, Chair

Friday, January 26, 2024

SB 849 Testimony in SUPPORT

Dear Senator Joy San Buenaventura and Senator Henry Aquino,

My name is Herman Ki'ili and I am in support of SB 849, which increases the monthly needs allowance for individuals residing in foster home, care home, domiciliary homes, and other long-term care facilities.

I think this bill is important because I only receive \$50 a month for my personal allowance. It is difficult to only have \$50 to spend on my personal items for a whole month, while I live in a foster home.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in support of SB 849

Herman Ki'ili  
Kapolei, Hawaii

THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2024

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Senator Joy San Buenaventura, Chair

Friday, January 26, 2024

SB 849 Testimony in SUPPORT

Dear Senator Joy San Buenaventura and Senator Henry Aquino,

My name is Bathey Fong and I am in support of SB 849, which increases the monthly needs allowance for individuals residing in foster home, care home, domiciliary homes, and other long-term care facilities.

I think this bill is important because only receive \$50 a month for my personal allowance. I use a wheelchair and sometimes, I have to use my personal allowance for special hygiene and clothing things while in my wheelchair. \$50 a month does not go far in one month. I live in a foster home.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in support of SB 849

Bathey Fong  
Ewa Beach, Hawaii

THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2024

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Senator Joy San Buenaventura, Chair

Friday, January 26, 2024

SB 849 Testimony in SUPPORT

Dear Senator Joy San Buenaventura and Senator Henry Aquino,

My name is Vaipapa Soliai and I am in support of SB 849, which increases the monthly needs allowance for individuals residing in foster home, care home, domiciliary homes, and other long-term care facilities.

I think this bill is important because I cannot talk, and I am in a wheelchair. I always want to get a device to help me talk, because I ride the handi-van by myself, and I feel scared when I have to go to Waipahu by myself and cannot talk to protect myself. The Self-advocate advisory council had to find a way to get me one Ipad because I do not have enough money to get one.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in support of SB 849

Vaipapa Soliai  
Waipahu, Hawaii

THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2024

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Senator Joy San Buenaventura, Chair

Friday, January 26, 2024

SB 849 Testimony in SUPPORT

Dear Senator Joy San Buenaventura and Senator Henry Aquino,

My name is Michele Muralt and I am in support of SB 849, which increases the monthly needs allowance for individuals residing in foster home, care home, domiciliary homes, and other long-term care facilities.

I think this bill is important because I need to have a cell phone so when I travel on the handi-van, I can call my caregiver when I am late because the handi-van is always late dropping me off or picking me up from my home only late at night. I live in a foster home.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in support of SB 849

Michelle Muralt  
Ewa, Hawaii



THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2024

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Senator Joy San Buenaventura, Chair

Friday, January 26, 2024

SB 849 Testimony in SUPPORT

Dear Senator Joy San Buenaventura and Senator Henry Aquino,

My name is Ada McFeely and I am in support of SB 849, which increases the monthly needs allowance for individuals residing in foster home, care home, domiciliary homes, and other long-term care facilities.

I think this bill is important because I only receive \$50 a month for my personal allowance. It is difficult to only have \$50 to spend on my personal items for a whole month, while I live in an ARC-HI Pearl City Apartment.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in support of SB 849

Ada McFeely  
Pearl City, Hawaii

THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2024

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Senator Joy San Buenaventura, Chair

Friday, January 26, 2024

SB 849 Testimony in SUPPORT

Dear Senator Joy San Buenaventura and Senator Henry Aquino,

My name is Kaili Swan and I am in support of SB 849, which increases the monthly needs allowance for individuals residing in foster home, care home, domiciliary homes, and other long-term care facilities.

I think this bill is important because my friends who don't have a choice and have to live in a foster home, only receive \$50 a month for their personal allowance. They tell me how hard it is to only have \$50 a month to spend on all of their personal needs, and they run out of money real fast. I live with my mom and don't have that problem, but my friends do. I want to support them too. Maybe I might have to live in a foster home one day too, and only have \$50 a month. Please help my friends.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in support of SB 849

Kaili Swan  
Ewa Beach, Hawaii

THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2024

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Senator Joy San Buenaventura, Chair

Friday, January 26, 2024

SB 849 Testimony in SUPPORT

Dear Senator Joy San Buenaventura and Senator Henry Aquino,

My name is Evan Murakami and I am in support of SB 849, which increases the monthly needs allowance for individuals residing in foster home, care home, domiciliary homes, and other long-term care facilities.

