



STATE OF HAWAII
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

830 Punchbowl Street, Room 417
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
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Phone: (808) 586-8670 / Fax: (808) 586-8674
Email: dliir.wdc@hawaii.gov

February 26, 2008

To: Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
and Members of the House Committee on Finance

From: Gregg Yamanaka, Chair
Workforce Development Council

Subject: **HB2964 HD1 Relating to Employment Security**
Appropriates Reed Act funds for Workforce Development Programs
Hearing Tuesday, February 26, 2008; 2:15 p.m.; Conference Room 308

The Workforce Development Council ("WDC") **strongly supports** HB2964 HD1, which provides the county Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs") and WDC with Reed Act funds from the Unemployment Trust Fund. Background information on similar bills in the last two legislative sessions is provided as an Attachment to this testimony.

Severe cuts in federal funding has hampered ongoing operations of the state's workforce system, such that an infusion of Reed Act funds in 2006 has permitted the WIBs and WDC to initiate activities that will benefit both Hawaii's employers and employees. An additional infusion of funds will permit that work to continue, as well as efforts towards sustainability after the allocation of Reed Act funds are depleted.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Respectfully submitted,

The Hawaii Workforce Development Council is a private-sector led body responsible for advising the governor on workforce development to support economic development and employment opportunities for all. The council is also the State Workforce Investment Board for purposes of the Workforce Investment Act ("WIA") of 1998. It assists the Governor in developing and updating comprehensive five-year strategic workforce investment plans and oversees workforce (public) investment activities in the state.

Background
Act 190, SLH 2006 and Act 123, SLH 2007
Reed Act Funds to Workforce Investment Boards

The "Reed Act" is a provision of the Social Security Act. It provides for the distribution of federal unemployment tax funds to state unemployment insurance and employment service programs in the event the federal government collects excess unemployment tax revenues. As the federal government approached a balanced budget in the late-1990s, Reed Act distributions were made to the states, including a \$30.8 million distribution to Hawaii in March 2002.

In order to use any portion of the Reed Act distributions, the Legislature had to (1) amend Section 393-13, Hawaii Revised States to conform state law to federal requirements and (2) appropriate funds. In the 2006 Legislative session, a bill was passed and signed into law as Act 190 that made the requisite changes and appropriated the following amounts of Reed Act funds to the county Workforce Investment Boards ("WIBs") and the Workforce Development Council ("WDC").*

\$5,070,557	Oahu WIB
\$1,528,331	Maui WIB
\$1,275,556	Kauai WIB
\$1,925,556	Hawaii WIB
<u>\$200,000</u>	WDC
\$10,000,000	TOTAL

Federal law restricts the use of Reed Act funds to payment of (1) unemployment compensation, (2) the administration of the state's unemployment compensation law, and (3) the administration of the state's system of public employment offices. With respect to the use of Reed Act funds by "the state's system of public employment offices", Reed Act funds may be used in the same manner that Wagner-Peyser Act funds are used to support Hawaii's One-Stop Job Centers. Examples of activities allowable under the Wagner-Peyser Act include:

- Staff for delivery of appropriate core and intensive service employment services;
- Equipment and resources for resource rooms;
- Payment of rent, utilities, and maintenance of facilities, including common spaces such as resource rooms, reception areas, conference areas, etc. in accordance with cost sharing guidelines;
- Shared costs of operation of local one-stops including payment for one-stop operators in accordance with cost sharing guidelines;
- Development of products that support service delivery such as labor market information products and job bank technology;

* HB2947 HD2 SD2 CD1 was signed into law as Act 190, SLH 2006.

- Compute equipment, network equipment, telecommunications equipment, application development, and other technology resources, including assisted technology, that support employment and workforce information service delivery;
- Outreach and educational materials targeted at users of one-stop employment and workforce information services;
- Training, technical assistance, and professional development of staff who deliver employment and workforce information services.

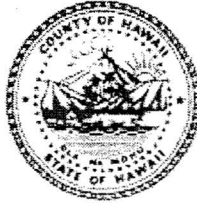
Act 190, SLH 2006 became effective on July 1, 2006. Appropriated funds must be legally obligated before June 30, 2007, and obligated expenditures must be made before June 30, 2008.

In the 2007 Legislative session, the WIBs and WDC supported a bill that extended the period provided for use of the \$10 million from June 30, 2008 to June 30, 2009, and language related to WDC's use of its \$200,000 was corrected. The bill passed as Act 123, SLH 2007 and became effective on June 29, 2007.**

** HB751 HD1 SD2 CD1 was signed into law as Act 123, SLH 2007.

http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2007/bills/HB751_cd1_.htm

Harry Kim
Mayor



Dixie Kaetsu
Managing Director

Barbara J. Kossow
Deputy Managing Director

County of Hawai'i

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KONA: 75-5706 Kuakini Highway, Suite 103 • Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740
(808) 329-5226 • Fax (808) 326-5663

February 25, 2008

The Honorable Marcus Oshiro
Chair, Committee on Finance
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Oshiro and Committee Members:

Re: HB 2964

In 2006, this Legislature appropriated \$10,000,000 (Act190) for the four counties Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs). Of that amount, \$1,900,000 came to Hawai'i County. We believe that we have allotted the money to projects that the Legislature would be pleased with, including Going Home (our prison-to-community reentry initiative); Huiana, an island wide high school student internship program; and an initiative to directly serve and strengthen our work places through business center and business service representatives.

