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GOVERNOR



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Statement of  
**Chad K. Taniguchi**  
Hawaii Public Housing Authority  
Before the

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES & PUBLIC HOUSING**

January 29, 2008, 1:30 p.m.  
Room 016, Hawaii State Capitol

In consideration of  
**S.B. 2429**  
**RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS**

The Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) supports the intent of S.B. 2429, which responds to the need for living accommodations for Hawaii's homeless. Unless there are no other alternatives, we cannot support the concept of homeless campgrounds. Efforts in the past to provide temporary campgrounds have proved extremely costly for a temporary fix, while the needs of the homeless continue well beyond the life of the temporary solution.

Homeless providers have the extremely challenging task of providing multiple services to help the homeless repair their lives, while providing a safe and secure living environment for the children and families. Part of the "hand up" is teaching families to make better choices, caring for the living unit, paying their bills on time, nurturing and overseeing the children, and participating in the community. These are fostered in housing units where there is controlled access, rules that all must follow, and security – already a challenge at a homeless shelter, but a far greater challenge in a campground setting.

The HPHA supports longer term solutions that provide a network of services within housing units, be they shared accommodation in multi unit complexes, or individual rental units.