I think this bill is important because my friends live in a foster home and only receives \$50 a month for their personal allowance.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in support of SB 849

Evan Murakami  
Kaimuki, Hawaii

THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2024

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Senator Joy San Buenaventura, Chair

Friday, January 26, 2024

SB 849 Testimony in SUPPORT

Dear Senator Joy San Buenaventura and Senator Henry Aquino,

My name is David Beatovich and I am in support of SB 849, which increases the monthly needs allowance for individuals residing in foster home, care home, domiciliary homes, and other long-term care facilities.

I think this bill is important because I only receive \$50 a month for my personal allowance. It is difficult to only have \$50 to spend on my personal items for a whole month, while I live in an ARC-HI apartment.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in support of SB 849

David Beatovich  
Kailua, Hawaii

THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2024

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Senator Joy San Buenaventura, Chair

Friday, January 26, 2024

SB 849 Testimony in SUPPORT

Dear Senator Joy San Buenaventura and Senator Henry Aquino,

My name is Timothy Renken and I am in support of SB 849, which increases the monthly needs allowance for individuals residing in foster home, care home, domiciliary homes, and other long-term care facilities.

I think this bill is important because as the Self-Advocacy Advisory Council President of Hawaii, I know of many self-advocates who only receive \$50 a month for their personal allowance, and it is not enough to pay for their personal needs in their foster homes or Adult care homes. Some of the advocates need cell phones now and that money comes from their personal allowance for the monthly bill. They need the cell phones so they can call for help if they are in danger. They did not have their personal allowances increased for the last 13 years. Thank you for allowing me to testify in support of SB 849

Timothy Renken  
Honolulu, Hawaii

THE THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2024

Senate Committee on Health and Human Services  
Senator Joy San Buenaventura, Chair  
Senator Henry Aquino, Vice Chair

Friday, January 26, 2024, 1:00pm  
Conference Room 225 & Video conference  
State Capitol, 15 South Beretania Street

SB 849 Testimony in support

Dear Senator Joy San Buenaventura and Senator Henry Aquino,

I am in support of SB 849, which increases the personal allowance of \$50 a month.

My name is Deziree Tacub and I am in support of SB 849, which increases the monthly needs allowance for individuals residing in foster and community care homes, residential care homes, domiciliary homes, and other long-term care facilities. I also only receive \$50.00 per month from the 5<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court, they are my financial guardians.

I think this bill is important because I only receive \$50 a month for my personal allowance. I must use my personal allowance for personal clothing, haircuts and weekend outings, snacks, \$50 a month does not go far in one month.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in support of SB 849

THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2024

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Senator Joy San Buenaventura, Chair

Friday, January 26, 2024

SB 849 Testimony in SUPPORT

Dear Senator Joy San Buenaventura and Senator Henry Aquino,

My name is Zosimo Arista and I am in support of SB 849, which increases the monthly needs allowance for individuals residing in foster home, care home, domiciliary homes, and other long-term care facilities.

I think this bill is important because people help only receive \$50 a month for their personal allowance. It is difficult to only have \$50 to spend on their personal items for a whole month. Often times people with disabilities have to spend their needs allowance on their monthly cell phone payments that they need, in order to stay in contact with their caregivers and family members. Some of them spend their needs allowance on going out on the weekends, which cost money, like going to the zoo that has an entrance fee or to the mall or out to the park/beach, as part of their goal to participate in their community. Please support passing SB 849

Thank you for allowing me to testify in support of SB 849

Zosimo Arista  
Makakilo, Hawaii

**SB-849**

Submitted on: 1/25/2024 12:24:36 PM

Testimony for HHS on 1/26/2024 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Alice Bratton	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

Senator Joy San Buenaventura, Chair

Senator Henry Aquino, Vice Chair

Friday, January 26, 2024, 1:00pm

Conference Room 225 & Video conference

State Capitol, 15 South Beretania Street

SB 849 Testimony in support

Dear Senator Joy San Buenaventura and Senator Henry Aquino,

I am in support of SB 849, which increases the personal allowance of \$50 a month.

My name is Alice Bratton and I am in support of SB 849, which increases the monthly needs allowance for individuals residing in foster and community care homes, residential care homes, domiciliary homes, and other long-term care facilities.