I ask that this Legislature appropriate another \$2,000,000 from these federal funds, so that our initiatives can continue and new ideas can be developed by the WIB partners, such as an expansion of our new disabilities consortium.

Attached are more complete descriptions of the use of the previous allocation (first attachment) and our proposal for the use of new funds (second attachment).

Any assistance you can give us will be appreciated and, we believe, effectively used for the benefit of the community.

Aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Harry Kim".

Harry Kim
MAYOR

ATTACHMENT

Hawaii County Workforce Investment Board (HCWIB)

Programs for Legislative Session 2007-2008

Contact: Susan Akiyama, 808/961-8379

Request: \$2,000,000.00 – Reed Act Programs

In 2006, the Hawaii State Legislature appropriated \$10,000,000 statewide (Act 190, 2006) for the four county Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs). Of that sum, \$1,900,000 came to Hawaii County. The Department of Labor and all involved with the Hawaii Island WIB efforts, are justly proud of the initiatives that this money enabled, such as Going Home, our prison-to-community reentry initiative; Huiana, our island-wide high school student internship program; and an initiative to directly serve and strengthen Hawaii County's work places through our business center and business services representatives.

We are asking the State legislature to appropriate another \$2,000,000 from these federal funds, so that these initiatives can continue, providing support to a growing network of WIB partners whose priorities include: expansion of a new disabilities consortium and its increased services to persons with disabilities—particularly our youth; expand our Huiana and Going Home initiatives to serve more students and ex-offenders on a state-wide level; and develop support programs to serve the homeless.

Operation Mainstream

Strategy: To proactively outreach, educate and prepare under-utilized target groups (seniors, youth, ex-offenders, persons with disabilities, expatriates, rural job seekers, welfare recipients, homeless, etc.) in an effort to "mainstream" these individuals into our workforce.

- Complement State's S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) initiatives related to curriculum, articulation, and internship opportunities
- Promote the transition and self-sufficiency of students with disabilities at high schools island wide
- Offer employment preparation services to homeless population
- Provide employment, English-as-Second-Language, and acculturation assistance to increasing Micronesian population
- Establish an employment preparation network for incarcerated
- Develop work-based experience with the private sector to support the re-entry and transitioning of ex-offenders.

Employer Outreach

- Establish an economic and workforce development task force to: link key tax incentives to workforce benefits; bridge gap between information and services; convene regular meetings with key stakeholders: Hawaii County Research & Development, Hawaii Island Economic Development Board, Dept. of Business & Economic Development, Business & Tourism, Workforce Development Division, etc.
- Expand our business resource center services to include support to Kanoiehua Industrial Area Association (KIAA). Services: recruitment, assessment, labor market information, employer education, etc.

System Building

- Develop a permanent infrastructure for the Huiana student internship program and the Going Home ex-offender re-integration program.
- Disseminate materials and information for replication of the Huiana and Going Home programs in other interested counties.
- Provide transportation for youth to participate in the Huiana student internship program
- Build capacity by supporting board and staff attendance at local, state and national conferences and workshops.

Hawaii County Workforce Investment Board (HCWIB)

Reed Act Program Accomplishments 2006 - 2007

Contact: Susan Akiyama, 808/961-8379

Resource and Program Information:

Source: Reed Act Funds (Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund)
distributed by Act 190/Act 123

Total State Allocation: \$10,000,000.00

Amt allocated to HCWIB: \$1,900,554.00

Amt expended as of 12/31/07: \$778,986.40

Program start date: February 1, 2007

Completion date: September 30, 2008

Accomplishments by category:

Employer Outreach and Services

- Development of a Business Service Center within the local One-Stop Center is currently in progress
- Established links with employer advisory groups to include Chambers, Associations and HWCIB
- Business Service Reps coordinated industry studies to assess and prioritize business needs
- Facilitated /conducted **5 workshops for employers** providing information re: services for the ex-incarcerated, persons with disabilities and other program services available through the One-Stop
- Coordinated **2 job fairs serving over 400 job seekers and 40 employers**

Labor Force Pool Expansion

- Established first-ever island wide high school student "Huiana" internship program
- **70+ high school students** participated in internship program (Huiana)
- **50 employers** participated in internship program (Huiana)
- Established "Going Home", a comprehensive prison-to-community reentry initiative for Hawaii County
- Held **5 employer forums** to promote ex-offenders and persons with disabilities
- Serving over **50 ex-offenders** and working with over **15 community agencies**
- Conducted **10 job readiness and life skills workshops** for furloughees
- Formed a Co-Case Management Team made up of **7 agencies to support ex-offender population**
- Created "Workforce Solutions" consortium to collectively promote persons with disabilities
- Conducted disability forums, consumer fairs, training workshops for disabilities population

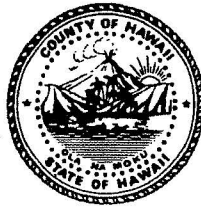
Capacity Building

- Provided intensive training for Board members and One-Stop staff
- Enabled Board members and One-Stop staff to attend 3 national conferences
- Coordinated meetings to bridge partnering among workforce development, economic development and educational entities

Building Infrastructure (Technology and Equipment)

- Upgraded video conferencing equipment
- Provided wireless laptops to enhance service delivery in rural areas
- Currently providing transportation services for high school students to get to internship job sites

Harry Kim
Mayor



Edwin S. Taira
Housing Administrator

County of Hawaii
OFFICE OF HOUSING AND
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

50 Wailuku Drive • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720-2484
V/TT (808) 961-8379 • FAX (808) 961-8685

February 25, 2008

The Honorable Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
The Honorable Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Finance

Twenty-Fifth Legislature
Regular Session of 2008

SUBJECT: House Bill 2964, HD 1 Relating to Employment Security
Hearing Date: TUESDAY, February 26, 2008
Time: 2:15 P.M.,
Conference Room: 308

The Office of Housing and Community Development (OHCD) supports House Bill 2964, HD 1 as it pertains to Hawai'i County.

