

Statement of

**Yolanda Dana**

Teacher

Keonepoko Elementary School

15-890 Kahakai Blvd.

Pahoa, HI 96778

**LATE TESTIMONY**

Before the

**House of Representatives Committee on Labor & Public Employment**

Friday, February 8, 2008

State Capitol, Conference Room 309

8:30am

In consideration of

**HB2481 – Relating to Health**

Chair Sonson and Members of the Committee

I, Yolanda Dana from Keonepoko Elementary School, **strongly support HB 2481** and urge your Committee to vote for passage of this measure.

This bill will repeal the sunset date for the voluntary employees' beneficiary association (VEBA Trust) and make the VEBA Trust permanent. Since the VEBA trust was reinstated, we have been able to add the retired teachers, decreased the amount of prescription drug payments, decreased the amount of premium paid by our members and increased the benefit coverage. We have also returned the unused portion of the state contributed share back to the state. Teachers are very pleased with the management of our VEBA trust and the Member Benefits Corporation staff has been extremely professional and efficient in their services to our members.

**Vote for HB 2481 and the repeal of the sunset date for the VEBA trust.**

Thank you for your continual support for students and public education.

Mahalo,

Yolanda Dana

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