



ORIGINAL

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

GOV. MSG. NO. 45

April 13, 2006

The Honorable Robert Bunda, President
and Members of the Senate
Twenty-Third State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 003
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Mr. President and Members of the Senate:

This is to inform you that on April 13, 2006, the following bill was signed into law:

SB2333 SD2

A BILL FOR AN ACT MAKING AN EMERGENCY
APPROPRIATION FOR GENERAL ASSISTANCE.
(ACT 006)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Lingle".

LINDA LINGLE

A BILL FOR AN ACT

MAKING AN EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION FOR GENERAL ASSISTANCE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. This Act is recommended by the governor for
2 immediate passage in accordance with section 9 of article VII of
3 the Constitution of the State of Hawaii.

4 SECTION 2. Act 178, Session Laws of Hawaii 2005,
5 appropriated a certain designated sum to the department of human
6 services to provide funds for the general assistance program
7 under the benefit, employment, and support services division for
8 the fiscal period beginning July 1, 2005, and ending
9 June 30, 2006.

10 A critical funding emergency exists. Pursuant to section
11 346-53(b), Hawaii Revised Statutes, the general assistance
12 program is a block grant program. The maximum allowance a
13 general assistance recipient may receive is determined by
14 dividing the amount of the appropriation by the number of
15 general assistance recipients. The general assistance program
16 will expend all appropriated funds before the end of the current
17 fiscal year and the department will be unable to maintain the
18 current maximum \$418 per month general assistance payment



1 benefit to approximately three thousand eight hundred fifty
2 disabled recipients. The current assistance grant for disabled
3 individuals is based on 62.5 per cent of the 1993 federal
4 poverty level. This amount is barely enough to cover living
5 expenses for individuals on a fixed income who have no other
6 viable means of support. Stopping the grant payment or reducing
7 the amount of the grant payment for these individuals poses a
8 real threat to these individuals' health and safety. To prevent
9 the reduction of general assistance payments in the fourth
10 quarter of fiscal year 2005-2006, additional funds are urgently
11 needed.

12 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
13 revenues of the State of Hawaii, the sum of \$416,718, or so much
14 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2005-2006 to be used
15 for general assistance payments.

16 SECTION 4. The sum appropriated shall be expended by the
17 department of human services for the purposes of this Act.

18 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



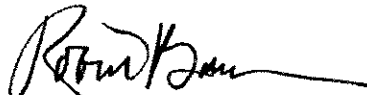
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Approved this day: APR 13 2006

THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: March 7, 2006
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Third Reading in the Senate of the Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2006.


President of the Senate



Clerk of the Senate

**THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
OF THE STATE OF HAWAII**

Date: April 3, 2006
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Third Reading in the House of Representatives of the Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2006.


Speaker, House of Representatives


Clerk, House of Representatives