The OHCD is the grant recipient and administrator of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) and Reed Act funds for Hawai'i County.

In 2006, the Hawai'i State Legislature appropriated \$10,000,000 statewide (Act 190, 2006) for the Workforce Investment Boards (WIB) initiative: Going Home, Prison-to-Community Re-entry Initiative; Huiana, our island-wide high school student internship program; and an initiative to directly serve and strengthen Hawai'i County's workplaces through our business services center.

We are asking the State Legislature to appropriate \$2,000,000 from these federal funds to enable us to continue to support a growing network of WIB partners whose priorities include: expansion of a new disabilities consortium and its increased services to persons with disabilities, particularly our youth; expand Huiana and Going Home initiatives to serve participants on a state-wide level; and develop support programs to serve the homeless.

As these programs help support the County's workforce initiatives, the OHCD respectfully requests your consideration and support of HB 2964, HD 1.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Edwin S. Taira
Housing Administrator



Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Committee on Finance
Support of HB2964, HD1 Relating to Employment Security

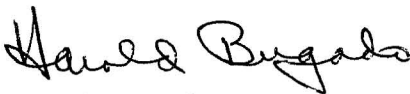
Dear Chair Oshiro and Committee members:

I am the chairperson for the Hawai'i County Economic Opportunity Council Board of Directors and also serve as a director on the Workforce Investment Board for Hawai'i County. I am employed by the County of Hawai'i for 33 years as Operations Director for the Elderly Activities Division.

I ask for your support of HB2964, HD1 as it pertains to Hawai'i County. In 2006, the Hawai'i State Legislature appropriated \$10,000,000 statewide (Act 190, 2006) for the four county Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs). Of the sum, \$1,900,000 came to Hawai'i County. The Department of Labor and all involved with the Hawai'i Island WIB efforts are justly proud of the initiatives that this money enabled, such as Going Home, our prison-to-community reentry initiative; Huiana, our island-wide high school student internship program; and an initiative to directly serve and strengthen Hawai'i County's workplaces through our business center and business services representatives.

We in Hawai'i County are asking the State legislature to appropriate another \$2,000,000 from these federal funds to enable us to continue initiatives related to improving employer outreach and services, labor force pool expansion, capacity building, and providing support to a growing network of WIB partners whose priorities include: expansion of a new disabilities consortium and its increased services to persons with disabilities—particularly our youth; expand our Huiana and Going Home initiatives to serve more students and ex-offenders on a state-wide level; and develop support programs to serve the homeless.

Supporting Hawai'i County's workforce initiatives through this appropriation will provide long-term social and economic benefits. Therefore, I urge the committee to pass HB2964, HD1.



Harold Bugado
Board Chairman
Hawai'i County Economic Opportunity Council
Ph: (808) 961-2681



Bryan J. Baptiste
Mayor

Beth A. Tokioka
Director

Office of Economic Development
County of Kauai
4444 Rice Street, Suite 200
Lihue, HI 96766
(808) 241-6390 Tel * (808) 241-6399 Fax

February 21, 2008

Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Committee on Finance
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96766

Re: Support of HB2964, HD1 Relating to Employment Security

Dear Chair Oshiro and Committee members:

As the Director of the Office of Economic Development for the County of Kaua'i, I would first like to thank you for your past support of providing Reed Act funding to the four county Workforce Investment Boards (WIB).

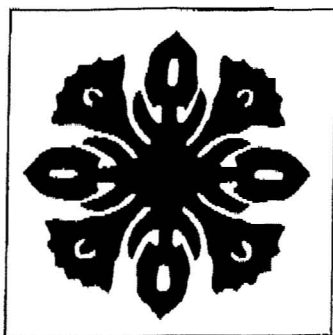
Like the other counties, Kaua'i is in the process of implementing our Reed Act plan and we anticipate spending our entire allotment of \$1.2 million by December 31, 2008. While this funding is helping us make significant improvements and expansions in our delivery of labor exchange services, the work is far from over. We anticipate returning to the Legislature in the 2009 session, once our work is complete and we have results to report, to ask for additional Reed Act funding.

Toward that end, we also support the request of the County of Hawai'i to access more Reed Act funding this year. Each WIB's plan of action is unique to that County's need. While our timelines may differ, the four Hawai'i WIBs remain united in our mission to provide improved employer outreach and services, labor force pool expansion, capacity building and technology/equipment upgrades.

Continuing support of the statewide workforce initiatives will provide long-term social and economic benefits. Therefore, I urge the committee to pass HB2964, HD1 on behalf of our sister county.

