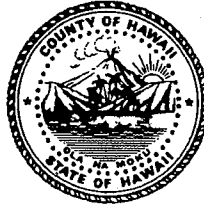


K. Angel Pilago
Council Member
District 8 - North Kona



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LATE TESTIMONY

HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

County of Hawai'i
Kailua Trade Center
75-5706 Hanama Place, Suite 109
Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740

January 28, 2008

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland
Chair, Committee on Human Services and Public Housing

Hearing Scheduled Tuesday, January 29, 2008
1:30 p.m.
Conference Room 016

RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2187
MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR WEST HAWAI'I HOUSING - KALOKO

Aloha Chair Chun Oakland and Committee Members,

My name is K. Angel Pilago. I represent District 8 - North Kona on the Hawai'i County Council. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and your Committee for hearing testimony on this very important Bill.

The County of Hawai'i has a growing population of homeless persons. We currently have only one temporary shelter that serves the homeless population of West Hawai'i. That shelter, located in Kawaihae, is slated for closure due to EPA regulations and problems with its lease.

The County has secured an 8-acre site in the Kaloko Industrial Area to establish the Kaloko Housing Program. As we move forward with plans to develop the site, we are asking for your support with passage of SB 2187 to provide an appropriation of \$12,000,000 for the fiscal year 2008-2009.

We must do all we can to address this very serious problem in our community. The funds will help with construction of a facility that will provide housing and services for individuals and families that are successfully transitioning through the homeless continuum on the island of Hawai'i. I strongly urge you to support SB 2187.

Sincerely,

K. Angel Pilago

LATE TESTIMONY

Senate
Twenty-fourth Legislature
Regular Session of 2008

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES AND PUBLIC HOUSING

Hearing
Tuesday, January 29, 2008
1:30 p.m.

Testimony by: Ralph C. Boyea, Legislative Advocate, Hawai'i County Council

~~Testimony in favor of SB2187~~ MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR WEST HAWAII
HOUSING

Chairperson Chun Oakland and Honored Senators,

On behalf of the Hawai'i County Council, I ask you to pass Senate Bill 2187. Senate Bill 2187 appropriates funds to help with the construction of a facility that will provide housing and services for families that are transitioning through the homeless continuum on the island of Hawai'i.

West Hawai'i will soon be losing its only homeless shelter. Mayor Harry Kim has made the replacement of that shelter a top priority for his Administration and his top priority for this legislative session. The Hawai'i County Council supports Mayor Kin in his efforts to provide housing to our homeless population.

We humbly ask for your support of these efforts by passing SB 2187.



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

LATE

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

Testimony of Linda L. Smith
Senior Policy Advisor to the Governor

Before the

Senate Committee on Human Services and Public Housing

Tuesday, January 29, 2008, 1:30 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 16

SB 2187 Making an Appropriation for West Hawaii Housing and
SB 2479 Making an Appropriation for the Kaloko Housing Program

Chair Chun Oakland, Vice Chair Ihara, and Members of the Committee:

I am here in my capacity as a member of the Board of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) in support of SB 2187 and SB 2479, bills to assist the island of Hawaii in providing a temporary shelter for the homeless in West Hawaii.

As a member of the Board of HPHA, I am acutely aware of the struggles homeless families face on all islands and the importance of providing reliable, safe, and clean shelters. These shelters provide an opportunity for homeless families to stabilize their lives, receive basic services such as medical care and clothing, and allow them to begin to save and prepare for moving into a more permanent facility. The track record of shelters such as Next Step and Onelauena on Oahu demonstrate that temporary emergency shelter programs work.

The Island of Hawaii is faced with a special challenge because their only existing shelter will need to close. Recognizing this, Hawaii island has been able to secure a site located in Kaloko Industrial Park in the Kailua-Kona area. The county government has pledged to facilitate the development of approximately fifty multi-family cluster homes on this site.

SB 2187 and SB 2479 propose the appropriation of \$12 million in general funds to build the cluster homes. Given the challenges the State budget current faces, and the reduction in general fund revenues as a result of changes in the Council of Revenue projections, I would suggest that the Committee consider amending these bills to provide general obligation bonding authority to the county to build the facility. Because it is a capital improvement project, bonds are an appropriate way to finance

HAWAII COUNCIL OF MAYORS

LATE

January 29, 2008

Testimony of the
Hawaii Council of Mayors
Bryan Baptiste, Mayor of Kauai
Mufi Hannemann, Mayor of Honolulu
Harry Kim, Mayor of Hawaii
Charmaine Tavares, Mayor of Maui

before the
Senate Committee on Human Services and Public Housing

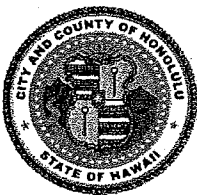
S.B. 2187: West Hawaii Housing
S.B. 2428: Relating to Homelessness

The Hawaii Council of Mayors has designated homelessness as one of our top priorities for legislative support. Every county is experiencing homelessness. The scope or nature of the problem varies by county, but this much is clear: Many of the homeless are chronically homeless who require social services of a degree beyond the county governments' resources. We need more shelters and public housing so the homeless have somewhere to live, rather than on our streets and beaches.

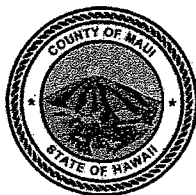
We know the extent of the problem through our police, emergency services, housing, social service, and parks agencies. In December, we met with representatives of state agencies involved in addressing the needs of the homeless, to hear about their work and recommendations for legislative action. We believe you will have those before you, along with measures proposed by you and your colleagues.

We do not pretend to have the answers. However, we are united in our appeal to the members of this body to support measures that will enable the state to repair and increase the inventory of public housing units and stimulate the development of housing. We need to provide more health care, mental and substance abuse treatment, and community living and job skill training—and the mayors endorse authorizing funding to the appropriate state agencies to provide these services.

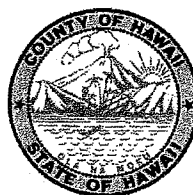
Mahalo.



Mayor Mufi Hannemann
City and County of Honolulu
530 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813



Mayor Charmaine Tavares
County of Maui
200 South High Street, 9th Floor
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793



Mayor Harry Kim
County of Hawaii
25 Aupuni Street
Hilo, Hawaii 96720



Mayor Bryan J. Baptiste
County of Kauai
444 Rice Street
Lihue, Hawaii 96766