



# ho'omōhala *me ka huaka'i* *Preparing communities for success and service*

Partners in Development  
*Foundation*

March 12, 2008

**LATE**

The Honorable Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair  
Senator Les Ihara Jr., Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Human Services & Public Housing

SUBJECT: WRITTEN TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF  
H.B. 2198, HD2 RELATING TO CAREGIVING

Hearing: Thursday, March 13, 2008  
1:15 a.m.  
Conference Room 016, Hawai'i State Capitol

Dear Senator Oakland-Chun,

Partners in Development Foundation, strongly supports the intent of HB 2198, HD2. We work extensively with elderly caregivers through our Tutu and Me traveling preschool, our Family Education programs, our preschool programs for the homeless, and also with elderly mentors in our mentoring programs on Hawai'i island. We see how important the Tutu are to our 'ohana and believe it is important for our community to understand and support their needs.

While this present draft of the Bill has been amended to generally allow other organizational participants, Partners In Development Foundation would gladly serve to support a task force focused on helping our kupuna in their work with the children of Hawai'i.

We also believe that the time for discussion has passed and it is time for action. Therefore, we request that Section 3 of the Bill be amended to reflect that "This Act shall take effect upon its approval".

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this Bill with the above suggested amendment.

Mahalo Nui Loa,

Jan E. Hanohano Dill  
President / Partners in Development Foundation  
2040 Bachelot Street  
Honolulu, HI 96817



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Dear Senator Oakland-Chun,

I strongly support the intent of HB 2198, HD2.

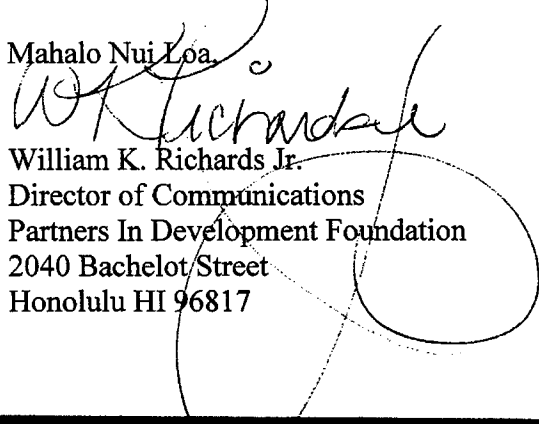
In my capacity as Director of Communications for Partners in Development Foundation (PIDF), I have been closely involved with the programs that work extensively with elderly caregivers, intergenerational preschools, Family Education, the homeless, and intergenerational mentoring programs. PIDF is a service organization that reaches into areas of need within the native-Hawaiian community.

Given the present economy, many of us look to grandparents to care for our children while we work to provide for them. Grandparents serve a valued role in the divergent cultures that makes us unique. Passage of this measure can only demonstrate the Legislature's recognition of those from whom we came, and depend on.

I respectfully ask that Section 3 be amended to allow its effect "upon approval".

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of this Bill with the above suggested amendment.

Mahalo Nui Loa.

  
William K. Richards Jr.  
Director of Communications  
Partners In Development Foundation  
2040 Bachelot Street  
Honolulu HI 96817

FAX 586-6659

**SUPPORT**

**LATE**

**Committee on Human Services & Public Housing**

Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Chair

Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair

**HB 2198 HD2**

**Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Task Force**

**March 13, 2008 1:15PM**

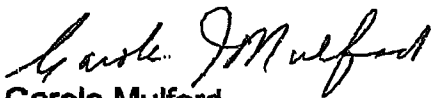
**Conference Room 016**

As a member of the Na Tutu Coalition I support HB 2198 HD2 that will establish a task force on the needs and issues of grandparents raising grandchildren.

Grandparents raising grandchildren is increasing rapidly in the United States as well as Canada and many other countries. Unfortunately, as they take on this task they are often retired with limited financial resources and unknowing of supporting resources.

Grandparents should be entitled to the same subsidy that foster parents receive.

Na Tutu asks for your support of HB 2198 HD2.



Carole Mulford

Na Tutu Member

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**testimony**

**LATE**

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**From:** Tomoso Home [tomoso@hawaiianisp.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 13, 2008 7:16 AM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** Testimony on HB 2198, HD 2 Relating To Caregiving

To the Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Human Services and Public Housing who are having a public hearing on HB 21998, HD 2, a Bill Relating to Caregiving, on Thursday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, @ 1:15 p.m., in Room 016.

Aloha kakou,

I write this testimony on the eve of the Hawai'i Family Caregivers Coalition's Annual Health and Resource Fair and "Capitol Day". Our office will be accompanying several Grandparents Raising Children or GRG's to the State Capitol. This bill establishes a task force to focus on the needs of and issues facing grandparents raising grandchildren. I know that these "tutu" coming to the Capitol, tomorrow, can share their stories, their realities with many of you. The Older Americans Act, as reauthorized and amended in 2006, mandates our office's services to GRG. I believe that state government must look at how public policy, at its level of jurisdiction, can augment and support, and not sub plant, current federal public policy in this growing reality in our communities. I am sure that you will include in your deliberations, the unique cultural milieu that GRG's in Hawai'i raise their mo'opuna. I look forward to the results of this Task Force with more than a passing interest, due to the growing number of GRG our office assists.

Me ka mahalo pono,

John A. H. Tomoso, MSW, ACSW, LSW  
Maui County Executive on Aging  
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