Mahalo,

Beth Tokioka



Kaua'i Workforce Investment Board

4444 Rice Street, Suite 200

Lihu'e, HI 96766

Tel: 808-241-6395 Fax: 808-241-6399

Board Chair:

Irving M.K. Soto

February 21, 2008

Board Members:

Kurt Akamine
 Peggy Cha
 Debbie Chuckas
 Jonathan Chun
 Tom Cooper
 Ted Dallgdig
 Randall Francisco
 MaBel Fujiuchi
 Jay Furfaro
 Tracy Hirano
 Dora Lane
 Steve Lupkes
 Michael Machado
 Sean Mahoney
 Kevin Mince
 Joan Morita
 Mary Navarro
 Mark Oyama
 Terry Proctor
 Diana Shaw
 Janice Shitanaka
 Kamika Smith
 Lisa Ubay
 Brenda Viado
 Marilyn Wong
 Nathan Wood
 Marilyn Yamaguchi
 Tricia Yamashita
 Mattie Yoshioka
 Diane Zachary

Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
 Committee on Finance
 Support of HB2964, HD1 Relating to Employment Security

Dear Chair Oshiro and Committee members:

As the Board Chair of the Kauai Workforce Investment Board, I would like to humbly ask your support of HB2964, HD1 as it pertains to Hawaii County. The 2006, the Hawaii State Legislature appropriated \$10,000,000 statewide of Reed Act funds which permitted the county workforce investment boards (WIBs) to advance activities that have benefited both Hawaii's employers and job seekers.

While this funding is helping us make significant improvements and expansions in our delivery of labor exchange services, we anticipate returning to the Legislature in the 2009 session to ask for additional Reed Act funding to continue our workforce initiatives.

Toward that end, we also support the request of the County of Hawai'i to access more Reed Act funding this year. While our timelines may differ, the four Hawai'i WIBs remain united in our mission to provide improved employer outreach and services, labor force pool expansion, capacity building and technology/equipment upgrades.

Continuing support of the statewide workforce initiatives will provide long-term social and economic benefits. Therefore, I urge the committee to pass HB2964, HD1 on behalf of our sister county.

Irving M. K. Soto
 Board Chair
 Kauai Workforce Investment Board

CLYDE T. OSHIRO

Certified Public Accountant

319 Kinoole Street
Hilo, Hawaii 96720Phone: (808) 935-0885 Fax: (808) 961-5881 e-mail: oshirocpa@hawaiiantel.net
February 18, 2008Before the House Committee on Finance
Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chairman**In Support of HB2964, HD1 Relating to Employment Security**

Dear Chair Oshiro and Committee members:

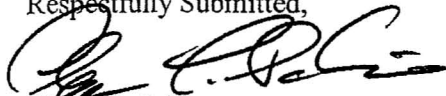
My name is Clyde T. Oshiro I am a Certified Public Accountant from Hilo, Hawaii , a member of the Hawaii County Workforce Investment Board and the secretary/ treasurer of the nonprofit IRC 501c(3) corporation HIWEDO, Inc. associated with the Hawaii County WIB.

I ask for your support of HB2964, HD1 as it pertains to Hawaii County. In 2006, the Hawaii State Legislature appropriated \$10,000,000 statewide (Act 190, 2006) for the four county Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs). Of that sum, \$1,900,000 came to Hawaii County. The Department of Labor and all involved with the Hawaii Island WIB efforts, are justly proud of the initiatives that this money enabled, such as Going Home, our prison-to-community reentry initiative; Huiana, our island-wide high school student internship program; and an initiative to directly serve and strengthen Hawaii County's work places through our business center and business services representatives.

We in Hawaii County are asking the State legislature to appropriate another \$2,000,000 from these federal funds to enable us to continue initiatives related to improving employer outreach and services, labor force pool expansion, capacity building, and providing support to a growing network of WIB partners whose priorities include: expansion of a new disabilities consortium and its increased services to persons with disabilities—particularly our youth; expand our Huiana and Going Home initiatives to serve more students and ex-offenders on a state-wide level; and develop support programs to serve the homeless.

Supporting Hawaii County's workforce initiatives through this appropriation will provide long-term social and economic benefits. Therefore, I urge the committee to pass HB2964, HD1.

Respectfully Submitted,


Clyde T. Oshiro

Member of Hawaii County Workforce Investment Board

SKA



Kanoelehua Industrial Area Assn., Inc.

820 Piilani Street, Suite 201

Hilo, Hawaii 96720

Phone (808) 961-5422 • Fax (808) 935-9740

Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Committee on Finance
Support of HB2964, HD1 Relating to Employment Security

Dear Chair Oshiro and Committee members:

I am Allan Onishi, President 07-08, of the Kanoelehua Industrial Area Association (KIAA). KIAA is a non-profit business organization in the Hilo industrial area representing over 350 business firms.

I ask for your support of HB2964, HD1 as it pertains to Hawaii County. In 2006, the Hawaii State Legislature appropriated \$10,000,000 statewide (Act 190, 2006) for the four county Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs). Of that sum, \$1,900,000 came to Hawaii County. The Department of Labor and all involved with the Hawaii Island WIB efforts, are justly proud of the initiatives that this money enabled, such as Going Home, our prison-to-community reentry initiative; Huiana, our island-wide high school student internship program; and an initiative to directly serve and strengthen Hawaii County's work places through our business center and business services representatives.

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Supporting Hawaii County's workforce initiatives through this appropriation will provide long-term social and economic benefits. Therefore, I urge the committee to pass HB2964, HD1.

Allan Onishi, President 07-08
KIAA
kiaa001@hawaii.rr.com

Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Committee on Finance
Support of HB2964, HD1 Relating to Employment Security

Dear Chair Oshiro and Committee Members:

I am the Career and Technical Education Coordinator at Hilo High School in the Hilo-Laupahoe-Waiakea Complex Area in the Department of Education. We have been active partners with the Hawaii County Workforce Development Division supporting successful initiatives and other educational programs to prepare our youth for the workforce.

