

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 28 , 2006

RE: S.B. No. 475
S.D. 2
H.D. 1
C.D. 1

Honorable Robert Bunda
President of the Senate
Twenty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2006
State of Hawaii

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2006
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Conference on the disagreeing vote of the Senate to the amendments proposed by the House of Representatives in S.B. No. 475, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC ASSISTANCE,"

having met, and after full and free discussion, has agreed to recommend and does recommend to the respective Houses the final passage of this bill in an amended form.

The purpose of this measure is to increase the standard of need from the 1993 federal poverty level to the current poverty level, and to remove the limitation on making general assistance payments only from total appropriations for that purpose.

This measure will address the increasing cost of living in the State by increasing the standard of need to reflect the current federal poverty level for Hawaii.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure to:

- (1) Reflect the 2006 federal poverty level;




- (2) Change the assistance allowance percentages to maintain current spending levels;
- (3) Direct the Department of Human Services to reevaluate the standard of need during the interim following the 2006 Regular Session and report its findings and recommendations to the Legislature; and
- (4) Change the effective date to July 1, 2007, except that the provisions relating to the Department of Human Services reevaluation of the standard of need shall be effective upon its approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 475, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 475, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted on behalf
of the managers:

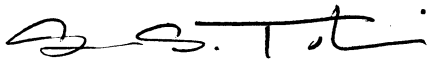
ON THE PART OF THE HOUSE

ON THE PART OF THE SENATE


ALEX M. MONSON, Co-Chair


RYAN I. YAMANE, Co-Chair


SUZANNE CHUN OAKLAND, Chair


SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Co-Chair