I think this bill is important because these individuals only receive \$50 a month for their personal allowance. They must use their personal allowance for a bus pass, personal clothing, haircuts and weekend outings while in a foster home. \$50 a month does not go far in one month.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in support of SB 849



**LATE**

**SB-849**

Submitted on: 1/25/2024 1:14:58 PM

Testimony for HHS on 1/26/2024 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Katlin Vough	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SB849 Testimony in support

Dear Senator Joyce San Buenaventura and Senator Henry Aquino

I support SB 849 which increases the personal allowance of \$50 a month.

My name is Katlin Vough and I am in support of SB 849 which increases the monthly needs allowance for individuals residing in foster and community care homes, residential care homes, Domiciliary homes, and other long-term care facilities.

I have the privilege of being neighbors with the only domiciliary home on Big Island. Tenants receive \$50 a month for their personal allowance. This has not been updated since 2007, yet the cost of living has significantly increased in the past 17 years. Tenants use this personal allowance for things like bus passes, clothing, haircuts, feminine hygiene products, toiletries, and weekend outings. Senators, I encourage you to limit your spending to 50 dollars this next month while continuing to meet your basic needs. As you will find, in our current state of economic inflation, it is not possible. As such, I ask for your support. The monthly allowance has sat stagnant at 50 dollars a month for nearly 2 decades. Our tenants are deserving of your support and recognition.

Thank you for allowing me to testify and support of SB 849.

**LATE**

**SB-849**

Submitted on: 1/25/2024 1:52:40 PM

Testimony for HHS on 1/26/2024 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kami Bolster	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I work with the elderly and disabled in Hawai'i county. I fully support the increase in the personal needs allowance. \$50. a month for personal needs is not enough. It has been at \$50 dollars for 17 years. I can not think of any product that is still the same price as it was in 2007. Please please support this bill to increase the amount.

Sincerely, Kami Bolster, Malama Kupuna program manager

**SB-849**

Submitted on: 1/26/2024 7:50:29 AM

Testimony for HHS on 1/26/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Deborah Kobayakawa	Testifying for Hawaii State Council on Developmental Disabilities	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Deborah Kobayakawa

45-312 Koa Kahiko St. Kaneohe, HI 96744

Deb@duck.com

January 26, 2024

The Honorable Senator Joy A. Buenaventura, Chair

The House Committee on Health and Human Services

State Capitol, State of Hawai'i

Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Senator Buenaventura and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: SB 849

I am submitting my testimony in support of SB 849 that would increase the personal needs allowance for recipients of supplemental security income residing in long-term care homes. I am a parent of an adult son with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) who has been residing in licensed domiciliary home here in Hawaii for the past 12 years.

My does not have to rely to supplement security income as he's able to work and earn some income. I'm writing on behalf of all the many of individuals who are not as fortunate as he is.

One of his house mates relies entirely on supplemental security income with no other source of money. It prevents her from enjoying activities like going to the movies with a friend or meeting for coffee.

Our I/DD population is like everyone else, they want to enjoy activities, outings with friends, and to be in their community. Limited financial resources makes it difficult for many to enjoy the same quality of life the rest of us take for granted. This disparity leads to increased isolation and further marginalizes our community, preventing them from being fully integrated in their communities.

As a parent and member of the DD Council I am in strong support of increasing the personal needs allowance. It will improve quality of life and dignity of those living in long-term homes and it will increase their self-determination as they gain more access to their communities.

Thank you for this opportunity to share my testimony.

Respectfully,

Deborah Kobayakawa

Parent/Guardian/Advocate

THE THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2024

Senate Committee on Health and Human Services  
Senator Joy San Buenaventura, Chair  
Senator Henry Aquino, Vice Chair

Friday, January 26, 2024, 1:00pm  
Conference Room 225 & Video conference  
State Capitol, 15 South Beretania Street



SB 849 Testimony in support

Dear Senator Joy San Buenaventura and Senator Henry Aquino,

I am in support of SB 849, which increases the personal allowance of \$50 a month.

My name is Shannon Salas and I am in support of SB 849, which increases the monthly needs allowance for individuals residing in foster and community care homes, residential care homes, domiciliary homes, and other long-term care facilities.

I think this bill is important because I only receive \$50 a month for my personal allowance. I must use my personal allowance for my bus pass, personal clothing, haircuts and weekend outings while in my foster home. \$50 a month does not go far in one month.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in support of SB 849

**LATE**

**SB-849**

Submitted on: 1/26/2024 12:31:38 PM

Testimony for HHS on 1/26/2024 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Maria Corazon E. Cariaga	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Good afternoon to all of the COMMITTEES , I strongly support the SB 849 on behalf of all the clients under our care at Community Care Foster Family Home .

Thank you for allowing me to submit my written testimony.