We ask for your support of HB2964,HD1 as it pertains to Hawaii County. In 2006, the Hawaii State Legislature appropriated \$10,000,000 statewide (Act 190, 2006) for the four county Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs). Of that sum, \$1,900,000 came to Hawaii County. The Department of Labor and all involved with the Hawaii Island WIB efforts, are justly proud of the initiatives that this money enabled, such as Going Home, our prison-to-community reentry initiative; Huiana, our island-wide high school student internship program; and an initiative to directly serve and strengthen Hawaii County's work places through our business center and business services representatives.

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Supporting Hawaii County's workforce initiatives through this appropriation will provide long-term social and economic benefits. Therefore, I urge the committee to pass HB2964,HD1.

Sincerely,



Heidi Pana

Career and Technical Education Coordinator, Hilo High School
Department of Education
556 Waiianuenue Ave.
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
Ph. 974-4021 ext. 2274

Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Committee on Finance
Support of HB2964, HD1 Relating to Employment Security

Dear Chair Oshiro and Committee Members:

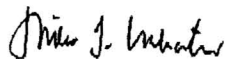
I am the Transition Center Coordinator at Hilo High School in the Hilo-Laupahoehoe-Waiakea Complex Area in the Department of Education. We have been active partners with the Hawaii County Workforce Development Division supporting successful initiatives and other educational programs to prepare our youth for the workforce.

We ask for your support of HB2964,HD1 as it pertains to Hawaii County. In 2006, the Hawaii State Legislature appropriated \$10,000,000 statewide (Act 190, 2006) for the four county Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs). Of that sum, \$1,900,000 came to Hawaii County. The Department of Labor and all involved with the Hawaii Island WIB efforts, are justly proud of the initiatives that this money enabled, such as Going Home, our prison-to-community reentry initiative; Huiana, our island-wide high school student internship program; and an initiative to directly serve and strengthen Hawaii County's work places through our business center and business services representatives.

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Supporting Hawaii County's workforce initiatives through this appropriation will provide long-term social and economic benefits. Therefore, I urge the committee to pass HB2964,HD1.

Sincerely,



Miles Nakanishi
Transition Center Coordinator, Hilo High School
Department of Education
556 Waianuenue Ave.
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
Ph. 974-4021 ext. 2318

Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Committee on Finance
Support of HB2964, HD1 Relating to Employment Security

Dear Chair Oshiro and Committee Members:

I am the Principal at Hilo High School in the Hilo-Laupahoehoe-Waiakea Complex Area in the Department of Education. We have been active partners with the Hawaii County Workforce Development Division supporting successful initiatives and other educational programs to prepare our youth for the workforce.

We ask for your support of HB2964,HD1 as it pertains to Hawaii County. In 2006, the Hawaii State Legislature appropriated \$10,000,000 statewide (Act 190, 2006) for the four county Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs). Of that sum, \$1,900,000 came to Hawaii County. The Department of Labor and all involved with the Hawaii Island WIB efforts, are justly proud of the initiatives that this money enabled, such as Going Home, our prison-to-community reentry initiative; Huiana, our island-wide high school student internship program; and an initiative to directly serve and strengthen Hawaii County's work places through our business center and business services representatives.

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Supporting Hawaii County's workforce initiatives through this appropriation will provide long-term social and economic benefits. Therefore, I urge the committee to pass HB2964,HD1.

Sincerely,



Robert Dircks
Principal, Hilo High School
Department of Education
556 Waiuanue Ave.
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
Ph. 974-4021

Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Committee on Finance
Support of HB2964, HD1 Relating to Employment Security

Dear Chair Oshiro and Committee Members:

I am a consultant representing Complex Area Superintendent Valerie Takata and the Hilo-Laupahoehoe-Waiakea Complex Area in the Department of Education. We have been active partners with the Hawaii County Workforce Development Division supporting successful initiatives and other educational programs to prepare our youth for the workforce.

We ask for your support of HB2964,HD1 as it pertains to Hawaii County. In 2006, the Hawaii State Legislature appropriated \$10,000,000 statewide (Act 190, 2006) for the four county Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs). Of that sum, \$1,900,000 came to Hawaii County. The Department of Labor and all involved with the Hawaii Island WIB efforts, are justly proud of the initiatives that this money enabled, such as Going Home, our prison-to-community reentry initiative; Huiana, our island-wide high school student internship program; and an initiative to directly serve and strengthen Hawaii County's work places through our business center and business services representatives.

We in Hawaii County are asking the State legislature to appropriate another \$2,000,000 from these federal funds to enable us to continue initiatives related to improving employer outreach and services, labor force pool expansion, capacity building, and providing support to a growing network of WIB partners whose priorities include: expansion of a new disabilities consortium and its increased services to persons with disabilities—particularly our youth; expand our Huiana and Going Home initiatives to serve more students and ex-offenders on a state-wide level; and develop support programs to serve the homeless.

Supporting Hawaii County's workforce initiatives through this appropriation will provide long-term social and economic benefits. Therefore, I urge the committee to pass HB2964,HD1.

