

LATE

HSHtestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

To: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chairperson

Committee on Human Services and Public Housing

March 11, 2008 at 2:45 p.m.

From: Rev Alan Mark, State President of FACE

Re: Testimony on HB #2515

Chairperson Chun Oakland and Members of the Committee:

My name is Alan Mark, I'm the senior pastor of the Kilohana United Methodist Church in Niu Valley and the State President of FACE – Faith in Action for Community Equity. I speak for our faith-based organization on Oahu and soon to be FACE Maui, which will make up 40 churches, temples, associations, and organizations island wide. Our mission and purpose is to promote social justice and to better the quality of life for our people here and on the neighbor islands.

Again on behalf of FACE, I want to thank the Senate President Colleen Hanabusa, Senator Brian Taniguchi, the Chair of this committee and the Senate for its continual support of Kukui Gardens and its residence in the purchase of the land with last year's appropriation of 26 million dollars. We cannot say enough of how important the preservation of these 857 affordable units mean to the residents of Kukui Gardens and this state. We need to not only preserve what existing affordable units we have in inventory on our island, but to build more.

Thank you again for your commitment to fight homelessness with your preservation of Kukui Gardens, but also for the residents who live there, many who are Chinese speaking, elderly and are on fixed income.

I'm here to seek your continual commitment and support by asking you to pass HB 2515 requesting the final 26 million dollars to complete the sale of Kukui Gardens.

Thank you for your kokua and support.