Sincerely,



Roy Kobayashi
Consultant
Hilo-Laupahoehoe-Waiakea Complex Area,
Hawaii District Office, Hilo Annex
Department of Education
450 Waiianuenue Ave.
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
Ph. 896-7855

Hawai'i Island Workforce & Economic Development Ohana
1990 Kinoole Street, Suite 102 • Hilo, HI 96720

Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
House Committee on Finance
Support of HB 2964, HD1 Relating to Employment Security


Dear Chair Oshiro and Committee members:

I serve as the Executive Director of the Hawai'i Island Workforce & Economic Development Ohana, a non-profit established in Hawai'i County by the Workforce Investment Board(WIB). Our mission parallels that of the WIB, and we are integrally involved with efforts to develop a comprehensive workforce development system for the County.

I ask for your support of HB2964, HD1 as it pertains to Hawai'i County. In 2006, the Hawai'i State Legislature appropriated \$10,000,000 statewide (Act 190, 2006) for the four county Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs). Of that sum, \$1,900,000 came to Hawai'i County. The Department of Labor and all involved with the Hawaii Island WIB efforts, are justly proud of the initiatives that this money enabled, such as Going Home, our prison-to-community reentry initiative; Huiana, our island-wide high school student internship program; and an initiative to directly serve and strengthen Hawai'i County's work places through our business center and business services representatives.

We in Hawai'i County are asking the State legislature to appropriate another \$2,000,000 from these federal funds to enable us to continue initiatives related to improving employer outreach and services, labor force pool expansion, capacity building, and providing support to a growing network of WIB partners whose priorities include: expansion of a new disabilities consortium and its increased services to persons with disabilities—particularly our youth; expand our Huiana and Going Home initiatives to serve more students and ex-offenders on a state-wide level; and develop support programs to serve the homeless.

Supporting Hawai'i County's workforce initiatives through this appropriation will provide long-term social and economic benefits. Therefore, I urge the committee to pass HB2964, HD1.


Sandra Sakaguchi
HIWEDO
(808) 640-7967
email: s.sakaguchi@yahoo.com

February 19, 2008

Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Committee on Finance,
Support of HB2964, HD1 Relating to Employment Security

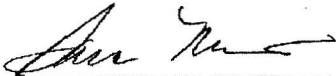
Dear Chair Oshiro and Committee members:

My name is Sara Narimatsu and I am the Interim Director of the Office of Continuing Education and Training at Hawaii Community College. I serve as a member of the Hawaii County Workforce Investment Board and the WIB Youth Council. I also serve on the Mayor's Taskforce on Employment Solutions which focuses on addressing the needs of our island's workforce and on other workforce development committees as delineated below.

I ask for your support of HB2964,HD1 as it pertains to Hawaii County. In 2006, the Hawaii State Legislature appropriated \$10,000,000 statewide (Act 190, 2006) for the four county Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs). Of that sum, \$1,900,000 came to Hawaii County. The Department of Labor and all involved with the Hawaii Island WIB efforts, are justly proud of the initiatives that this money enabled, such as Going Home, our prison-to-community reentry initiative; Huiana, our island-wide high school student internship program; and an initiative to directly serve and strengthen Hawaii County's work places through our business center and business services representatives.

We in Hawaii County are asking the State legislature to appropriate another \$2,000,000 from these federal funds to enable us to continue initiatives related to improving employer outreach and services, labor force pool expansion, capacity building, and providing support to a growing network of WIB partners whose priorities include: expansion of a new disabilities consortium and its increased services to persons with disabilities—particularly our youth; expand our Huiana and Going Home initiatives to serve more students and ex-offenders on a state-wide level; and develop support programs to serve the homeless.

Supporting Hawaii County's workforce initiatives through this appropriation will provide long-term social and economic benefits. Therefore, I urge the committee to pass HB2964, HD1.



Sara Narimatsu
Hawaii Community College
Office on Continuing Education and Training
974-7531; saran@hawaii.edu

Rep. Marcus Oshiro, Chair
House Finance Committee
Support of HB 2964, HD1 Relating to Employment Security
Hearing: February 5, 2008 at 9AM

Dear Chair Oshiro and Committee members:

My name is Leonard Paik and I am principal of the Hilo Community School for Adults and the chairperson for the East Hawaii partners of the Big Island Workplace Connection, Hawaii County's WIB One Stop Center.

I ask for your support of SB 2876 as it pertains to Hawaii County. In 2006, the Hawaii State Legislature appropriated \$10,000,000 statewide (Act 190, 2006) for the four county Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs). Of that sum, \$1,900,000 came to Hawaii County. The Department of Labor and all involved with the Hawaii Island WIB efforts, are justly proud of the initiatives that this money enabled, such as Going Home, our prison-to-community reentry initiative; Huiana, our island-wide high school student internship program; and an initiative to directly serve and strengthen Hawaii County's work places through our business center and business services representatives.

We in Hawaii County are asking the State legislature to appropriate another \$2,000,000 from these federal funds to enable us to continue initiatives related to improving employer outreach and services, labor force pool expansion, capacity building, and providing support to a growing network of WIB partners whose priorities include: expansion of a new disabilities consortium and its increased services to persons with disabilities—particularly our youth; expand our Huiana and Going Home initiatives to serve more students and ex-offenders on a state-wide level; and develop support programs to serve the homeless.

Supporting Hawaii County's workforce initiatives through this appropriation will provide long-term social and economic benefits. Therefore, I urge the committee to pass HB 2964, HD1.

Leonard Paik
Hilo Community School for Adults, and
Big Island Workplace Connection.

DAVID S. DE LUZ, JR.
Big Island Toyota, Inc.
811 Kanoelehua Avenue
Hilo, HI 96720

Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Committee on Finance
Support of HB2964, HD1 Relating to Employment Security
Hearing: Tuesday, February 26, 2008 at 2:15pm

VIA FACSIMILE: 1-800-535-3859

Dear Chair Oshiro and Committee members:

My name is David S. De Luz, Jr. I am a current private industry board member of the Hawaii County Workforce Investment Board and also on various community boards.

I ask for your support of HB2964, HD1 as it pertains to Hawaii County and the current and future investment in our workforce and community. In 2006, the Hawaii State Legislature appropriated \$10,000,000 statewide (Act 190, 2006) for the four county Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs). Of that sum, \$1,900,000 came to Hawaii County. The Department of Labor and all involved with the Hawaii Island WIB efforts, are justly proud of the initiatives that this money enabled, such as Going Home, our prison-to-community reentry initiative; Huiana, our island-wide high school student internship program; and an initiative to directly serve and strengthen Hawaii County's work places through our business center and business services representatives.

As a board member of the Hawaii County WIB and an active community member that see's the benefits of these initiatives, I am asking the State legislature to appropriate another \$2,000,000 from these federal unds to enable us to continue initiatives related to improving employer outreach and services, labor force pool expansion, capacity building, and providing support to a growing network of WIB partners whose priorities include: expansion of a new disabilities consortium and its increased services to persons with disabilities—particularly our youth; expand our Huiana and Going Home initiatives to serve more students and ex-offenders on a state-wide level; and develop support programs to serve the homeless.

Supporting Hawaii County's workforce initiatives through this appropriation will provide long-term social and economic benefits.

I greatly appreciate your consideration on this very important legislation and urge the committee to pass HB2964, HD1.

Mahalo,



David S. De Luz, Jr.
Vice President
Big Island Toyota, Inc.
[dj@bigislandtoyota.com](mailto:djr@bigislandtoyota.com)
(B) 808 935-2920, (F) 808-443-0225, (C) 808-895-4284

Paula Thomas
Delphi Pacific Communications
787 Hele Mauna St.
Hilo, HI 96720
808.443.3032

Rep. Marcus Oshiro
House Finance Committee
Support of HB 2964 HD1
Hearing: February 26, 2008, 2:15pm

Dear Rep. Marcus Oshiro and Committee members:

Aloha! I am writing on behalf of support for HB 2964 HD1, a bill that would provide funding for several programs on Hawaii Island including the unique and successful Huiana Internship Program, for which I serve as project manager. This program screens and recruits students interested in work-based learning experiences and places them in meaningful and substantive internship experiences. The purpose is to provide the students with work-readiness and job training, to help them find career direction, and to open their eyes to the many opportunities on-island for possible long-term, future employment. All this is accomplished with a very tight partnership between the many vested organizations. Funding through HB 2964 will be critical for the continued growth and expansion of this program now serving over 80 students with the potential to be serving hundreds.

I ask for your support of HB 2964 HD1 as it pertains to Hawaii County. In 2006, the Hawaii State Legislature appropriated \$10,000,000.000 statewide (Act 190, 2006) for the four county Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs). Of that sum, \$1,900,000.00 came to Hawaii County. The Department of Labor and all involved with the Hawaii Island WIB efforts are justly proud of the initiatives that this money enabled, such as Going Home, our prison-to-community reentry initiative; Huiana, our island-wide high school student internship program; and an initiative to directly serve and strengthen Hawaii County's work places through our business center and business services representatives.

We in Hawaii County are asking the State legislature to appropriate another \$2,000,000 from these federal funds to enable us to continue initiatives related to improving employer outreach and services, labor force pool expansion, capacity building, and providing support to a growing network of WIB partners whose priorities include: expansion of a new disabilities consortium and its increased services to persons with disabilities—particularly our youth; expand our Huiana and Going Home initiatives to serve more students and ex-offenders on a state-wide level; and develop support programs to serve the homeless.

Supporting Hawaii County's workforce initiatives through this appropriation will provide long-term social and economic benefits. Therefore, I urge the committee to pass HB 2964 HD1.

Paula Thomas
Project Manager, Huiana Internship Program
HIEDB

Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Committee on Finance
Support of HB2964, HD1 Relating to Employment Security
Hearing: Tuesday, February 26, 2008 at 2:15pm

Dear Chair Oshiro and Committee members:

I am the coordinator for the Employment Core Services Program, of Big Island Substance Abuse Council, who serves a large percentage of ex-offenders. I am involved in the Going Home Initiative serving on 2 subcommittees. I want to be a part of the re-entry programs being proposed for ex-offenders and am keenly aware of the need for funds to support these initiatives.

I ask for your support of HB2964,HD1 as it pertains to Hawaii County. In 2006, the Hawaii State Legislature appropriated \$10,000,000 statewide (Act 190, 2006) for the four county Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs). Of that sum, \$1,900,000 came to Hawaii County. The Department of Labor and all involved with the Hawaii Island WIB efforts, are justly proud of the initiatives that this money enabled, such as Going Home, our prison-to-community reentry initiative; Huiana, our island-wide high school student internship program; and an initiative to directly serve and strengthen Hawaii County's work places through our business center and business services representatives.

We in Hawaii County are asking the State legislature to appropriate another \$2,000,000 from these federal funds to enable us to continue initiatives related to improving employer outreach and services, labor force pool expansion, capacity building, and providing support to a growing network of WIB partners whose priorities include: expansion of a new disabilities consortium and its increased services to persons with disabilities—particularly our youth; expand our Huiana and Going Home initiatives to serve more students and ex-offenders on a state-wide level; and develop support programs to serve the homeless.

Supporting Hawaii County's workforce initiatives through this appropriation will provide long-term social and economic benefits. Therefore, I urge the committee to pass HB2964, HD1.

Caryn Clayton
BISAC, ECSP Program
808-961-5659
caryn.clayton@bisac.com

FINtestimony

From: Kenneth Rowe [krowe@dliir.state.hi.us]
Sent: Monday, February 25, 2008 12:14 PM
To: FINtestimony
Cc: Sandra Sakaguchi; Blayne Hanagami; Debra Saragosa; Andy Levin; Irene Nagao; Ted Sakai
Subject: The House Finance Committee - HB2964, HD1

Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
The House Finance Committee
HB2964, HD1

Dear Chair Oshiro and Committee members:

First of all, on behalf of my ohana here on the Big Island of Hawai'i, I would like to say "mahalo," for all your efforts in making a difference in our community. As a constituent, a registered voter, and a concerned parent, I feel we all need to get involved in our political process, in order to heal, and help those who can not help themselves.

Secondly, as a "Hawaiian," and "proactive" resident, and with roots stemming from Kamehameha III bloodline, born and raised on Hawaiian Community in Keaukaha, I would like to show my support for HB2964, HD1. In 2006, the Hawaii State Legislature appropriated \$10,000,000 statewide (Act 190, 2006) for the four county Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs). Of that sum, \$1,900,000 came to Hawaii County. The Department of Labor and all involved with the Hawaii Island WIB efforts, are justly proud of the initiatives that this money enabled, such as Going Home, our prison-to-community reentry initiative; Huiana, our island-wide high school student internship program; and an initiative to directly serve and strengthen Hawaii County's work places through our business center and business services representatives. As my father once explained to me that in our culture, and in our community we need to be able "help everyone." The weak, the kupuna, the sick, the keiki and even the ones who makes mistakes the ex-offenders.

Thirdly, I am also a member of the Mayor's Task Force on Reintegration, also known as "Going Home," and we are trying to improve the likelihood that ex-inmates can be successful when they return to society, and the experts we are listening to are telling us that a cognitive restructuring program will be very beneficial. We in Hawaii County are asking the State legislature to appropriate another \$2,000,000 from these federal funds to enable us to continue initiatives related to improving employer outreach and services, labor force pool expansion, capacity building, and providing support to a growing network of WIB partners whose priorities include: expansion of a new disabilities consortium and its increased services to persons with disabilities particularly our youth; expand our Huiana and Going Home initiatives to serve more students and ex-offenders on a state-wide level; and develop support programs to serve the homeless. We hope you can support our efforts by acting favorably on HB2964, HD1.

In closing, I want make a statement that was told to me by my grandfather (Papa Joseph Poai Sr.), and he said this; "in order for our ohana (community) to sustain itself, we need to care for everyone in it, we need to teach the keiki, support the makua, take care of the kupuna, and to teach them all that everyone works to support, and maintain our ohana (community)." With this belief, and this understanding of

"ho`oponopono," I feel that Bill HB2964, HD1 will give a chance to "help those who need the help, and it allows us to help them work in our community, as they all are someone's keiki, makua or kupuna." **E Ke Akua ame E Malama Pono.**

E Ke Akua ame E Malama Pono.

Ahui hou,

KRowE

Kenneth Rowe

Big Island Workplace Connection: Workforce Development Division - Hilo Office
Workforce Development Specialist III / Re-Integration Project - E. Hawaii Coordinator
1990 Kinoole Street, Suite #102
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

981-2860 ext. 232 (W) 981-2880 (Fax)
krowe@dlir.state.hi.us (Email)

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FINtestimony

From: Rae Yamanaka [yamanaka@members.hsta.org]
ent: Monday, February 25, 2008 11:02 AM
To: FINtestimony
Cc: ohcdwia@co.hawaii.hi.us; s.sakaguchi@yahoo.com; b.hanagami@dlir.state.hi.us
Subject: HB2961 HD1

Statement of

Rae A. Yamanaka
Teacher
Waiakea High School
94 Kekela St.
Hilo, HI 96720

Before the

House Committee on Finance

Tuesday, February 26, 2008
State Capitol, Conference Room 308
2:15pm

In consideration of
Hb2964 HD1 - Relating to Employment Security

Chair Marcus Oshiro and Members of the Committee

, Rae A. Yamanaka from Waiakea High School, strongly support HB2964 HD1 and urge your Committee to vote for passage of this measure.

This bill appropriates funds for the Reed Act for services of the unemployment insurance and workforce development divisions. The funds from the Reed Act have greatly enhanced the opportunities of our high school students to participate in career internships through the Huiana Internship Program. The Huiana Internship Program is a collaborative effort of the Big Island Workforce Development Division, the Dept. of Education, the Hawaii Island Economic Development Board, the Hawaii Community College, Hawaii Electric Light Company, East Hawaii Business-Education Partnership and other Hawaii Island businesses.

Students gain valuable workplace skills, are mentored in professionalism and leadership responsibilities and participate in hands-on work-based learning that are consistent with the Department of Education's General Learner Outcomes. This is a wonderful opportunity for businesses to partner with our schools in helping to educate future workers.

Please VOTE for HB2964 HD1

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

Mahalo,

Rae A. Yamanaka
808-959-9719
94 Kekela St.
Hilo, HI 96720
Email: Rae.Yamanaka@members.hsta.org